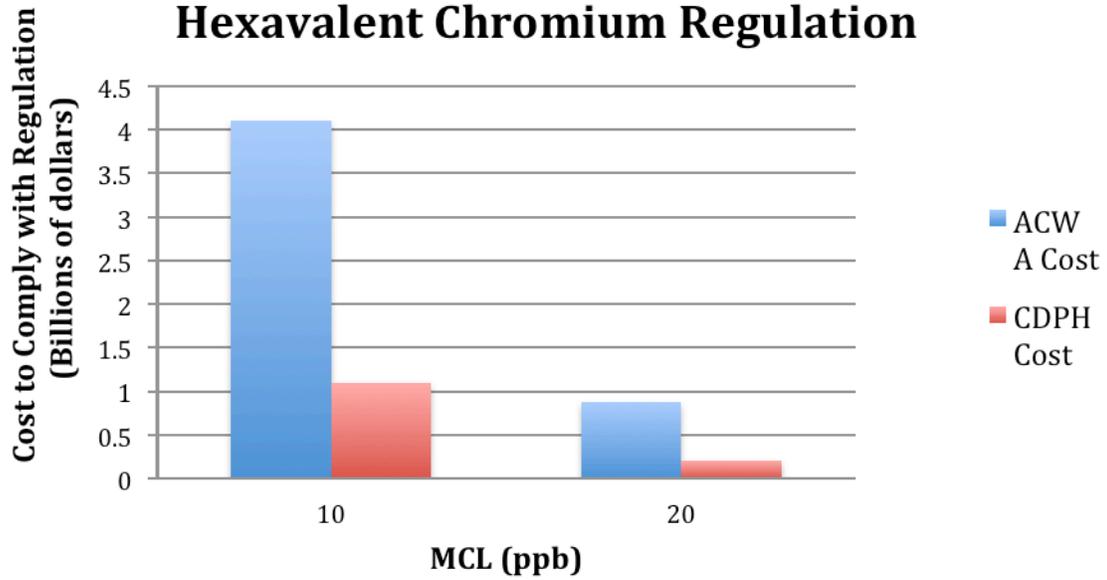


Health and Economic Impacts of the Proposed Chromium 6 MCL for the City of Watsonville

- **Top public health concerns for our community include: diabetes and obesity.** 20% of our population is affected by diabetes. 75% of the population is considered obese.
- **Avoided cancer cases for the Watsonville community is 0.34 cases/year, based on CDPH calculator.**
- **The City estimates the cost of compliance to be \$25.6 million for construction of the treatment systems, and an additional \$1.7 million per year for operations and maintenance.** The City's Water Division has an annual capital improvement budget of \$500,000 per year. The cost of compliance would be devastating to our community.
- **The cost for compliance with the proposed regulation would need to be generated through a 78% rate increase.**
- **The proposed MCL would result in a cost of \$51,000,000 per avoided cancer case.** The statewide cost of implementing the proposed chromium 6 regulation is \$616 million per year (AWCA data), and would reduce cancer cases by 12 per year statewide (per CDPH methodology). The initial statewide capital cost to implement the regulation is \$4 billion.
- **The City urges the State to provide grant funding to Economically Disadvantaged Communities for compliance with the proposed Chromium 6 MCL.** The City of Watsonville serves 65,000 customers, and has a per capita income of under \$15,000, which is less than half of the state average; we also have a 17% unemployment rate. It would be extremely challenging for our community to generate the funds needed to comply with this new regulation.
- **Request for More Time to Comply.** The State has historically allowed much more time for water agencies to come into compliance with new regulations. For example, CDPH allowed a compliance period of 5 years after the Arsenic MCL was adopted in 2002.
- **The MCL should be recalculated with more current and accurate economic data.** The Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) completed an economic study that demonstrates there will be far greater treatment costs than originally calculated by CDPH. This was a critical factor in establishing the current MCL of 10 ppb. The City urges that these cost estimates be reevaluated.

Statewide Cost of Compliance with Hexavalent Chromium Regulation



CDPH Estimated Reduction in Cancer Cases

