FWF
TRIAL EXHIBIT
 # 53

This document shows the City of South Bay's Drinking Water Quality Report from 2003. As indicated there is a violation of the Maximum Contaminant Level for trihalomethanes (THMs) with results of nearly 6 times the allowable amounts. THMs result when backpumped Lake Okeechobee water is treated for drinking by current methods. THMs are known to be carcinogenic.

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report of the City of South Bay

Este informe contiene informaciòn muy importante sobre su agua potable. Por favor, traduzcalo o hable con alguièn que entienda el idioma Inglès. Si tiene preguntas al respecto, llame al nùmero de telèfono: 561-996-6751

We're very pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Water Quality Report. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is and always has been, to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Our water source is: surface water drawn from Lake Okeechobee.

We pump our water from a subsurface point in the Rim Canal adjacent to the boat ramp. Many of the problems we may experience in treating the water are a direct result of our source water. There is a direct reaction between the wind and rain and the quality of the lake water. These storms can add color to the water, as well as, stir up the bottom of the lake and add taste and odor problems. There are also seasonal changes in the lake water, which sometimes results in algae blooms. These can adversely effect the taste and odor of our drinking water. With all of this, the back pumping from South Florida Water Management which brings all of the adjacent canal water and all that is dumped into the rim canal has a detrimental effect on the quality of water we receive at the plant.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact *Keith Thomas, Chief Operator at 561-996-0520.* We encourage our valued customers to be informed about their water utility.

The City of South Bay routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws, rules, and regulations. Except where indicated otherwise, this report is based on the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2002. As water travels over the land or underground it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk.

In the table below, you may find unfamiliar terms and abbreviations. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

"ND" means not detected and indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) – one part by weight of analyte to 1 million parts by weight of the water sample.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (µg/l) – one part by weight of analyte to 1 billion parts by weight of the water sample.

Picocurie per liter (pCi/L) - measure of the radioactivity in water.

Millirem per year (mrem/yr) - measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

Maximum residual disinfectant level or MRDL: The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum residual disinfectant level goal or MRDLG: The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs to not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

Note: The result in the lowest monthly percentage column is the lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting the turbidity limits reported in the Monthly Operating Report.							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	**Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)**	**MCL Violation Y/N**	**The Highest Single Measurement**	**The Lowest Monthly Percentage of Samples Meeting Regulatory Limits**	**MCLG**	**MCL**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Turbidity (NTU)	2002	N	0.3	100%	N/A	TT	Soil runoff
** Results in the Level Detected column for radiological contaminants, inorganic contaminants, synthetic organic contaminants including pesticides and herbicides, and volatile organic contaminants are the highest average at any of the sampling points or the highest detected level at any sampling point, depending on the sampling frequency.							
Radiological Contaminants							
Alpha (pCi/l)	8-2002	N	2.2+-0.8		0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants							
Fluoride (ppm)	7-2002	N	0.76	ND – 0.76	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	7-2002	N	0.21	0.05- 0.21	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	7-220	N	BDL	0.05-0.05	1	1	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	7-2002	N	55.5	1.0-160	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil
Volatile Organic Contaminants							

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL or MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5) (ppb)	2002	N	50PPB	30-67	NA	MCL = 60	Bu-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2002	Y	300	46-560	NA	MCL = 80/100	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Lead and Copper (Tap Water)

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	AL Violation Y/N	90th Percentile Result	No. of sampling sites exceeding the AL	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	10-02	N	.0054	NONE	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (tap water) (ppb)	10-02	N	ND	NONE	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Highest Result	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chloride (ppm)						250	Natural occurrence from soil leaching
Secondary Contaminants							
Color (color units)						15	Naturally occurring organics
Zinc (ppm)						5	Natural occurrence from soil leaching
Sulfate (ppm)						250	Natural occurrence from soil leaching
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)						500**	Natural occurrence from soil leaching

***Note: TDS may be greater than 500, if no other MCL is exceeded.*

EXPLANATION OF TABLE RESULTS

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants.

TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes]. Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

The City of South Bay is currently making improvements to the water treatment plant which will implement the use of chloramines (combined chlorine and ammonia) and carbonic acid (pH reducer) to reduce the total trihalomethanes.

As authorized and approved by EPA, the State has reduced monitoring requirements for certain contaminants to less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of our data, though representative, is more than one year old.

The unregulated chemicals are tested so that the Environmental Protection Agency may gather data for future study. This will help them focus on what chemicals are showing up the most in drinking water. With this information they will select which chemicals to study next for adverse health effects. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some of these constituents have been detected in your water.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

(A)Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
(B)Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
(C)Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
(D)Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
(E)Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations, which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

MCLs are set at very stringent levels. EPA bases their MCLs for possible health effects using the following formula: a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for 70 years to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

We at the City of South Bay Water Treatment Plant work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future. Please call our office at 561-996-0520 if you have questions.