

Water is clear Gold

I would like to thank everyone for their hard work. Also being dedicated towards this historical milestone for the Navajo Nation. I have identified some problems that need to be addressed before it becomes a final product.

- The Treaty of 1868 should be included. This assures we are not compromising or doing away with it. This is the corner stone of our foundation in relationships with the U.S. government.
- Would the subordinate clause for 1868 reserve priority of these waters in the senate bill. Will the bill be in the best interest of our nation. If we were to lease water we would be having the same bureaucratic sign off process just like the land. (Appendix 2, sec 304a)
- This amount of 535,000 acre ft per yr will become law(Appendix 2, sec 304), plus the other water projects listed in Appendix 1, #2d to #3 are not in the senate bill. This is totaled to about 626,470 acre ft per yr. This section may be determined by state court.
- Payment of 17million total is too small. I believe that there was a typo error that it should be 17 billion dollars for us to release all claims forever. Settlement agreement (Sec 6.0 trust fund)
- Appendix 3, water delivery provisions,#4(h). This denies water storage in the Navajo Reservoir. We need this change so we can bank water. Mr. Albert Hale's analogy of diversion/delivery. Out of a bucket of bucket of water, is misleading. Remember a bucket is storage, there is no outlet. Just to use a cup and drink a little, to put the reminder back is impossible. If water is let out of a storage unit, you can never out it back in there. The best way I can explain diversion/ depletion is if you had a 6" supply pipe from point A to point B and had outlets along the way. Like a 2" for NIIP, 3/8 " for upper Fruit land , 1/2" Hog back, 1/4" for Cudei, and 1" for all other uses. The remainder waters would continue to flow to point B. We would lose all claims for this forever.

There is still several discrepancies. That I have not identified, also are in need more time, an extension is needed.

I pray this little bit of information is helpful in making your determination.

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