



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**CalEPA Announces Draft Public Health Goal for Chrome 6**

**Burbank, CA August 20, 2009** The California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA), Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) announced a draft Public Health Goal (PHG) for hexavalent chromium (Chrome 6) at 0.06 ppb. 1 ppb is approximately equivalent to one drop of water in an Olympic sized swimming pool or 22,000 gallons. A final Chrome 6 PHG is expected in about one year, after a review and comment period.

PHGs are idealized goals that are sometimes set at levels lower than can be detected or attained with current treatment technologies. The draft PHG for Chrome 6 is below the current limit of detection.

A PHG is not a regulatory standard but is the first step in establishing a Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL), which is a health protective standard and must be met by public water systems. Historically, after a final PHG is set, the process of MCL adoption takes about two to three years. MCLs are set considering factors such as lab detectability, treatability, and cost of treatment.

Burbank Water and Power (BWP) takes very seriously the quality of water we provide and will continue to work with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and OEHHA to deliver safe drinking water to our customers. BWP will provide periodic updates on the Chrome 6 PHG/MCL development process and continue to deliver safe drinking water meeting all State and Federal standards.

For additional information on the Chrome 6 PHG, visit our website at [BurbankWaterandPower.com](http://BurbankWaterandPower.com) or OEHHA's website at [www.oehha.org/water/phg](http://www.oehha.org/water/phg).

**Burbank Water and Power (BWP) is a community-owned utility that serves the business and residents of Burbank with water and power since 1913.**

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