**DRINKING WATER WARNING**

**[System] has high turbidity levels**

**BOIL YOUR WATER BEFORE USING**

We routinely monitor your water at the treatment plant for turbidity (cloudiness). This tells us whether we are effectively filtering the water supply to remove organic matter and possible disease-causing organisms. A water sample taken [give date] showed turbidity levels of [number] nephelometric turbidity units which is above the standard of 1 nephelometric turbidity unit. Because of the high levels of turbidity, there is an increased chance that the water may contain disease-causing organisms.

**What should I do? What does this mean?**

**• DO NOT DRINK THE WATER WITHOUT BOILING IT FIRST.** Bring all water to a boil, let it boil for one minute, and let it cool before using, or use bottled water. Boiled or bottled water should be used for drinking, making ice, brushing teeth, washing dishes, and food preparation until further notice. Boiling kills bacteria and other organisms in the water.

*• \*Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites, which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches. \**

• The symptoms above are not caused only by organisms in drinking water. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice. People at increased risk should seek advice from their health care providers about drinking this water.

**What is being done?**

[Describe corrective action]. We will inform you when turbidity returns to appropriate levels and when you no longer need to boil your water. We anticipate resolving the problem within [estimated time frame].

\*For community water systems, if only one portion of the service area is impacted and you were granted permission from the state to limit the distribution of the public notice, it is highly recommended to include a map of the afflicted area. The system should copy and paste a map below if it elects to include one\*

**OPTION:** Only a portion of our service area, specifically [AREA] is affected by this public notice. Please see find a map illustrating the affected area [attached/enclosed/below].

For more information, please contact [name of contact] at [phone number] or [mailing address]. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

*\*Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail. \**

This notice is being sent to you by [system].

PWSID#: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Date distributed: \_\_\_\_\_\_.