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Environment Department Advises “BOIL WATER ORDER” for The Breathe Inn

(Las Cruces, NM) – New Mexico Environment Department’s Drinking Water Bureau today advised The Breathe Inn to issue a “Boil Water Order” for its consumers.

The Breathe Inn, a restaurant and motel in Grant County was put on a “Boil Water Advisory” today after four routine samples indicated the presence of total coliform and one routine sample indicated the presence of E-coli bacteria in the water system. The system also did not submit required confirmation samples of water for analysis and the quality of drinking water cannot be ensured. NMED requires that the system owner/operator notify all customers served by the system.

Consumers of The Breathe In water system are advised to boil water for five minutes before drinking, cooking and dishwashing.

The presence of E. coli in water indicates that the water may have been in contact with sewage or animal wastes, and could contain disease-causing organisms. Most strains of E.coli are harmless and live in the intestines of healthy humans and animals. However, a positive test for E. coli in the drinking water supply may indicate the presence of dangerous strains of E.coli or other disease-causing organisms, which are sometimes found in sewage or animal wastes. These types of organisms may cause severe gastrointestinal illness and, in rare cases, even death. Children, the elderly, and immuno-compromised individuals are at an increased risk for illness.

The New Mexico Department of Health has also been notified and will remain on alert for any health effects linked to this water quality issue. Consumers of the water system may call (505) 528-5058, if they have any water-related health concerns. Finally the NMED Silver City field office will monitor food quality and preparation at the facility.

For more information contact Marissa Stone, Communications Director, NMED at (505) 827-0314 or Ricardo G. Jaquez, Area Manager, NMED-DWB, at (505) 524-6300.

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