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For Immediate Release

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Environment Department Offers Free Water Testing For Residents in Peña Blanca in Sandoval County

WHAT: The New Mexico Environment Department will hold a water fair July 18 to test residential well water for people who live in Peña Blanca and surrounding communities in Sandoval County. There is no charge for the service. Water samples will be tested for pH, electrical conductivity, dissolved oxygen, nitrate, fluoride, iron, and organic vapor. NMED will provide participants with test results at the meeting, where residents can also discuss the results with specialists.

WHERE: Residents can drop off water samples at the Peña Blanca Mutual Domestic Water Consumers and Municipal Solid Waste Association Building at 827 N.M. 22 in Peña Blanca. The building is north of the post office.

WHEN: Between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. July 18

HOW TO COLLECT WATER SAMPLE:

- Let the water run for at least 5 minutes before collecting the sample.
- Use a clean glass or plastic container (at least a quart in volume).
- Do not use containers that have a strong odor or other residue.
- Collect the sample as close to the time of testing as possible.
- Cover the container with a clean lid.
- Collect the sample before any water treatment systems such as reverse osmosis, water softener, or carbon filter and as close to the well as possible.

Water supplied by public drinking water systems will not be tested because that water is routinely tested pursuant to the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act. Residents whose homes are connected to a public system should receive a Consumer Confidence Report annually from the operator of the system that summarizes test results. For additional information on public drinking water systems in this area, contact NMED's Drinking Water Bureau staff in the Albuquerque field office at (505) 222-9500.

For questions about the water fair, contact Joel Stone at (505) 222-9522 or Joel.Stone@state.nm.us . For other information, call Marissa Stone at (505) 827-0314.

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