



NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT



Office of the Secretary

BILL RICHARDSON
Governor
DIANE DENISH
Lieutenant Governor

Harold Runnels Building
1190 Saint Francis Drive (87505)
PO Box 5469, Santa Fe, NM 87502-5469
Phone (505) 827-2855 Fax (505) 827-2836
www.nmenv.state.nm.us

RON CURRY
Secretary
SARAH COTTRELL
Deputy Secretary

April 21, 2010
For Immediate Release

Contact: Marissa Stone Bardino, NMED Communications Director
(505) 827-0314 or (505) 231-0475

NMED Issues “Boil Water Advisory” for Punta de Agua MDWCA in Torrance County

Customers are urged to Boil Water Prior to Drinking

(Santa Fe, N.M.) The New Mexico Environment Department’s Drinking Water Bureau is advising customers of the Punta de Agua Mutual Domestic Water Consumer’s Association to boil their water for five minutes before drinking, cooking and dishwashing. The water supplied to adjacent areas by other water suppliers is not affected and is not subject to this boil water advisory.

NMED issued the advisory on April 21 due to multiple failures by the association to test for bacteria as required by the New Mexico Drinking Water Regulations. The Punta de Agua MDWCA is a small community water system that serves approximately 50 people on the east side of the Manzano Mountains in Torrance County. NMED required the association to notify its customers and members that the water system is not currently meeting the water sampling and reporting requirements. While there is no recent indication of contamination of the drinking water, without bacteria water sample results customers cannot be certain of the safety of the water provided by the association.

Customers of the water system are advised to boil the water for five minutes before drinking, cooking or dishwashing. If present, microorganisms in drinking water may cause severe gastrointestinal illness and, in rare cases, even death. Children, the elderly and immuno-compromised individuals are at an increased risk for illness.

NMED is pursuing an enforcement action against the association for failing to comply with the Drinking Water Regulations.

For more information please contact Mike Huber, Drinking Water Bureau Compliance Manager, at (505) 476-8638.

###