



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Monte Vista Water District Responds to Erroneous Reports; Assures Customers Their Water is Safe to Drink

MONTCLAIR, CA Monte Vista Water District assures its customers that their water is safe to drink.

The District has received numerous calls regarding the quality of its water supply due to erroneous information being provided to our customers.

A gas leak was discovered by District work crews in close proximity to an existing water pipeline leak. The District was able to shut off the water main near the gas leak and isolate it from the remainder of the water distribution system. No gas was able to enter the water distribution system outside this small section. District customers can be assured that their water continues to be safe to use for all purposes, including drinking, bathing, washing clothes, and washing dishes.

Twenty-one residences and two businesses have been without water service since the discovery of the gas leak on Tuesday evening. Due to the presence of natural gas, the District has been conducting disinfection and rigorous water quality testing in this small section of its distribution system for the past two days. Once testing confirms that no contamination is present, including in the internal plumbing of each residence

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and business, the District will resume water service to these 23 customers. Resumption of service is expected tomorrow morning.

During the shutdown, the District has been in constant communication with the 23 impacted customers, and has delivered bottled water twice a day and as needed. At approximately 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 18, the District was notified of a water leak at the southwest corner of Palo Verde Street and Central Avenue, Montclair.

District personnel immediately responded, controlled intersection traffic, and began to expose the leaking water mainline. At approximately 10:45 p.m., District personnel noticed bubbles and the smell of natural gas emerging from the work area. District work crews had been hand-digging to expose the water pipe and did not damage a gas line as part of their excavation activities.

District personnel immediately called the Gas Company emergency phone number, removed all equipment, and vacated the immediate area. District personnel stayed at the location and secured the area while notifying local residents of the situation. The District shut off its water main to allow Gas Company crews the ability to perform their repair activities. All 23 impacted customers were immediately notified of the water shutoff.

It is unknown at this time whether the gas or water pipeline leak caused the other leak to occur.

For questions related to water service, please call (909) 938-8264 or visit www.mvwd.org for the latest information. The Gas Company has requested that all questions related to gas service be directed to (800) 427-2200.