



PRESS RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE USE

March 4, 2008

Residents need to boil water

Lumsden and Balfour residents and rural consumers on the rural water supply need to boil their water until further notice.

Southland District Council water and waste services technical officer Sarah Dowling said an amount of flood water entered the Lumsden-Balfour Rural Water Scheme system when the Oreti River rose rapidly after heavy rain on Saturday night.

The Operations Contractor has flushed the reservoirs at Lumsden, Balfour and the main reservoir at Lumsden Hill to get rid of as much of the dirty water as possible, but there are still short-term issues, Ms Dowling said.

“The boil water notice is necessary as no free available chlorine is currently in the water to disinfect any bugs present. The notice will have to remain until an acceptable level of chlorine is present in the supply.”

The level of chlorine is expected to increase during the next few days but people should boil their water until advised otherwise by Council, she said.

Everyone in Lumsden and Balfour townships and rural consumers connected to the scheme, including Castlerock, St Patricks, Longridge North and Glenure, are included in this notice. For further information please contact Southland District Council on 0800 732 732.

ENDS

For further information please contact:

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