

## **Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project**

### **1.0 OBJECTIVES**

Recognizing their severe water supply problems the Navajo Nation and the City of Gallup signed a Memorandum of Agreement (see Appendix B) on April 17, 1998 to proceed with the planning and development of the Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project (Project). The Navajo Nation and the City of Gallup are working as partners, with the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to plan, implement environmental compliance, secure water supplies, obtain Congressional authorization, and construct a domestic water supply system. This Project will serve the residents of the Navajo Nation and the City of Gallup.

The objective of this technical memorandum is to consolidate the information needed by the Navajo Nation and the City of Gallup to formalize their commitments to the Project, and to present this Project in the context of regional water development. Based on these objectives:

- The participants will finalize the project definition for a project that will provide a long-term water supply to the service area and will adequately define the options for the key project features and the operation of those features, to comply with the Endangered Species Act and the National Environmental Protection Act.
- A "Final Plan Report" will be developed by Reclamation during Fiscal Years 2000 and 2001 that will adequately describe the Project as part of the submission to Congress for authorization in Fiscal Year 2002.
- This technical memorandum will become the primary reference document for the Environmental Impact Statement which was initiated in March 2000.
- This technical memorandum will also be the foundation for agreements between the participants, as requested by the New Mexico Congressional Delegation, regarding various aspects of the Project.

This technical memorandum draws on Reclamation studies of the Project conducted from the 1970's through the 1990's, primarily the Draft Environmental Statement prepared by Reclamation in January 1984. It also draws on additional work by the Navajo Nation Department of Water Resources (NDWR), the Northwest New Mexico Council of Governments, and the City of Gallup. The participation of the NDWR was funded in part by Reclamation through the Navajo Nation/Reclamation Cooperative Agreement No. 5-FC-40-17490.