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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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SGWASA PRESS RELEASE

Haloacetic Acid Water Sample Exceedance

Butner, NC, February 20, 2017– In the fourth quarter of 2016, one sampling site within the SGWASA water distribution system exceeded the 0.060 milligram per liter concentration (mg/l) of haloacetic acids.

What is Haloacetic Acid?

The term haloacetic acids (HAAs) is a term that represents a group of 5 chemicals that may form within a water system when organic carbon comes in contact with chlorine.

What does this mean to you, the customer?

Chlorine is used to disinfect the water for drinking. Over 23 days in late September and early October, Southern Granville County received a recorded 7.4 inches of rain. This rain is believed to have washed debris such as leaves, grass, etc. into SGWASA's lake, Lake Holt. This debris is the expected culprit to the 30% increase of total organic carbon recorded in the raw water entering the Water Treatment Plant in November versus the previous month. Three of these five chemicals in the HAA group were recorded within the SGWASA system during the November 2016 sampling event. Per EPA's 2012 Edition of the Drinking Water Standards and Health Advisories, none of the three chemicals registered in the November sampling event are confirmed carcinogens. Based on these EPA standards, the concentrations for each of these chemicals as sampled in November were at least 5 times lower than the one day exposure limit for a small child.

Why are you receiving this notification?

SGWASA is required to add each sample results together for additional protection to the customers. This cumulative result is what has resulted in the exceedance. SGWASA is required to give official "Notice" to its customers. These official notices with the required language will be in the February SGWASA water bills. This press release is to inform the public of the issue and that the cause is being investigated. SGWASA has asked Utility Director, Fred Dancy, to assume responsibility of the day to day operations of the Water Treatment Plant until such time as this issue is corrected.

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If you would like more information about this topic, please contact Mr. Dancy at 919-575-3118.