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NMED Lifts “Boil Water Advisory” for Canon MDWCA Water System in Taos County

(Santa Fe, NM) –The New Mexico Environment Department’s Drinking Water Bureau advised the Canon MDWCA water system in Taos County to lift a “boil water advisory” for its water system.

NMED issued the advisory Aug. 12 after it was determined that the water system was not meeting the required treatment and monitoring for ground water that is directly influenced by surface water. The Cañon MDWCA water system is a small community with approximately 197 connections located along Highway 64 on the eastern border of the Town of Taos in Taos County. NMED required the Cañon MDWCA water system to notify its consumers that the water system was not meeting the treatment requirements. Consumers were advised to boil all water prior to ingestion.

The water system has physically disconnected and is no longer using the well that is directly influenced by surface water. The Canon MDWCA water system is also now able to receive water from an adjacent water system in emergencies and when demand is high.

Groundwater that is under the direct influence (GWUDI) of surface water means that the groundwater source is located close enough to nearby surface water, such as a river or lake, to receive direct surface water recharge. Since a portion of the source’s recharge is from surface water, the groundwater source is considered at risk of contamination from pathogens such as *Giardia lamblia*, *Cryptosporidium*, and viruses, which are not normally found in true groundwater. If the water is not treated and monitored adequately it can pose a potential health risk to people who consume the water.

For more information, call Marissa Stone Bardino at (505) 827-0314 or (505) 231-0475 or Area Manager, Courtney Perkins at (505) 476-8636.

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