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PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

Public Information Meetings and Updates

Aztec, NM – EPA Region 6 (New Mexico) Director, Ron Curry provided a toll free number for residents to reach a “live person” in English, Spanish, and Navajo, **1-844-607-9700**. Information on claims and forms for claims can be found at www2.epa.gov/goldkingmine. Those who plan to make a claim to the EPA should keep all records, photo’s, and receipts to be field with claim forms. Make sure you have a complete copy of everything you submit.

New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) personnel have been in the field testing wells in close proximity to the Animas River. The purpose of the testing is to determine is well water is drawing from the river or pushing into the river. Free well water testing for those who have been identified by NMED as at risk will continue all week through Saturday at the San Juan County Sheriff’s Sub Station, 21 RD 5500.

The Red Cross delivered water to Hogback, Shiprock, and Aneth Chapter Houses today. Water has been donated by Pepsi and Costco.

The New Mexico State University Cooperative Extension Office has begun to provide water for Market Vegetable Growers on a limited basis. Emergency Livestock water deliveries and Evacuations East of the Hogback can be scheduled with the Extension Office. Call 505-334-9496 to schedule delivery.

The Extension Office would like to remind community members that the Farmers Markets are still taking place and that all produce available is not contaminated. Markets occur Tuesdays at 4:00pm at the Farmington Museum, Wednesday at 4:30pm at Westside Plaza in Aztec, and Saturday at 8:00am at the Farmington Museum.

There will be an Irrigation Information Meeting 2:00pm at the Farmington Civic Center, Wednesday, 8/12/15.

San Juan Center for Independence is available for those with special needs that have been impacted by the Animas Contamination. Call 505-566-5827 if you need assistance.

NAPI has a non-potable fill station available. A map of the location can be found at navajopride.com. The station is open from 8:00am to 6:00pm. Contact Jeremy Simpson at 505-427-1843 for more information.

There will be a Public Information Meeting at the Shiprock Chapter House, Wednesday 8/12/15 at 3:00pm. A panel of Federal, Tribal, State, and Local officials will be providing updates on the Animas Contamination Event.

Public Meetings are planned for each night this week, at the Farmington Civic Center, 6:00pm. Information updates will be given by Federal, State, and Local officials on the Animas Contamination Event. Videos of each night's meeting are available at www.sjcoem.com, www.nmedriverwatersafety.org, and www.sjsci.org.

Residents may think the danger has passed as the river water returns to its normal color. Please use caution and avoid contact with the Animas River Water until test results show it is safe.

The New Mexico Fish and Game Department advises not to eat fish taken from the Animas River after the Contamination Event.

Potable water stations for DRINKING WATER ONLY have been set up for residents at the following locations:

In Bloomfield:

Bloomfield Fire Station – 911 N First St.

Monday 8/10/15 - Friday 8/14/15 9:00am – 9:00pm

In Farmington:

Farmington Fire Station #6 – 3101 West Main St.

Sycamore Park Community Center – 1051 Sycamore St.

Monday 8/10/15 – Friday 8/14/15 8:00am - 8:00pm

In the County:

Center Point Fire Station # 1 – 16 Road 2755

Flora Vista Fire Station #1 – 2 Road 3275

Valley Fire Station #4 – 4 Road 6200

Stations will be open:

Monday 8/10/15 – Friday 8/14/15 6:00pm - 7:00pm

Bring your own drinking water containers. No large tanks.

LIVESTOCK AND RV WATER STATIONS

Aztec-less than 100 gallons please

Aztec RV Fill Station – 201 W. Chaco – next to City Hall and the police station

Open all day

San Juan County Livestock – East of the Hogback – Livestock Evacuations/Emergency Water Delivery

New Mexico State University Cooperative Extension Service – 505-334-9496

Navajo Nation – West of the Hogback – Livestock Evacuations/Emergency Water Delivery

Navajo Nation Livestock – 505-368-1037 or 928-871-7891

As more information becomes available, updates will be sent out via media releases and on Facebook at the following locations:

San Juan County Office of Emergency Management (www.sjcoem.com and www.facebook.com/sanjuancountyofficeofemergencymanagement)

San Juan County Government (www.sjcounty.net and facebook – San Juan County, New Mexico. Government)

City of Farmington (www.fmtn.org and www.facebook.com/cityoffarmingtonnm)

Farmington Fire Department (www.facebook.com/Farmingtonfire)

Farmington Police Department (www.facebook.com/farmingtonpolicedepartmentnm)

City of Aztec Municipal Government Offices (www.aztecnm.gov and facebook – City of Aztec Municipal Government Offices)

NMSU Cooperative Extension Service 505-334-9496

NMED web site www.nmedriverwatersafety.org

US EPA web site http://epaossc.org/site/site_profile.aspx?site_id=11082

Information is also available on the La Plata County website at <http://www.co.laplata.co.us/emergency>, San Juan Basin Health Department's Website at www.sjbhd.org, La Plata County Government Facebook and San Juan Basin Health Department Facebook.

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