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## For Immediate Release

July 14, 2016

### Water Sampling for Non-toxic *Vibrio Cholerae*

**Sacaton, AZ-** Due to a recent illness, sampling of the Citrus Sump reservoir was conducted on July 6, 2016 and concluded on July 8, 2016. Confirmation for the presence of non-toxic *Vibrio. cholerae* within the Citrus Sump reservoir in District 5 was reported on July 11, 2016. It is very difficult to transmit this disease from person to person according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)<sup>1</sup>. This is not the first instance where positive cultures for non-toxic *V. cholerae* were present within the Gila River waters as noted in the "Gila River *Vibrio cholerae* Investigation Report"<sup>2</sup>. **This does not impact the regular drinking water for the Community.** Most individuals infected with the bacteria exhibit **NO SYMPTOMS**; however, in rare instances of infection from *V. cholerae* symptoms can include, but are not limited to:

- watery diarrhea, sometimes described as "rice-water stools,"
- vomiting
- rapid heart rate
- low blood pressure
- thirst
- muscle cramps
- restlessness or irritability

To prevent illness from *V. cholerae*, we recommend **NO**:

- **swimming**
- **wading**
- **drinking**

of the water in the Citrus Sump or any other sump's within the Community. Signs will be posted at the Sumps which will read:

**WARNING!**  
**NO SWIMMING**  
**NO WADING**  
**NO DRINKING**

#### **PATHOGENIC BACTERIA PRESENT IN WATER**

If you have further questions or concerns please contact the Tribal Health Department, Environmental Health Services Supervisor, Mr. Ralph L. Jones at (520) 562-5133 or Christina Floyd, Tribal Health Department Director at (520) 562-5119.

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*Gila River Indian Community located on 372,000 acres in south-central Arizona and home to the indigenous O'odham (Pima) and Pee Posh (Maricopa) people. The Tribe is comprised of seven districts, the administrative offices and departments are located in Sacaton, and serve the people throughout these seven community districts. 100% of its profits from gaming and 17 other Enterprises are utilized by the community providing services and opportunities to achieve the highest quality of life.*

<sup>1</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2005, September 14). *Vibrio* Illness After Hurricane Katrina—Multiple States, August—September, 2005. *MMWR Dispatch. Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Reports*. Retrieved from <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm54d914a1.htm>

<sup>2</sup>Arizona Department of Environmental Quality & Arizona Department of Health Services. (2007, February, 5, Winter). *Gila River Vibrio cholera* Investigation: Upper Gila Watershed, Graham, Greenlee, and Gila Counties. Publication number OFR 07-02, pgs. 4-5