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**State Environment and Health Officials Lift
"BOIL WATER ADVISORY" for the Ensenada Utility**

(Santa Fe, NM) – On Tuesday, November 20, 2001 the New Mexico Environment Department's Drinking Water Bureau (NMED-DWB) and New Mexico Department of Health's Office of Epidemiology, advised the Ensenada Mutual Domestic Water Consumers Association (MDWCA) to rescind a boil water advisory for customers served by their water system. Ensenada is located 3 miles northeast of Tierra Amarilla in Rio Arriba County.

The Village was put on boil water advisory on November 15, 2001 due to bacteriological contamination that exceeded the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for fecal coliform bacteria. Customers of the Ensenada water system were asked to boil water for five minutes before drinking, cooking, and dishwashing.

The presence of fecal coliform bacteria 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 fecal coliform are harmless and live in the intestines of healthy humans and animals.

Results received this afternoon for a total of six monitoring samples collected at various points in the water system demonstrated the absence of fecal coliforms bacteria. In addition, inspections by the Drinking Water Bureau (DWB) have confirmed that the Ensenada Mutual Domestic Water Consumers Association (MDWCA) is adequately disinfecting the drinking water. As a result, the DWB, in collaboration with the DOH Office of Epidemiology, determined that it was safe to lift the boil water advisory. The DWB will continue to monitor the Ensenada Utility. Residents who have health concerns relating to this water quality issue should consult with their health care provider.

For more information, contact Robert Gallegos, NMED at (505) 827-7536.