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August 26, 2016

## WILDERNESS MOUNTAIN WATER SYSTEM DISCONTINUE BOIL WATER NOTICE

Further to the boil water notice issued by the CRD in conjunction with Island Health on Thursday, July 28, 2016, testing of the water supply has confirmed that there is no longer a potential health risk associated with the drinking water supplied in the Wilderness Mountain System. The elevated turbidity event that occurred in the source water, Wilfred Reservoir, has subsided and therefore the water treatment facility is once again providing safe drinking water to the community.

**On August 26, 2016, the Island Health Drinking Water Officer has advised to discontinue boiling water for domestic purposes.**

Please refer to the second page of this notice for more information on why this Boil Water Advisory was called and what actions were taken to mitigate the issue.

Thank you for your understanding during this event and we apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

**For further information, please contact:**

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# Backgrounder

The Wilderness Mountain Water System was under a Boil Water Advisory from July 28 to August 26 2016.

## **Reason for the Boil Water Advisory**

The water supply for the system is Wilfred Reservoir. In recent months the turbidity of the water in the reservoir increased to the point that it impeded the proper disinfection of the raw water. This led to the appearance of total coliform indicator bacteria in the treated water which in turn resulted in the Boil Water Advisory.

## **What was done to mitigate the issue?**

The CRD continually monitors raw water quality and adjusts the chemical and physical treatment applications to increase the effectiveness of the disinfection process. In addition, changes and attention to the treatment process and distribution system were made throughout this Boil Water Advisory on site and remotely through computer control systems.

## **How was the decision made to discontinue the Boil Water Advisory?**

In addition to the continuous turbidity and chlorine analysis at the water treatment facility, grab water samples were collected several times per week at the water treatment plant and at several points in the distribution system. This data provided a clear and representative assessment of the water quality in the system as a whole as this event progressed. The data from this analysis was shared and discussed with Island Health. Through these discussions consensus was gained that the raw water turbidity event had passed and the water treatment facility was again providing safe drinking water to the community.

The CRD continues to monitor drinking water on an ongoing basis and will respond accordingly should there be any future changes in water quality.