

For Immediate Release | Jan. 5, 2019

New water advisory for North Thompson following diesel spill

A motor vehicle incident involving a transport truck on Highway 5 on Saturday, Jan. 5 has resulted in diesel contamination in the North Thompson River. Residents who draw their water from the river between the crash site 15 km north of Avola, south to the intersection of Highway 5 and Martin Creek Forest Service Road (approximately 11 km north of Vavenby), are advised to be alert and check their water for any signs of diesel fuel including sheen or fuel odour.

All residents in the affected area should **not use** the river water if it smells or tastes like fuel. This means no drinking, showering/bathing or brushing teeth if a fuel odour is detected. Diesel fuel can pose a health risk following ingestion, inhalation or skin absorption.

The Avola (Improvement District) is not impacted by this spill however it remains on a pre-existing [Boil Water Notice](#).

The Vavenby community water system is not impacted due to the distance from the crash site.

The TNRD will be providing bottled water and bulk water at the Vavenby Fire Hall from 4 – 6 p.m. today Jan. 5 for residents drawing water from the impacted area of the North Thompson River.

Interior Health will continue to work with the TNRD to monitor the water quality. The Ministry of Environment is also monitoring the situation.

Interior Health is committed to promoting healthy lifestyles and providing a wide range of quality health-care services to more than 740,000 people living across B.C.'s vast interior. For more information, visit www.interiorhealth.ca, follow us on Twitter [@Interior_Health](https://twitter.com/Interior_Health), or like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/InteriorHealth.

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