

SUSANA MARTINEZ, GOVERNORRyan Flynn, *Cabinet Secretary*Butch Tongate, *Deputy Secretary***NEWS RELEASE****November 19, 2014**

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**Environment Department Lifts “Boil Water Advisory”
For Ojo Feliz Mutual Domestic Water Consumers Association
In Mora County**

(Santa Fe, NM) –The New Mexico Environment Department’s (NMED) Drinking Water Bureau is lifting the “boil water advisory” for the Ojo Feliz Mutual Domestic Water Consumers Association (MDWCA) located in Mora County.

NMED issued the advisory on November 8, 2014 after bacteriological contamination that exceeded the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for *E. coli* was discovered in drinking water at the water system. **The advisory only applied to customers served by the Ojo Feliz MDWCA and did not extend to any of the other surrounding water systems or communities.**

Consumers of water at the Ojo Feliz MDWCA were 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 have indicated the presence of dangerous strains of *E. coli* or other disease-causing organisms. These types of organisms could cause severe gastrointestinal illness and, in rare cases, death. Children, the elderly and immuno-compromised individuals are at an increased risk for illness.

Subsequent samples collected from the water system were negative for bacteriological contamination. The Ojo Feliz MDWCA Water System will be required to maintain a regular monitoring schedule to test the distribution system for the presence of Total coliform & *E. coli*.

For more information, call NMED Communications Director Jim Winchester at (505) 831-8800 or Joe Martinez, Drinking Water Bureau Public Water System Supervision Group Manager, at (505) 476-8635.