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Kuwait, GCC Waters Polluted By Bromine

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Secretary General of Kuwait Environment Protection Society (KEPS) Wujdan Al-Eqab recently stated the entire GCC countries, and not Kuwait alone, have their water resource polluted with Bromine. He added the problem came to international attention in 2007, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

Al-Eqab pointed out that water in Kuwait is suitable for human use, but there are clear indications the GCC authorities avoid and distance themselves from discussing the increasing rate of bromine with the GCC delegates previously participating in similar talks.

Al-Eqab denounced the slackness in implementing the recommendations set forth to deal with the problem, and demanded a centralized quality control laboratory must test water samples at random. Meanwhile, Assistant Undersecretary for Training and Planning in the Ministry of Electricity and Water Dr Mish'an Al-Otaibi reassured the quality and safety of water produced by the ministry.

Dr Al-Otaibi indicated the ministry ensures that water it produces follows the standard specifications for drinking water, as approved by World Health Organization (WHO).

He explained **underground water usually contains Bromide – natural and harmless substance – and after the water has been mixed with Chlorine, it transforms into Bromine that poses no danger to humans due to its low concentration compared to the level recommended by the WHO.** This indicates water the ministry produces is the best in terms of specification, besides periodical tests the ministry conducts to ensure the production of quality water.

Source : Arab Times

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