

WATER TURBIDITY MONITORING VIOLATION

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. To do so, DEP performs more than 550,000 tests each year upstate and in the city to ensure that the drinking water is safe. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. We monitor for turbidity, which is a measure of water clarity related to the amount of suspended matter present in the water, at selected compliance locations representative of the raw source waters. On January 31, 2011, and from February 1, 2011 through February 11, 2011, the samples collected from one of our upstate Kensico Reservoir locations were determined to be not representative of source water entering the distribution system at that time, and therefore we cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water from that location during that time. Extensive water quality monitoring downstream and from in the city's distribution system during these time periods demonstrated that the water supply met all other drinking water quality standards.

The samples were taken while the water supply system was in a non-routine operational configuration which impacted the turbidity measurement. Since the water samples collected on these dates were not representative of source water, we do not have valid sample results for this period. Although this was not an emer-

gency, and no action is required on your part, you, as our customer, have a right to know the circumstances. There is no reason to stop using the water supplied to your home/business as a result of this monitoring violation. We made operational changes and are also in the process of performing repair work to install a raw water sample pump in a location that will be representative under all operational conditions.

Both of these incidents were determined by New York State Department of Health to constitute a Tier 3 monitoring violation as specified in the federal Safe Drinking Water Act regulation (40 CFR 141.71(a)(2)) and the New York State Sanitary Code (10 NYCRR 5-1.30(c)(2)). Information concerning this incident is being included in this 2010 Drinking Water Supply and Quality Report to meet the requirement for public notification of all Tier 3 violations within one year.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this publication directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or email.

