



## ATTACHMENT E

Letter from Rick Gold to Honorables  
Kelsey A. Begaye and John Peña



# United States Department of the Interior

## BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Upper Colorado Regional Office  
125 South State Street, Room 6107  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84138-1102

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Pleach			
JUN 18 '01			
CLASS	WTR 4.03		
FOLDER	71605		
PROJECT	50		
CONTROL #	1001155		
NAME	DATE	INITIAL	CYS
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Davis			
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M Francis			

IN REPLY REFER TO:

UC-443  
WTR-4.00

JUN 13 2001

Kelsey A. Begaye, President  
The Navajo Nation  
P.O. Box 9000  
Window Rock, AZ 86515

John Pena, Mayor  
The City of Gallup  
P.O. Box 1270  
Gallup, NM 87301

Subject: Requests for Contracts from Navajo Reservoir Water Supply

Dear President Begaye and Mayor Pena:

Thank you for your letter of November 22, 2000, to the Commissioner of Reclamation, requesting the subject contracts for the Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project (Project). The Commissioner responded by letter of December 26, 2000, offering full support of the Project and Reclamation's assistance in the resolution of contract issues.

Prior to pursuing the water supply contracts, which are crucial for project authorization and development, we have identified the following unresolved issues which must be addressed:

1. Hydrologic Determination of water availability
2. Endangered Species Act compliance
3. National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance for the contracts and Project
4. Colorado River Basin Issues in New Mexico and Arizona
5. Congressional Authorization of the Project
6. Congressional Approval of Long-term Contracts from Navajo Reservoir

To address these issues, Reclamation desires to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Nation and City to describe and establish the responsibilities and required commitments for each organization (Reclamation, Nation and City). It may be desirable to include the Jicarilla Apache Nation (Jicarillas) in the MOU, as your Nation's and City's May 16, 2001, response to the Jicarillas, indicates the potential to use their water supplies.

To expedite development of the MOU, with a target completion this fall, each involved organization needs to designate a representative, capable of establishing acceptable organizational responsibilities and commitments. Please relay, by July 1, 2001, the name, telephone number and any other pertinent information of your designated representative to either of the Reclamation contacts given below.

ADMIN RECORD

Reclamation understands the urgency and importance of this Project and is committed and willing to assist in its realization. Please contact Carol DeAngelis, Area Manager of the Western Colorado Area Office at (970) 248-0690 or Rege Leach of the Western Colorado Area Office in Durango at (970) 385-6553, concerning this issue.

Sincerely,

**Rick L. Gold**

Rick L. Gold  
Regional Director

Enclosure

cc: (all with enclosures)

Philip Mutz  
New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission  
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Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-5102

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State of New Mexico  
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Claudia Vigil-Muniz, President  
Jicarilla Apache Nation  
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Dulce NM 87528

Joe Muniz, Director  
Natural Resources Department  
Jicarilla Apache Nation  
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Stanley M. Pollack, Water Rights Counsel  
Navajo Nation Department of Justice  
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Window Rock, Navajo Nation (AZ) 86515

John Leeper, Director  
Navajo Nation Water Management Branch  
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Ft. Defiance AZ 86505

John Cawley (BIA 340)  
Bureau of Indian Affairs  
PO Box 26567  
Albuquerque NM 87125-6567

bc: Area Manager, Grand Junction, Colorado (without enclosures)  
Attention: WCG-CDeAngelis

Western Colorado Area Office, Durango, Colorado (without enclosures)  
Attention: WCD-RLeach

UC-406 (with enclosures)