



## **NEWS RELEASE**

*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.*

### **For Immediate Release**

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## **Environment Department confirms boil water advisory for City of Las Vegas water system** *14,530 users urged to boil water before drinking*

**San Miguel County** – The New Mexico Environment Department’s (NMED) Drinking Water Bureau (DWB) confirms a boil water advisory is necessary for the City of Las Vegas water system in San Miguel County.

NMED confirmed the boil water advisory after turbidity (cloudiness) levels in the water entering the city’s distribution system exceeded limits established by the Safe Drinking Water Act. Under New Mexico drinking water regulations, the water system must notify its consumers within 24 hours of this violation.

High turbidity can interfere with disinfection and increase the risk of harmful microorganisms in the water. No contamination in the water system has been confirmed at this time.

This advisory follows two previous boil water advisories issued by the City of Las Vegas. The first was precautionary, prompted by low system pressure and localized water outages. The second was mandatory, as more city areas lost water service, increasing the risk of contamination.

The City of Las Vegas water system serves approximately 14,530 users as a community public water system. This advisory applies only to water from this system and does not currently extend to other nearby water providers.

Residents and businesses using City of Las Vegas water should boil water for at least one minute before:

- Drinking
- Making coffee, tea and other drinks
- Making ice
- Cooking
- Washing fruits and vegetables
- Using water to feed a baby
- Brushing teeth

- Providing as drinking water for pets

The NMED Drinking Water Bureau is providing compliance oversight and technical assistance to the City of Las Vegas water system. The system must continue testing until turbidity levels return to safe standards and the water is confirmed safe for consumption.

For more facts about New Mexico's Boil Water Advisories in English and Spanish please visit: [https://www.env.nm.gov/drinking\\_water/boil-water-advisories/](https://www.env.nm.gov/drinking_water/boil-water-advisories/) and for more information on today's announcement please call NMED's Drinking Water Bureau Northern Compliance Supervisor Wayne Jeffs at 505-469-7457 or [wayne.jeffs@env.nm.gov](mailto:wayne.jeffs@env.nm.gov).

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