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September 12, 2006
For Immediate Release

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Environment Department Works With Albuquerque Bernalillo Water Authority to Test Soil in Martineztown after Floods Last Month

(Santa Fe, NM) — The New Mexico Environment Department is working with the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority to test soil for contaminants in Martineztown to make sure the health of residents is protected after sewage flooded homeowners' yards last month.

Storm water mixed with raw sewage washed into the yards of about 10 residences in Martineztown during heavy rains Aug. 17.

“Recent flooding taxed many sewage systems in New Mexico,” said New Mexico Environment Department Secretary Ron Curry. “We are working with the authority to make sure residents are protected from the effects of recent extreme weather. The authority will sample soil in Martineztown to ensure harmful bacteria is removed from homeowners' yards.”

If high levels of contaminants are discovered in soil on residents' property, NMED will work with the authority to clean up the residents' yards at no cost to them. NMED will also test tap water for contaminants at residences affected by flooding in Martineztown this week to ensure drinking water meets state standards.

NMED requires clean up efforts from cities and towns when water containing contaminants is released into the environment.

For more information, call NMED Communications Director Marissa Stone at (505) 827-0314 or (505) 231-0475.

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