

MIDDLESEX WATER COMPANY WELL TAKEN OUT OF SERVICE

ISELIN, NJ, (July 11, 2010) Middlesex Water is reporting that one of its wells at its South Tingley Lane Wellfield in Edison, NJ has been taken out of service following the presence of bacteria in a raw water sample taken from triggered source monitoring. Triggered source monitoring occurs when a positive bacteria sample is found during normal sampling of the water distribution system, which then requires that all wells in service at the time also be sampled. The NJDEP has advised Middlesex Water that customers are not required to take any further action at this time. Water from this well is routinely disinfected before entering the distribution system as required by the state.

One of the routine samples taken on July 8 was total coliform positive resulting in the triggered source monitoring. In response to this finding, the Company immediately suspended water use from this well and is investigating the source of the problem. The Company, under the new EPA Groundwater rule, is required to issue public notification about this finding.

Individuals with severely compromised immune systems, infants, or the elderly may be at increased risk and should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791. This type of bacteria is a fecal indicator. Fecal indicators are microbes whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause short-term health effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, some of the elderly, and people with severely compromised immune systems. These symptoms are not caused only by organisms in drinking water. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice.

Middlesex Water will keep customers informed of the steps it is taking to protect drinking water and more information is available on its home page at <u>www.middlesexwater.com</u> under Service Alerts. Customers with questions should call 732-634-1500.

Contact: Bernadette Sohler, Vice President – Corporate Affairs Middlesex Water Company 1500 Ronson Road Iselin, New Jersey 08830 (732) 638-7549 (work) www.middlesexwater.com