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NEWS RELEASE

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Environment Department Issues “Boil Water Advisory” for Ojo Feliz MDWCA *Customers are urged to Boil Water Prior to Drinking*

(Santa Fe, NM)—The New Mexico Environment Department’s Drinking Water Bureau issued a “Boil Water Advisory” for the Ojo Feliz MDWCA Water System.

NMED issued the advisory on November 8, 2014, after bacteriological contamination (*E.coli*) was detected in three repeat monitoring samples. Total coliform and *E. coli* was originally detected in the monthly drinking water sample collected from the system on November 4, 2014. NMED requires the Ojo Feliz MDWCA to notify water system consumers of this finding. Ojo Feliz MDWCA is a community water system that serves approximately 80 people and is located in Ojo Feliz, NM in Mora County.

This advisory only applies to the drinking water from the Ojo Feliz MDWCA in Mora County, and does not extend to any other surrounding water systems.

Consumers of the Ojo Feliz MDWCA are advised to boil the water for five minute 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 Ojo Feliz MDWCA 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 Bureau Public Water System Supervision Group Manager, at (505) 476-8635.