



SUSANA MARTINEZ, GOVERNOR

Ryan Flynn, *Cabinet Secretary*

Butch Tongate, *Deputy Secretary*

NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Allison Scott Majure, Communications Director
New Mexico Environment Department
505.231.8800 | Allison.majure@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 Issues “Boil Water Advisory” for Harvest Gold Water System *Users Are Urged to Boil Water Prior to Drinking*

Santa Fe –The New Mexico Environment Department’s Drinking Water Bureau issued a “boil water advisory” for the Harvest Gold Water System of Farmington, New Mexico.

NMED issued the advisory on June 3, 2016 after a finding that the quality of water being produced could not be fully verified as required by the regulations. NMED required Harvest Gold Water System to notify water system consumers of this finding.

Harvest Gold Water System is a community public water system that serves approximately 522 people and is located in Farmington, NM. This advisory only applies to the drinking water from the Harvest Gold Water System.

Consumers of the Harvest Gold Water System are advised to boil the water for five minutes before drinking, cooking, dishwashing and bathing. Because the quality of water being produced is not fully verified as required by the regulations, the possibility of contamination cannot be ruled out. If *E. coli* is present in the water it would indicate 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 continue to work with the water system and Harvest Gold Water System will continue to test the water until no further threat of contamination remains.

For more information, contact the Harvest Gold Water System at 505-325-2435 or Joe Martinez of the NMED Drinking Water Bureau at 505-476-8635.

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