



MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM, GOVERNOR

James C. Kenney, Cabinet Secretary

NEWS RELEASE

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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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Drinking water advisories lifted for several drinking water systems in Mora and San Miguel Counties

MORA & SAN MIGUEL COUNTIES – The New Mexico Environment Department's (NMED) Drinking Water Bureau confirms that it has lifted precautionary drinking water advisories for the following drinking water systems:

Table with 3 columns: System Name, County, Population Served. Lists systems like Mike Mateo Elementary School, Ledoux MDWCA, Mora MDWCA, etc.

NMED issued the initial advisory on May 12, 2022, as a result of power outages or direct effects to drinking water operations that may have been caused by the Hermits Peak and Calf Canyon Fire Complex. As evacuation orders were lifted, NMED staff were able to begin on-site evaluations of water systems. These evaluations were conducted in coordination with staff from the New Mexico Rural Water Association (NMRWA) and representatives from the impacted water systems. Now that the advisory is lifted, customers of the systems listed above can safely drink, cook, shower, and bathe with the water from their faucets.

Several water systems remain on a precautionary drinking water advisory until a full assessment of the impacts to their systems is complete:

Table with 3 columns: System Name, County, Population Served. Lists systems like Pendaries MDWCA, Pendaries RV Resort, Camp Blue Haven, etc.

Customers of these public water systems should continue using alternate sources of drinking water to ensure the protection of public health. **Residents who need assistance receiving free, safe drinking water may contact the Fire Resource Hotline at 1-800-432-2080.**

Water from systems that are still under the precautionary advisories can be used for other activities, such as washing clothes and dishes, showering, and general nondrinking uses. Use caution when bathing infants and young children. Consider giving them a sponge bath to reduce the chance of them swallowing water. People who are immunocompromised/immunosuppressed, and/or have open cuts, wounds, or sores should not use the water to bathe until notified that the water is safe.

NMED continues coordinating closely with water system officials and the NMRWA to assess systems as quickly as possible for potential infrastructure damage that could affect water quality and safety. NMED will inform affected residents as soon as their water is determined safe for drinking.

Impacted consumers of the public water systems that remain under the precautionary advisory may direct questions about this advisory or the status of their water system's assessment to Wayne Jeffs, Drinking Water Bureau Northern Area Supervisor, at 505-469-7457 or wayne.jeffs@state.nm.us.

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