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P. 4/7 Navajo Sets

ELEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COUNTY OF SAN JUAN STATE OF NEW MEXICO DISTRICT COURT SAN JUAN COUNTY NM FILED

2008 FEB 12 AM 11 20

STATE OF NEW MEXICO ex rel. State Engineer,

**Plaintiff** 

v.

CV-75-184-1

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al.,

Defendants

and

THE JICARILLA APACHE NATION and THE NAVAJO NATION,

Defendants-Interveners.

SAN JUAN RIVER GENERAL STREAM ADJUDICATION

## NAVAJO NATION'S OBJECTION TO FORM OF THE ORDER DENYING MOTION FOR LIMITED DISCOVERY CONCERNING 2007 BOR HYDROLOGIC DETERMINATION

The Navajo Nation respectfully objects to the form of the Order Denying Motion for Limited Discovery Concerning 2007 BOR Hydrologic Determination ("2008 Order"). This objection is made pursuant to Rule 1-058(C) for the following reasons.

In its 2008 Order, the Court stated that its findings concerning the Motion for Limited Discovery Concerning 2007 BOR Hydrologic Determination were the same as its findings in the December 26, 2007 Order ("2007 Order") concerning the discovery motion filed October 24, 2003. The findings in the 2007 Order were:

- 1. The negotiations for settlement between the autonomous nations and the United States are confidential.
- 2. The Court has no jurisdiction over the Settlement Agreement because it has not yet been filed with the Court.
- 3. All parties will have an opportunity to seek discovery regarding the Settlement Agreement after it has been filed with the court and prior to the *inter* se phase of the adjudication.

2007 Order at 2.

Judge

DK-1A

Judy

was

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While it was true that the Navajo Nation objected to the Motion for Limited Discovery Concerning 2007 BOR Hydrologic Determination for the reason that the discovery request was made in the context of discovery of matters relating to a possible water rights settlement not yet before the Court, the Navajo Nation also objected for a variety of other reasons, including: (1) the Hydrologic Determination is not at issue in this adjudication, (2) the decisions of the Secretary are not reviewable in this adjudication, and (3) water availability is not at issue in this adjudication.

The Navajo Nation respectfully suggests that the Court amend the 2008 Order to clarify that if discovery concerning the 2007 BOR Hydrologic Determination is sought at a later date, all issues relating to whether this discovery is permissible are reserved for resolution at such time.

Various counsel, including all counsel involved in the briefing and argument on the underlying discovery motion, were contacted concerning this objection. The United States supports this motion, and the State of New Mexico and numerous other parties responded that they have no objections. The San Juan Agricultural Water Users Association and Hammond Conservancy do not object, provided that the rights of all parties to participate in discovery or to raise objections to discovery are reserved. A proposed order reflecting this reservation is attached, together with an underline/strikeout modification of the 2008 Order for the Court's convenience.

Respectfully submitted this 12th day of February, 2008.

NAVAJO NATION DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Stanley M. Pollack

Bidtah N. Becker

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## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

19288716200

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing NAVAJO NATION'S OBJECTION TO FORM OF THE ORDER DENYING MOTION FOR LIMITED DISCOVERY CONCERNING 2007 BOR HYDROLOGIC DETERMINATION along with a proposed order and underline/strikeout version of the order were mailed to all persons on the following distribution list by placing same in the United States mail, first class postage prepaid, this 12th day of February, 2008.

## Distribution List

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In addition the following counsel were served by email to <u>wrattorney@11thjdc.com</u> by attaching a pdf version of this document this 12<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2008:

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