

Justin S. Greene
Commissioner, District 1

Lisa Cacari Stone
Commissioner, District 2

Camilla Bustamante
Commissioner, District 3



Adam Fulton Johnson
Commissioner, District 4

Hank Hughes
Commissioner, District 5

Gregory S. Shaffer
County Manager

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 9, 2026

TO: File

FROM: Bill Taylor, Procurement Manager, CPO *BT*

Via: Justin Martinez, Utilities Operations Foreman
Travis Soderquist, Public Works Department Deputy Director

RE: **Declaration of Emergency to Procure the Necessary Repairs to a Water Service Line Leak Located at 16 Ramada Way East, Valle Vista Subdivision in Santa Fe County, New Mexico**

ISSUE

On January 30, 2026, SFCU staff received a work order to restore water service to a delinquent customer at 16 Ramada Way East, who had paid their outstanding balance earlier that day. An appointment was scheduled between 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. to obtain access to the customer's backyard, where the meter can is located, in order to complete the reconnection. Upon entering the property, Justin Martinez observed a significant amount of water leaking from a two-inch water main valve situated in the customer's backyard. SFCU's water main runs behind all residences within the Valle Vista subdivision, making this location part of the utility's easement. At 1:42 p.m., Justin contacted Travis Soderquist to report the leak. Travis then notified Bill Taylor to initiate the DOE process. At 2:10 p.m., Justin received authorization to begin contacting contractors, following the order of most responsive to least responsive.

- 2:10 p.m. – Justin contacted BlueLine Construction, who reported no availability.
- 2:15 p.m. – Justin contacted Subsurface Contracting, who immediately mobilized a crew.
- 3:15 p.m. – Subsurface arrived on site.

Upon their arrival, the customer denied access to both SFCU staff and the Subsurface crew, stating that SFCU did not possess easement rights and that no entry would be permitted until an easement agreement could be produced. Justin notified Travis of the refusal, and ASD staff began searching for the appropriate easement documentation to provide to the customer. At 4:00 p.m., Subsurface informed Justin that they had already purchased the materials required for the repair but would be leaving the site until access could be granted. They requested notification once permission was obtained so they could remobilize.

On Friday, February 6, 2026, Santa Fe County issued a restraining order to the resident at 16 Ramada Way East to access his property to repair the water line. The Contractor was on the location. However, other water line leaks were found within the same water line after the initial repair when the line was pressurized.

Water service was finally provided to all residents on Sunday, February 8, 2026 at approximately 2:45PM. This ongoing leak directly impacted approximately 90 customers. Additionally, the leak reduced system pressure throughout the entire subdivision, resulting in 282 customers experiencing significant low water pressure.

DETERMINATION:

Customers were without water with this water main break, as well as fire suppression for the area. It is therefore the written determination of the County Procurement Manager to declare this emergency procurement for the repairs as there exists a threat to public health, welfare and safety, pursuant to 13-1-127 Emergency Procurements.

Emergency Project Description:

Contractor: Sub Surface Contracting, LLC
27A Paseo De River
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87507
(505) 473-1000

Scope of Work:

Mobilization and re-mobilization
Trenching
Repair to line
Pressurization
Additional line repairs
Pressurization
Back fill and compaction