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*RON CURRY*  
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Press Release

### **Environment Department lifts “Boil Water Advisory” for Otis Water Association**

(Santa Fe, NM) – The New Mexico Environment Department’s (NMED) Drinking Water Bureau lifted a “Boil Water Advisory” for the Otis Mutual Domestic Water Consumers Association (Otis MDWCA) near Carlsbad.

The Otis MDWCA, which serves 5,000 residents, is located about 5 miles southeast of Carlsbad in Eddy County. NMED placed the association on a “Boil Water Advisory” Aug. 11 after bacteriological contamination in the water exceeded the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for E.coli. NMED required that the system’s owner and operator notify all customers served by the system of this finding.

association disinfected its water system and flushed the system with chlorine. NMED lifted the advisory after 18 water samples taken recently show no Total Coliform or E. coli bacteria in the water system

The presence of E. coli in water indicates the water may have been in contact with sewage or animal waste 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 drinking water may indicate the presence of dangerous strains of E. coli or other disease-causing organisms that are sometimes found in sewage or animal waste. These types of organisms may cause severe gastrointestinal illness and in rare cases, death. Children, the elderly and immuno-compromised individuals are at an increased risk for illness.

Consumers of the water system with health concerns about the water can call (505) 827-0006.

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

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