

August 21, 2009

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**NEWS RELEASE**  
(For immediate release)

**SUBJECT:    DISCOLORED TAP WATER**

Derry Municipal Water System customers may have noticed a slight discoloration of their tap water in the past few days. The Derry Water Division has been informed by Manchester Water Works, Derry's wholesale water supplier, that this color is due to the presence of manganese which can impart a slight yellow tint to water when it is present at higher than normal levels.

Manganese is a naturally occurring mineral that is present in most NH lakes and ground water, but rarely becomes concentrated enough to cause discoloration as is currently the case in Lake Massabesic, the raw water supply for Manchester Water Works and the Town of Derry. The elevated manganese levels are likely due to the above normal precipitation and resulting runoff during June and July.

**Manchester Water Works has assured the Town of Derry that this is an aesthetic concern and that the current levels of manganese pose no health risk to our customers. Your water continues to meet Safe Drinking Water health standards.**

Manchester Water Works is presently working to modify its treatment process to remove the manganese and hope to have this problem resolved as soon as possible. Please contact the Derry Department of Public Works at 603-432-6144 with any questions or for further information.