

Well 3 Manganese Issues

New Avenue Mutual Water Company has faced significant challenges this year due to Manganese levels that were detected in Well 3 off Duke Drive. The Board of Directors in 2022 made the decision to stop pumping water from Well 3 for shareholders use and has been working with the State of California Waterboards Divisions on resolutions to clear the well of the manganese over the past year.

Manganese is a mineral that is found naturally in the environment and is one of the most abundant metals on the earth's surface, in air, water, and soil. It can be found in both groundwater and surface water from natural sources or as a result of human activity such as mining and industrial discharges.

Drinking water can be a source of exposure to manganese. Elevated manganese concentrations can occur in municipal water as well as water from private wells. In general, manganese is more prevalent and found at higher concentrations in groundwater than surface water. Most exposure occurs from ingestion and not from bathing and or showering. The current manganese levels are not a danger to us but per State guidelines we must not use the well for human consumption. A number of Wells in the area have Manganese in the water.

Water treatment technologies to remove manganese from drinking water include cleaning and brushing the interior of the well and filtration systems. Well 3 has been cleaned and brushed. After the cleaning and brushing of Well 3 the manganese levels are slowing going down but not fast enough. There is no guarantee the levels will continue to lower and eventually be usable for human consumption. The Board has moved to the next step and has contracted with a company to design and build a filtration system to clear the well of the manganese.

We will continue to use our other 2 wells, which do not have contamination issues, until the manganese issue is resolved

Additional information and details of the manganese levels are included in the Annual Shareholders Meeting presentation by Board of Director Jae Schwartz.