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NEWS RELEASE

August 30, 2013

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Environment Department Issues “Boil Water Advisory” for Agua Pura Mutual Domestic Water Consumers Association (MDWCA) Water System *Customers are urged to Boil Water Prior to Drinking*

(Santa Fe, N.M.) –The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED)’s Drinking Water Bureau issued a “Boil Water Advisory” for the Agua Pura Mutual Domestic Water Consumers Association (MDWCA) Water System.

NMED issued the advisory on August 30, 2013 after a disruption in water service as well as bacteriological contamination (*E. coli*) and total coliform being detected in routine monitoring samples collected on August 28, 2013. NMED requires the Agua Pura MDWCA Water System to notify water system consumers of this finding. Agua Pura MDWCA Water System serves approximately 125 residents and is located approximately 14 miles north of Mora, NM, in Mora County.

This advisory only applies to the drinking water from the Agua Pura MDWCA Water System, and does not extend to any other surrounding water systems.

Consumers of the Agua Pura MDWCA Water System are advised to boil the water for five minutes before drinking, cooking, dishwashing and bathing. The presence of *E. coli* in water indicates that the water may have been in contact with sewage or animal wastes, 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 the drinking water supply may indicate the presence of dangerous strains of *E. coli* or other disease-causing organisms. 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.

The NMED Drinking Water Bureau will provide technical assistance to the water system and Agua Pura MDWCA Water System will continue to test the water until no further threat of contamination remains. For more information, call NMED Communications Director Jim Winchester at (505) 831-8800 or Joe Martinez, Drinking Water Northern Area Compliance Supervisor, at (505) 476-8635.