



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Upper Colorado Regional Office
125 South State Street, Room 6107
Salt Lake City, Utah 84138-1147



UC-413
ENV-6.00

JUL 06 2009

Interested Parties (See Enclosed List)

Subject: Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project Planning Report and Final Environmental Impact Statement (PR/FEIS)

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

Attached is a copy of the subject PR/FEIS. The document was prepared by the Bureau of Reclamation and filed with the Environmental Protection Agency on Monday, July 6, 2009.

The PR/FEIS describes the environmental impacts of constructing, operating, and maintaining a water supply system to meet project year 2040 water demands. The purpose of the proposed Federal action is to provide the long-term supply, treatment, and transmission of municipal and industrial (M&I) water to the eastern portion of the Navajo Nation, the Jicarilla Apache Nation, and the city of Gallup, New Mexico. Construction of the Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project was authorized in Public Law 111-11 (Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009).

The PR/FEIS describes and analyzes three alternatives. Under the No Action Alternative, it is assumed that M&I water supplies and delivery systems would not be constructed on the eastern side of the Navajo Nation, for the city of Gallup, or the southwestern area of the Jicarilla Apache Nation. Under the other two alternatives, the project would divert a total of 37,764 acre-feet of water per year from the San Juan River with a resulting depletion of 35,893 acre-feet, based on 2040 projected population with a demand rate of 160 gallons per capita per day.

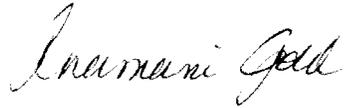
Under the San Juan River-Public Service Company of New Mexico (SJR-PNM) Alternative, the Cutter diversion would require 4,645 acre-feet per year with no return flow to the San Juan River. The Public Service Company of New Mexico diversion would take the remaining 33,119 acre-feet of diversion, with an average return flow of 1,871 acre-feet.

The Navajo Indian Irrigation Project-Amarillo Alternative would divert all project water through improved Navajo Indian Irrigation Project facilities using both Cutter Reservoir and the Amarillo Canal. This alternative also requires the construction of a 4,500 acre-foot lined storage pond located near the Amarillo Canal.

The PR/FEIS identifies the SJR-PNM Alternative as the preferred alternative. Public Law 111-11 authorizes the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Commissioner of Reclamation, to design, construct, operate, and maintain the project in substantial accordance with the preferred alternative (SJR-PNM) described in the Planning Report and Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project.

If you have questions or need additional copies of the PR/FEIS, please contact Mr. Stan Powers at 970-385-6555, Mr. Terry Stroh at 970-248-0608, or for TDD access call 800-346-4128. The PR/FEIS is also available on Reclamation's web site at <http://www.usbr.gov/uc/> (click on Environmental Documents).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Larry Walkoviak".

LR Larry Walkoviak
Regional Director

Enclosure