

55-17
Navajo

John Whipple

From: Candise Castillo
Sent: Monday, April 18, 2005 4:33 PM
To: All employees
Subject: Navajo Signing News Release

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-----Original Message-----

From: Gilbert.Gallegos
Sent: Monday, April 18, 2005 4:28 PM
Subject:

<<...OLE_Obj...>>
State of New Mexico
Office of the Governor

Bill Richardson
Governor

For immediate release
Gilbert Gallegos
April 18, 2005
505-476-2217

Contact:
(Santa Fe)

Governor Bill Richardson to sign Navajo Nation Water Rights Settlement Agreement

SANTA FE - New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson will participate in a formal signing ceremony on Tuesday, April 19, marking the settlement agreement between the Navajo Nation and the State of New Mexico. The agreement resolves the claims of the Navajo Nation for the use of waters of the San Juan River Basin in northwestern New Mexico.

Governor Richardson will be joined by Attorney General Patricia Madrid, Navajo Nation Attorney General Denetsosie and State Engineer John D'Antonio at the signing ceremony.

The settlement is intended to adjudicate water rights and provide associated water development projects for the benefit of the Navajo Nation in exchange for a release of claims to water that could have potentially displaced existing non-Navajo water users in the basin. The Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project would be the cornerstone of proposed development projects.

Specific terms of the agreement will be explained at the news conference.

What: News Conference on a Water Rights Settlement Agreement between the Navajo Nation and the State of New Mexico

Where: Governor's Cabinet Room - State Capitol Building
Santa Fe, New Mexico

When: Tuesday, April 19, 2005

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Contacts: Karin Stangl, Office of the State Engineer, at (505)
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Michael Benson, Navajo Nation, at (928) 729-4004

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