

EVACUATION ORDER LIFTED



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - UPDATE

Contact: Rose Whitehair, Director
Navajo Department of Emergency Management
August 7, 2014
2:05 p.m.

Residents May Return Home, Highway 491 Open

The Naschitti evacuation order has been lifted.

Residents within the two-mile radius of Mile Post (MP) 43, NM HWY 491 may return to their homes. The southbound lanes of Hwy 491 are open to two-way traffic. The northbound lane is still closed as Hazardous Materials teams are working on clean-up of the site.

The evacuation order was due to a semi-trailer that turned over and caught fire. All that is known about the substance at this time is that it contains flammable materials.

The cause of the hazardous materials incident is under investigation.

The San Juan County Hazardous Materials team extinguished the fire. State Police, Navajo Law Enforcement, NDOT and NMDOT are still on-scene.

Thank you to the Tohatchi Chapter and Newcomb Chapter for your immediate response in setting up shelters for affected community members.

###