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May 29, 2009

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Florida Public Service Commission  
Division of Commission Clerk and  
Administrative Service  
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re: 2008 Water Quality Report - Venture Associates Utilities Corporation (Certificate # WU-512)

To whom it may concern:

Enclosed is a copy of our 2008 water quality report. Venture Associates Utilities Corporation purchases water for resale from the City of Ocala. As such, we use the city's water quality report combined with our test results were applicable and our name.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact my office at (352) 732-8662.

Sincerely,

*Theresa Camuso*

Theresa Camuso  
Controller  
Venture Associates Utilities Corporation

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

5970 N.W. 18<sup>th</sup> Place \* Ocala, FL 34482

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# 2008 Venture Associates Utilities Corporation Water Quality Report

## Ocala Palms PWS ID 642-4785

We are pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Water Quality Report. The city and Venture Associates Utilities Corporation 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 you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water.

The City of Ocala and Venture Associates Utilities Corporation is asking everyone to please save money and conserve our drinking water. For more ways to minimize drinking water usages, and learn more about our valuable resource go on-line and view the following websites; the Southwest Florida Water Management District website, [www.swfwmd.state.fl.us](http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us), or at Florida Department of Environmental Protection, <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/>, from the "index by search", go to "Water Quality and Conservation".

Our water is obtained from the City of Ocala who acquires the water from ground water sources, softened and chlorinated for disinfecting purposes and fluoridated for dental health purposes. We ensure that your water meets or exceeds all current federal and state drinking water standards. Ocala's water treatment facilities have won numerous Department of Environmental Protection awards for excellence in operations and maintenance.

In 2008, the Department of Environmental Protection performed a Source Water Assessment on our system. The assessment was conducted to provide information about any potential sources of contamination in the vicinity of our wells. There are twenty-seven potential sources of contamination identified for this system with a susceptibility levels ranging from low to high. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at [www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp](http://www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp) or they can be obtained from City of Ocala Water & Sewer Department (352) 351-6770

The City of Ocala has a Source Water Protection Ordinance accessible on line at the following link:  
CODE OF ORDINANCES, City of Ocala, Chapter 102, NATURAL RESOURCES, ARTICLE II. WELLHEAD PROTECTION.  
<http://www.municode.com/resources/gateway.asp?pid=10003&sid=9>

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.

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.

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 can result from urban storm water 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 storm water 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 storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- (E) Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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.

The City of Ocala and Venture Associates Utilities Corporation routinely monitor 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 for the period January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008. The state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, is more than one year old.

### **What does this mean?**

We constantly monitor for various contaminants in the water supply to meet all regulatory requirements. As you can see by the table, our water system had no maximum contaminant level violations. We are proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. While we have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected, the presence of some contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

Maximum Contaminant Levels (as seen in the chart) are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated contaminants: A person would have to drink two liters of water every day for a lifetime at the MCL 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).

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If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Ocala Palms is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

In the following charts you may not be familiar with all the 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.

**Initial Distribution System Evaluation (IDSE):** An important part of the Stage 2 Disinfection Byproducts Rule (DBPR). The IDSE is a one-time study conducted by water systems to identify distribution system locations with high concentrations of trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acids (HAAs). Water systems will use results from the IDSE, in conjunction with their Stage 1 DBPR compliance monitoring data, to select compliance monitoring locations for the Stage 2 DBPR.

**Maximum Contaminant level (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 (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.

**MRDL (maximum residual disinfectant level)** – 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.

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

**Parts per million (ppm) or milligrams per liter (mg/l)** – One part by weight of analyte to one million parts by weight of water.

**Parts per billion (ppb) or micrograms per liter (ug/l)** – One part by weight of analyte to one billion parts by weight of water.

If you have questions, please feel free to call the City of Ocala directly at (352) 351-6770.

#### Radiological Contaminants

Contaminant and Unit of measure	Dates of Sampling (Mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected*	Range of Results	MCL G	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	02/08	N	3.0	ND-3.0	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (ug/L)	03/08	N	0.855	0.345-0.855	0	30	Erosion of natural deposits

#### Inorganic Contaminants

Cadmium (ppb)	02/08	N	1.5	ND-1.5	5	5	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints
Fluoride (ppm)	02/08	N	0.61	0.16 - 0.61	4.0	4.0	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. Water additive which promotes strong teeth when at optimum levels between 0.7 and 1.3 ppm
Lead (ppb)	02/08	N	2.1	ND - 2.1	N/A	15	Residue from man-made pollution such as auto emissions and paint; lead pipe, casing and solder. (at the point of entry)
Mercury (inorganic) (ppb)	02/08	N	0.4	0.3-0.4	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from cropland
Nitrate (ppm)	02/08	N	1.5	1.4-1.5	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits (Nitrate as Nitrogen)
Sodium (ppm)	02/08	N	9.4	6.0 - 9.4	N/A	160	Salt-water intrusion, leaching from soil

#### Lead and Copper (Tap Water)

Contaminant and Unit of measure	Dates of Sampling (Mo./yr.)	AL Violations Y/N	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Result	# of sampling sites exceeding the AL	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (Tap water) ppm)	08/07	N	0.012	-----	1.3	= 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (Tap Water) (ppb)	08/07	N	1.1	-----	0	= 15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits

#### Stage 1 Disinfectant/Disinfection By-Product (D/DBP) Parameters

For chlorine, the level detected is the highest running annual average (RAA), computed quarterly, of monthly averages of all samples collected. For haloacetic acids or TTHM, the level detected is the average of all samples taken during the year. Range of Results is the range of individual sample results (lowest to highest) for all monitoring locations, including Initial Distribution System Evaluation (IDSE) results as well as Stage 1 compliance results.

Contaminant and Unit of measure	Dates of Sampling (Mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG Or MRDLG	MCL or MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm)	01/08-12/08	N	0.73	0.33-1.00	MRDLG=4	MRDL = 4.0	Water additive used to control microbes.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)	07/08	N	18.0	N/A	N/A	MCL = 60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic acids (five) (HAA5) (ppb)	07/08	N	1.5	N/A	N/A	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water disinfection