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**Environment Department Advises Guadalupita Mutual Domestic Water Consumers Association to lift “BOIL WATER ADVISORY”**

(Santa Fe, NM) –The New Mexico Environment Department’s (NMED) Drinking Water Bureau has advised the Village of Guadalupita Mutual Domestic Water Consumers Association (MDWCA) to lift a boil water advisory for the customers served by their water system.

The Guadalupita MDWCA, located approximately fifteen miles north of Mora on State Road 434, was put on a Boil Water Advisory on Thursday, October 23, 2003 due to bacteriological contamination that resulted in an exceedence of the Maximum Contaminant Level for Total Coliforms and *E. coli* bacteria.

Troubleshooting completed on Friday, October 24, 2003 identified critical problems including: a malfunctioning chlorinator, “degraded” sodium hypochlorite solution for water disinfection, a potential “hydraulic cross connection” between the old infiltration gallery vaulted tank and the current well source, a significant rodent infestation at the old gallery, and erosion creating a potential pathway for contamination.

To address the problems, the water system’s entire infrastructure including the water source, storage, distribution lines and the off-line old infiltration gallery vaulted storage, was thoroughly disinfected. Immediate repairs have also been made to the wellhead.

Five water samples were collected on Monday, November 3, 2003 and results showed no Total Coliforms or *E. coli* bacteria in the community water system. As a result, the NMED-DWB, in collaboration with the DOH Office of Epidemiology, determined that it is safe to lift the boil water advisory. These efforts and additional repairs as yet to be completed will lead to better water quality for the water system and the community it serves.

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