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## **NEWS RELEASE**

*For Immediate Release*

**June 12, 2020**

*The Environment Department's mission is to protect and restore the environment and to foster a healthy and prosperous New Mexico for present and future generations.*

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## **Environment Department confirms boil water advisory required for Rosa Joint Ventures Water System in San Juan County**

*456 users urged to boil water prior to drinking*

**SAN JUAN COUNTY** – The New Mexico Environment Department's (NMED) Drinking Water Bureau confirms that a boil water advisory is required for the Rosa Joint Ventures Water System in San Juan County.

Rosa Joint Ventures Water System was required to issue the advisory on June 12, 2020, after bacteriological contamination (*E. coli*) was detected in drinking water samples from the water system's distribution system. New Mexico drinking water regulations require the water system to notify its consumers of this finding as soon as practical but no later than 24 hours after the system is notified of the confirmation of the violation.

Rosa Joint Ventures Water System is a community public water system that serves approximately 456 people. This advisory applies only to drinking water from the Rosa Joint Ventures Water System and does not extend to any other surrounding water systems. This advisory is not related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Rosa Joint Ventures Water System users are advised to boil the water for one minute (3 minutes if above 6,500 feet in elevation) before:

- Drinking
- Making coffee, tea and other drinks
- Making ice
- Cooking
- Washing fruits and vegetables
- Using the water to feed a baby
- Brushing teeth
- Providing as drinking water for pets

The presence of *E. coli* in water indicates the water may have been in contact with sewage or animal waste and could contain 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. Most strains of *E. coli* are harmless and live in the intestines of healthy humans and animals.

The NMED Drinking Water Bureau will provide compliance oversight and offer technical assistance to the water system and require the Rosa Joint Ventures Water System to continue to test the water until no further threat of contamination remains.

More information about boil water advisories in English and Spanish is available [here](#). For more information on today's announcement, please call NMED's Drinking Water Bureau Compliance Officer James Jones at 505-258-3203.

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