

Environment Department

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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release **August 5, 2022**

Contact: Matthew Maez, Communication Director New Mexico Environment Department 505.670-8911 | matthew.maez@state.nm.us 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.

Environment Department confirms boil water advisory required for Cochiti Elementary School

Users are urged to boil water prior to drinking

SANDOVAL COUNTY – The New Mexico Environment Department's (NMED) Drinking Water Bureau is confirming that a "boil water advisory" is required for the Cochiti Elementary School Water System in Sandoval County.

Cochiti Elementary School Water System was required to issue the advisory on August 5, 2022 after bacteriological contamination (*E. coli*) was confirmed in drinking water in the water system. The advisory only applies to the users served by the Cochiti Elementary School, a Non-Transient Non-Community public water system that serves approximately 260 users during the school year. This system is currently only serving approximately 30 users during summer break.

New Mexico Drinking Water Regulations require Cochiti Elementary School Water to notify their water system 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.

This advisory applies only to the drinking water from the Cochiti Elementary School Water System and **does not** extend to any other surrounding water systems.

The Cochiti Elementary School users impacted by this advisory are advised to boil water for three minutes 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

More information about New Mexico's boil water advisories in English and Spanish is available <u>here</u>. For more information about today's announcement, please call Wayne Jeffs of the Drinking Water Bureau at 505-469-7457.

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