Discolored Water Concerns

Dominion Water & Sanitation District is aware that many customers in Sterling Ranch are experiencing discolored water. The discolored water that residents are experiencing is associated with manganese. Manganese is a naturally occurring mineral and is found in many water supplies, including those in Colorado. The EPA and CDPHE regulate manganese as a secondary drinking water standard. Secondary drinking water standards regulate things in public drinking water supplies that do not impact human health, however they could impact the aesthetic of the water to include taste, odor, and color. The secondary standard for manganese is 0.05 mg/L in drinking water, although color can be noticed if levels exceed 0.02 mg/L. The EPA and CDPHE also regulate all primary drinking water standards, those that do impact human health. Dominion's water meets or exceeds all primary drinking water standards and is safe for human consumption.

Currently manganese levels from the Moore Water Treatment Plant, operated by Roxborough Water & Sanitation District, are above the secondary standard ranging from 0.05 to 0.13 mg/L. On February 14, 2025, Dominion collected 5 samples within the Sterling Ranch distribution system during the peak of discolored water complaints to confirm that manganese was causing the discolored water and that there were no additional concerns. The data collected is summarized below.

Site/Address	ID
Hotchkiss & Ordway	A
8797 Snake River	B
9866 Geneva Creek Ln.	C
Titan Road Lift Station hydrant	D
8234 Mt. Lincoln	E

Parameter	unit	A	B	C	D	E
Manganese	ppm	0.053	0.065	0.07	0.128	0.052
Alkalinity	ppm	79	79	81	87	82
Nitrite	ppm	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.002	0.002
Free Ammonia	ppm	0..08	0.08	0.08	0.12	0.18
Monochloramine	ppm	2.26	2.2	2.3	1.92	1.83
TDS	ppm	265	267	276	275	266
pH		8.15	8.14	8.12	8.2	8.2
Total Chlorine	ppm	2.5	2.4	2.7	2.3	2

The data confirms that the discolored water is from the elevated manganese levels in the distribution system. Dominion takes our commitment to deliver high quality water to our customers seriously and in response to the discolored water complaints Dominion is:

- Developing a plan to complete a full flush of the distribution system. The flushing will be initiated on Monday February 17th. Due to the amount of water that needs to be flushed

Dominion will need to coordinate the activity with the availability of tanker trucks to collect the water so that there is not an additional hazard of water freezing on the roads.

- Working actively with Roxborough Water & Sanitation District operators to make modifications to the treatment process to reduce the amount of manganese leaving the plant.
- Coordinating with leading experts in the industry to develop a long-term solution to optimize the Moore Water Treatment Plant to meet the secondary standard for manganese.

Additional information will be collected through the flushing process and information will be updated to Dominion's website as available. On-going sampling confirms that the drinking water within Sterling Ranch meets or exceeds all primary drinking water standards, which are the regulated standards that impact public health. Should residents still have questions on the safety of their water prior to full flushing and a long-term solution to this problem, the water can be filtered to remove discoloration.