

NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION

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NEWS RELEASE

Commission Gives Blanco Water Assn. Until Jan. 24 to Decide on Appointment as Operator

SANTA FE – The New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (NMPRC) on Wednesday, January 18 voted unanimously to approve an order that gives the Blanco Mutual Domestic Water User’s Association (Blanco) until Tuesday, January 24 to decide whether it would assume operation and control of the Harvest Gold water system located near the city of Bloomfield.

If Blanco does agree to operate the Harvest Gold system, it would also immediately begin constructing a pipeline that would interconnect that system to the City of Bloomfield’s water system and deliver clean, potable water to the Harvest Gold customers. AV Water Company, the current owner of the Harvest Gold system, advised the Commission that it supports Blanco taking control of that system under the terms of the Commission’s order.

Although Blanco stated in a news article that it had some concerns with taking operational control of the Harvest Gold system, Blanco nonetheless advised the Commission that it would determine whether those concerns could be resolved by next Tuesday, and would inform the Commission by that date whether it would proceed to operate the Harvest Gold system and immediately commence constructing the interconnecting pipeline.

Presently, Harvest Gold residents are receiving deliveries of water from Cascade Water Company of Farmington as a result of an agreement with AV Water Company. The Commission heard testimony during Tuesday’s meeting that Cascade had notified residents that they would be discontinuing delivery service because they had not been paid by AV Water. AV Water’s attorney informed the Commission that a payment made earlier that day had ensured that delivery service would continue.

ABOUT THE NMPRC

The NMPRC regulates public utilities, telecommunications companies and motor carriers operating in the State of New Mexico. It also administers the State Fire Marshal’s Office, the New Mexico Firefighters Training Academy in Socorro, N.M., and the Pipeline Safety Bureau.

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