

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Tuesday, August 23, 2011

Town of Bernalillo, Office of Mayor Jack Torres

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Town of Bernalillo receives emergency water service assistance from the City of Rio Rancho and is under Stage 2 emergency water restrictions.

Today, Mayor Jack Torres and the Town Council initiated emergency water restrictions due to the loss in operation of the Town's primary drinking water well (#4) and the need to activate a mutual connection with the City of Rio Rancho. As of 5:00pm tonight, the Town's system is operating at near normal water supply capacity with the use of the supplemental Town well (#3) and the service received from the City of Rio Rancho. Residents and business will continue to experience low water pressure until such time as the distribution system is fully re-pressurized.

The Town is asking customers to assist in the re-pressurization of the system by turning on an outdoor water source to expel air from the system. When water customers open an outdoor faucet, they will experience a rush of air, followed by sputtering water. Customers should run the water until the sputtering stops, and then the faucet should be turned off. Faucets should not be left on inside or outside when not in use.

Per Ordinance No. 198, Water Conservation, Emergency Response and Drought Management Ordinance, the following mandatory restrictions are in place until further notice:

- No outside watering using Town of Bernalillo system water is permitted
- Commercial car washes and laundries have been shut down
- The Town of Bernalillo and Bernalillo Public Schools have discontinued watering parks, open space and athletic fields
- Use of water from fire hydrants is limited to fire-fighting, fire related activities, or other activities necessary to maintain the health, safety and welfare of customers served

The Town will continue to update our customers through public notifications and press releases as the situation develops.