



City of Santa Fe, New Mexico

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John Whipple, San Juan Basin Manager
Interstate Stream Commission
PO Box 25102
Santa Fe, NM 87504-5102

Dr. John Leeper
Navajo Nation Dept. of Water Resources
PO Drawer 678
Ft. Defiance, AZ 86504

Date: January 15, 2004

RE: City of Santa Fe comments on the Proposed Navajo Nation Water Rights Settlement Agreement for the San Juan Basin

Dear Mr. Whipple and Dr. Leeper:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Proposed Navajo Nation Water Rights Settlement Agreement for the San Juan Basin. The City of Santa Fe supports the Navajo-Gallup Pipeline and the settlement of the Navajo water rights claims. These comments are directed at our concerns regarding the protection of the City's interest in the firm deliveries of San Juan Chama Project water.

As a preliminary matter we wish to note the limited comment period provided to parties which may be affected by this proposed water right settlement. Because of the limited comment period the City of Santa Fe reserves the right to supplement these comments at a future date.

The City of Santa Fe joins in the City of Albuquerque's comments on the Navajo-Gallup Pipeline and the settlement of the Navajo water rights claims and specifically supports its recommendations to amend the proposed legislation which will confirm that there is sufficient water for the settlement. The City of Santa Fe's primary concern is that the firm yield authorized by the San Juan Chama Project is protected and available for use in the future.

Sincerely,

Galen Buller, Director of the Sangre de Cristo Water Division
City of Santa Fe