

**SUSANA MARTINEZ, GOVERNOR**Ryan Flynn, *Cabinet Secretary*Butch Tongate, *Deputy Secretary***NEWS RELEASE****August 1, 2016**

Contact: Allison Scott Majure, Communications Director
New Mexico Environment Department
505.231.8800 | Allison.majure@state.nm.us
Or, Tanya Trujillo, Drinking Water Bureau Compliance Officer
505.222.9539 | tanya.trujillo2@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.

NM Environment Department Lifts “Boil Water Advisory” for Yah-Ta-Hey Water and Sanitation District Water System in McKinley County

Santa Fe – The New Mexico Environment Department’s (NMED) Drinking Water Bureau is lifting the “Boil Water Advisory” for the Yah-Ta-Hey Water and Sanitation Water System located in McKinley County.

The Environment Department issued the advisory on July 21, 2016 after bacteriological contamination that exceeded the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for E. coli was discovered by regulators in drinking water at the water system. The advisory only applied to customers served by the Yah-Ta-Hey Water and Sanitation District Water System and did not extend to any of the other surrounding water systems or communities.

Consumers of water at the Yah-Ta-Hey Water and Sanitation District Water System were advised to boil the water for five minutes before drinking, cooking, dishwashing and bathing. The presence of E. coli in water indicates 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 have indicated the presence of dangerous strains of E. coli or other disease-causing organisms. These types of organisms could cause severe gastrointestinal illness and, in rare cases, death. Children, the elderly and immuno-compromised individuals are at an increased risk for illness.

The New Mexico Environment Department’s Drinking Water Bureau provided technical support to the Yah-Ta-Hey Water and Sanitation District Water System and subsequent samples collected from the water system were negative for bacteriological contamination. The Yah-Ta-Hey Water and Sanitation District Water System will be required to maintain a regular monitoring schedule to test the distribution system for the presence of Total coliform & E. coli.

For more information, please contact Tanya Trujillo, Drinking Water Bureau Compliance Officer at (505) 222-9539 or tanya.trujillo2@state.nm.us .

###