



# SANTA SUSANA FIELD LABORATORY **FACT SHEET**



Simi Valley Customer **Service Area** 



#### Santa Susana **Field Lab**

The Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL) is a complex of industrial research and development facilities located on a 2,668-acre portion of the Simi Hills in Simi Valley, which operated from 1949-2006 for the development and testing of liquid-propellant rocket engines, nuclear reactors and the operation of a U.S. government-sponsored liquid metals research center. The SSFL reportedly experienced a partial nuclear meltdown in 1959.

Golden State Water is aware of reports of environmental contamination at the SSFL, including groundwater contamination directly under the site, and understands the community's concern regarding a potential impact to public health.

Golden State Water joins the community in requesting reports from state and federal agencies regarding measures to cleanup up the site.



## **Golden State Water Company -**Simi Valley Service Area

Golden State Water has proudly served Simi Valley since 1965, providing approximately 13,300 customers drinking water that has consistently met state and federal quality standards to protect public health.

Water delivered to customers is treated surface water purchased from the Calleguas Municipal Water District, which obtains its supply from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. This water supply is supplemented with groundwater from the Simi Valley Groundwater Basin. To meet the strictest drinking water standards, the treated surface water (81.7%) and groundwater (18.3%) is blended and routinely tested for water quality before being delivered to customers.



### **Golden State Water Company Standards**

Golden State Water Company is committed to providing our customers with water that meets all state and federal drinking water standards.

Our team of scientists, engineers and water experts are committed to protecting our water systems and ensuring that our customers never have to think twice about the quality of water coming from their tap.

Golden State Water tests for hundreds of contaminants in our water systems and consistently scores among the top water companies for compliance with water quality regulations.





#### **Simi Valley Water Quality Testing and Treatment**

The State Water Resources Control Board's Division of Drinking Water (DDW)—comprised of highly trained scientists, doctors and water quality experts—closely monitors all water testing and has confirmed that Golden State Water's water in Simi Valley meets all water quality standards (Maximum Contaminant Levels/MCLs) and is safe for all consumers, regardless of gender or age.

No evidence connects contaminants from the Santa Susana Field Lab (SSFL) to the groundwater wells used by Golden State Water. DDW and Golden State Water would take immediate action if there were any water quality or safety concerns.

Perchlorate levels meet water quality standards at the well source. A blending treatment process to reduce Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) and nitrate also serves to reduce the perchlorate even further, to below the state's detection limit for reporting.

Water served to Simi Valley customers has never tested above the state's standard (MCL) of 6.0 ug/L for perchlorate. In fact, the blended water in the distribution system is below the state's 2.0 ug/L detection limit for reporting.

Radiological testing is routinely conducted at Golden State Water's Niles and Sycamore wells according to state regulations and levels for gross alpha particle activity (general test that measures the radioactivity of all alpha emitters), uranium (which is an alpha emitter), radium 226 and radium 228 are consistently below the state's standard (MCL).

To maintain a high level of transparency with customers, Golden State Water posts annual **Consumer Confidence Reports** (water quality reports) on the Simi Valley Customer Service Area website page. Additionally, all test results and water quality data is posted on the Division of Drinking Water's (DDW) website.



# Simi Valley Water Sources

Golden State Water utilizes groundwater to supplement imported water supplies in Simi Valley, and the two sources are blended to dilute TDS and nitrate detected in the local groundwater. TDS are naturally occurring minerals which pose no health risk but can affect the taste of water. Nitrate is commonly associated with agriculture and farming in the area.

Information about Simi Valley's water quality is posted to Golden State Water's website (<a href="https://www.gswater.com/simi-valley">www.gswater.com/simi-valley</a>) which includes Simi Valley's water quality report, the annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR).