



Memorandum

Memorandum No: 24-088

Date: May 30, 2024

To: Honorable Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Commissioners

From: Susan Grant, Acting City Manager 

Re: **Peele-Dixie Water Treatment Plant Offline**

On Friday, May 24, 2024, the City of Fort Lauderdale (City) was notified that a third-party contractor damaged the raw water supply line from the Dixie well field to the Peele-Dixie Water Treatment Plant. Staff conducted testing of the water conditions and determined it was necessary to take Peele-Dixie offline. The water treatment production from the Fiveash Water Treatment Plant (Fiveash) is providing water to the areas that typically receive water from Peele-Dixie. This is a routine operation that the City performs when conducting scheduled maintenance at Peele-Dixie.

The purpose of this memo is to inform you that Peele-Dixie remains offline. As a result, residents in the south sections of the City who normally receive water from Peele-Dixie are temporarily receiving water from the Fiveash. As a result, they may notice a slight change in the color of the water. This is primarily due to the difference in treatment process and technology used at each plant. The drinking water produced by the Fiveash, which utilizes lime softening, has a slightly different color than water produced at Peele Dixie, which uses advanced Reverse Osmosis technology.

Please be assured that all water produced by Fiveash is safe to drink and meets all primary drinking water standards. The Fiveash facility has sufficient capacity to provide the drinking water needs of all Fort Lauderdale customers as well as the nearby municipalities that we serve. While customers may experience a slight drop in water pressure at their homes and businesses, the water distribution system's pressures remain within the normal operational range, and the minor drop in water pressure does not impact water quality, safety, or availability.

The City's Call Center has responded to inquiries, and Strategic Communications has completed targeted messaging. We are committed to bringing the Peele-Dixie facility back online as soon as possible. We want to assure you that the Peele-Dixie Plant is intact, fully functional, and ready to treat raw water once we mitigate the turbidity and water quality issues in the supply line.

If you have any questions, please contact Alan Dodd, Public Works Director at (954) 828-5806 or email adodd@fortlauderdale.gov.

c: Anthony G. Fajardo, Assistant City Manager
Laura Reece, Acting Assistant City Manager
Ben Rogers, Acting Assistant City Manager
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Department Directors
CMO Managers