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Boil Water Advisory Issued For Portion of Summers County

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (March 9, 2010) – West Virginia American Water has issued a precautionary boil water advisory for customers in a portion of Hinton and the community of Brooks, in Summers County.

The affected area, which is in West Virginia American Water's Bluestone system, includes everything north of 17th Avenue in what is considered West Hinton. This area continues north along Route 20 – to and including Brooks.

This advisory follows a water main break West Virginia American Water crews are working to fix as quickly as possible.

Affected customers should boil their water before consumption until further notice. Customers are asked to bring water used for drinking, cooking, bathing and brushing teeth to a full boil for a minimum of one minute, then cool before use.

Boiling kills bacteria and other organisms that may be present in the water. West Virginia American Water also recommends the following steps:

- Throw away beverages and ice cubes if made with tap water;
- Keep boiled water in the refrigerator for drinking;
- Provide pets with boiled water after cooling;
- Do not use home filtering devices in place of boiling or using bottled water; most home water filters will not provide adequate protection from microorganisms;
- Use only boiled water to treat minor injuries.

Once the system recovers, West Virginia American Water will be collecting additional water quality samples in the area of the outage. For more information, contact West Virginia American Water's customer service center at 1-800-685-8660.

West Virginia American Water, a wholly owned subsidiary of American Water (NYSE: AWK), is the largest investor-owned water utility in the state, providing high-quality and reliable water services to approximately 600,000 people. Founded in 1886, American Water is the largest investor-owned U.S. water and wastewater utility company. With headquarters in Voorhees, N.J., the company employs more than 7,000 dedicated professionals who provide drinking water, wastewater and other related services to approximately 15 million people in 32 states and Ontario, Canada. More information can be found by visiting www.amwater.com.

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