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## **NMED Issues “Boil Water Advisory” for Cañon MDWCA Water System in Taos County**

(Santa Fe, NM) –The New Mexico Environment Department’s Drinking Water Bureau advised the Cañon Mutual Domestic Water Consumers Association water system in Taos County to issue a “boil water advisory” for its water system.

NMED issued the advisory after it was determined that the water system is not meeting the required treatment and monitoring for groundwater that is directly influenced by surface water. The Cañon MDWCA water system serves a small community with approximately 197 connections located along N.M. 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 is not meeting treatment requirements. Water supplied to adjacent areas by other water suppliers is not affected and is not under this boil water advisory.

Consumers of water from the Cañon MDWCA water system are advised to boil water for five minutes before drinking, cooking and dishwashing, or to use bottled water if possible.

Groundwater that is under the direct influence 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.

The Cañon MDWCA water system is working with NMED to ensure that the water is adequately treated and monitored.

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

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