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## **CIRCLE K ANNOUNCES WEEKLY TESTING OF DRINKING WATER WELLS NEAR CHINO VALLEY STORE**

*No detectable levels of contamination discovered in samples tested following recent accidental underground fuel release*

CHINO VALLEY, Ariz. (March 11, 2024) -- Circle K today announced that it is commissioning additional weekly testing of drinking water wells in the immediate vicinity of its Chino Valley location following a significant accidental underground fuel release at the site late last year.

The sampling and testing are being conducted by retained third-party environmental contractors, focusing on private drinking water wells in the immediate vicinity of the Circle K site. The wells were selected for testing based on their close proximity to the store and are located in multiple directions surrounding the property.

Since testing of nearby wells first began February 27, none of the analyzed samples indicate detectable levels of contamination, but the weekly testing will proceed out of an abundance of caution.

Morten Jensen, Vice President of Operations for Circle K – Grand Canyon Business Unit, said that the company continues to work closely with the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality as testing and investigation efforts continue.

“We are grateful for ADEQ’s partnership and direction, and while we remain hopeful that our testing of nearby wells continues to show no contamination, our work continues,” said Mr. Jensen. “We apologize for any disruption and concern this has created. We have been a proud part of the Chino Valley community for more than 26 years, and we are committed to doing what it takes to contain and remediate this accident and ensure the continued safety of our neighbors, customers and employees.”

Circle K has fielded several inquiries from residents with private wells requesting testing to be performed on their drinking water. The company will update the community if a broader area of well testing is warranted based on results from ongoing tests of samples taken from adjacent properties.

As drinking water well sampling continues, the company is also drilling at the store and on adjacent properties to evaluate the extent of contaminated soil and groundwater. Remediation of the release is expected to begin in the coming weeks as directed by ADEQ.

Circle K will share further updates as work progresses. In the meantime, residents may continue to contact Circle K Customer Care at (833) 685-7318 with any questions.

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