



Community Information Update: Community Water System 2026-02-03

Summarized Timeline Leading Up To DNC Order

*It is important to acknowledge that some of the investigations into the water system over this period were triggered by community complaints, which helped to identify issues and bring them to attention. Thank you for reaching out. **If you see something, say something.***

2024

JUNE	- Significant power surge and power failure at the Water Treatment Plant (WTP) causing significant damage to equipment, which became a priority to address. CUF B running continuously while repairs undertaken on CUF A. - Report received from individual user of slight discoloration of the water, however, Village had been undertaking flushing program during period (June – August), which can result in discoloration. - Direct Integrity Test (DIT) for CUF B were not undertaken, June – September
AUGUST	Complaint received about the water feeling “slimy”
SEPTEMBER	- When running Trans Membrane Pressure (TMP) and Direct Integrity Testing (DIT) on CUF B, it failed and on investigation membrane fracture identified. CUF B was rebuilt and area of concern in the community from previous reports was flushed assuming residual coagulant. - Reported discoloration did not change much, but hydrant flushing showed clearing after 1-2 minutes. - Village reported concerns and potential for coagulant in line to Northern Health for guidance, identifying flushing plans. - Testing directed of water samples, including aluminum. Precautionary water conservation notice issued due to lack of DIT tests, and concern of earlier high flow requirements on CUF B may have resulted in membrane breakdown.
OCTOBER	- Flushing of water mains undertaken - While other tests came back clear, <u>critically the aluminum report was not received by the Village and not passed on to Northern Health at the time.</u> Neither became aware of results until January 22, 2026. We are looking into how this occurred, and setting up protocols to ensure it does not occur again. Aluminum levels in this sample were 8.99 mg/l.
NOVEMBER	Water line flushing undertaken, water tower cleaned and wet well cleaned.



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2025

JANUARY	Flushing program undertaken, residents asked not to use water during the flushing. Discoloured water reported
MAY - AUGUST	Flushing program undertaken.
AUGUST	- Northern Health conducted routine inspection, noting turbidity (bubbles) in water as an issue. - CUF B temporarily offline due to pinhole leak and then put back online after repairs. CUF A served as primary treatment in meantime but failed Indirect Integrity Test requirements.
SEPTEMBER	- Inspection report from Northern Health received from the Village, directing for repairs to be undertaken and monitoring of turbidity and investigation into cause. - Water Quality Advisory issued.
OCTOBER	- Annual flushing of main lines - Onsite maintenance, repairs and training undertaken by Purifics with turbidity meters and other concerns.
NOVEMBER	- Purifics report identified CUF membranes previously opened and closed (previous repair work), suspected potential leak in CUF B. - Recommended solution to turbidity, larger de-bubblers. New de-bubblers provided and installed. - Northern Health requested samples and metal testing of raw and treated water
DECEMBER	- Reports on November samples received; showed elevated concentrations in the treated water above the maximum acceptable concentration (MAC) of 2.9 mg/L, being 3.75 mg/L. - This necessitated public notification and protection, and further investigation to determine the source and correct the issue. - Do Not Consume Order issued. Village provides alternative drinking water. - Additional tests ordered and showed aluminum levels above the MAC at some distribution sites. - In combination with other operational concerns, it is difficult to determine how the coagulant is leaking through treatment, how much has come through and how long it has been leaking. - Contractor hired to clear wet well and it is undertaken. - Village began organizing with Purifics for them to come and undertake repairs/replacement of the membranes.



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PRESENT PROGRESS

- The Village continues to provide alternative drinking water for the community until further notice while under the Do Not Consume Order.
- The new ceramic membranes being sent by Purifics arrived undamaged in Granisle on Wednesday, January 28, 2026. Purifics staff arrived on Friday, January 30th, undertaking repair work and replacement of CUF B over the weekend.
- For a better comparison of testing that are being undertaken after repairs, the Village undertook sampling on Tuesday, January 27, 2026 (testing PH, Turbidity, and Aluminum) of raw, treated and distribution sites. Treated water still above maximum acceptable concentration at 3.43 mg/l (MAC is 2.9 mg/l).

DO NOT CONSUME ORDER REMAINS IN EFFECT

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Village Office:
(250) 697-2248 or general@villageofgranisle.ca

NEXT STEPS

The ultimate goal is to eliminate aluminum from entering the distribution system and to remove any residual aluminum from distribution lines which has already entered the system.

Northern Health has identified the following steps to achieve this goal, and potentially get the Do Not Consume Order Lifted:

(IN PROGRESS)

STEP 1: Consult a qualified professional to conduct a comprehensive audit of the treatment systems (CUF A and CUF B) and identify the source of coagulant leakage. Submit the assessment reports to Northern Health.

(WORKING TOWARDS)

STEP 2: Once the identified issues are resolved, collect a water chemistry sample to check for any aluminum exceedances for both CUF A and CUF B.

(IN PROFESS; PLAN UNDER REVIEW)

STEP 3: Northern Health strongly suggests working with a professional to develop an appropriate flushing strategy for the distribution system, including inspection of the water storage tank.

STEP 4: Northern Health strongly suggests working with a professional to establish a post-flushing sampling plan for various locations throughout the community. Submit this sampling plan to Northern Health for review prior to conducting sampling.

STEP 5: Conduct water chemistry sampling at multiple locations within the distribution system and provide sample results to Northern Health for review.