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October 19, 2009  
Utility Board  
Elk Ridge Resort  
Box 130  
WASKESIU SK S0J 2Y0

File: PA - 21020-50/WW/OP/Elk Ridge Resort

Dear Utility Board:

### **Issuance of a Precautionary Drinking Water Advisory**

A Precautionary Drinking Water Advisory (PDWA) has been issued for the Elk Ridge Resort, effective immediately, this October 19, 2009, at 08:00 hrs, until further notice. A PDWA is issued when immediate hazards have not been identified, but where significant concerns regarding water quality exist. The issuance of this PDWA is based on the following issues:

- The resort has informed Saskatchewan Environment of a planned maintenance interruption within the water treatment plant. The potable water reservoir is to be emptied and a new distribution pump is to be installed. The disruption in service is expected to last a day. The potable water distribution network required depressurization to complete the repair. Due to the depressurization, the potential exists for contamination to have entered into the community's potable water distribution system during the depressurization and subsequently distributed throughout the distribution system.

As a result of the issuance of this PDWA, I ask that the Elk Ridge Resort administration ensure that all users of the affected community's drinking water distribution systems have been made aware that they should boil the water being used for drinking purposes for at least one minute prior to use.

This advisory also applies to any water which will enter a person's mouth, such as water used for tooth brushing, soaking false teeth and water put into food or drink which will not be subsequently heated. Also, advise the public that some harmful bacteria, if present in the water, can survive freezing; therefore ice cubes should be made from previously boiled water. Persons providing food or drink to the public should be particularly careful to boil all water which is consumed by the public.


In addition to the above, all dishes and utensils should be soaked in a bleach water solution (1 oz of bleach per gallon of water) for 2 minutes after being washed to kill any bacteria which may be present or dishwasher should be boiled prior to use. Do not mix soap with bleach. Attached is a copy of a poster you may distribute to residents.

The following conditions will need to be met prior to the removal of the Precautionary Drinking Water Advisory:

- The receipt of **two sets of two (2) bacteriological samples (marked as Other)** with each set collected with a minimum of approximately 24 hours between sets that are negative for bacteriological growth in the final treated potable water being supplied throughout the affected communities distribution systems. All Other samples to be taken from representative locations in the distribution system. Note that Other samples do not count as 'regular' samples towards compliance for sample submission, therefore any regular samples due to be submitted at that time must also be sent in additional to the 'special' samples.
- Free chlorine residual will have to be at least 0.1 mg/l in the water entering the distribution system at all times.
- Chlorine residuals throughout the entire distribution system will have to be 0.1 mg/l as free chlorine or 0.5 mg/l as total chlorine at all times.
- Bacteriological tests must continue to test negative for Total Coliform and Fecal Coliform as well as for background bacteria (<200 counts / 100 ml samples).
- Comply with all requirements as listed in *The Water Regulations* and Saskatchewan Environment's *Guide to Waterworks Design*.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the above, please contact the writer at 953-2296.

Yours sincerely,



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**Jason Tokarchuk, A.Sc.T.**  
Environmental Project Officer

cc: Bill Miller, Manager – Water & Municipal Programs, Northern Region – DWQS, Meadow Lake  
Marilyn Younghusband - Environmental Protection Branch  
Paul Ross, Prince Albert Parkland Health Region



## Precautionary Drinking Water Advisory

**This Advisory applies to all residents and Consumers within the Elk Ridge Resort effective immediately this October 19, 2009 at 08:00 hrs until further notice.**  
**Pursuant to clause 32(1)(a) of *The Environmental Management and Protection Act 2002* this Precautionary Drinking Water Advisory is issued due to a distribution system depressurization and unknown bacteriological water quality in the effected part of the distribution system and therefore the safety of the drinking water supply cannot be ensured at all times. Therefore, pursuant to Clause 32(1)(b) of *The Environmental Management and Protection Act 2002*, consumers must be notified to:**

- (a) boil all water, used for drinking purposes, for at least one (1) minute, at a rolling boil, prior to use;
- (b) boil water to be used for other activities where it may be ingested, including:
  - (i) brushing teeth or soaking false teeth;
  - (ii) dishwashing, unless sanitized in another fashion
  - (iii) washing fruits and vegetables;
  - (iv) food or drink which will not be subsequently heated; and
  - (v) ice cubes;
- (c) not drink from any public drinking fountains supplied with water from the public water supply;
- (d) under most circumstances, not need to boil water used for other household purposes. Adults, adolescents and older children may shower, bathe or wash using tap water but should avoid swallowing the water. Laundry may be washed in tap water, either by hand or by machine;
- (e) ensure that younger children and infants are sponge bathed;
- (f) use an alternative water source known to be safe, if they do not wish to boil the water; and
- (g) consult with your physician if you have cuts or rashes that are severe before using the water.

If you require any additional information, please contact the following:

Elk Ridge Resort Office	306 – 663 - 4653
Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment – Prince Albert Office	306 – 953 – 2296
Prince Albert Parkland Health Region	306 – 765 – 6600
Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment Communications Branch	
Media Inquiries	306 – 787 – 5796

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