



News Release

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DEQ Issues Boil Advisory for Hugo

The Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has advised Hugo, located in Choctaw County, to inform consumers that its drinking water is unsafe for human consumption due to inadequate levels of chlorine and the public water supply system's difficulty in maintaining compliance with standards for turbidity.

Due to the lack of chlorine and high turbidity, DEQ has issued a mandatory boil advisory. To ensure the water is safe for human consumption, water should be vigorously boiled for one minute before drinking, use in food preparation, washing dishes or brushing teeth.

The advisory to boil water will remain in effect until the water system ensures that chlorination can be adequately maintained, turbidity levels that meet drinking water standards can be maintained, and that, if necessary, any required corrections to structural systems or operational practices have been made.

Chlorine is used for disinfection purposes in drinking water. Turbidity is the measure of water clarity. High turbidity can provide a medium for microbial growth.

Federal law requires that consumers be notified when a public water supply is not in compliance with certain drinking water standards and might be harmful to the health of consumers.

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