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## President Shelly praises \$20 million contract award for Navajo-Gallup Water System



Navajo Nation President Ben Shelly and New Mexico Governor Susana Martinez met in Santa Fe in Feb. 2014 to discuss the Navajo-Gallup Water Delivery System and other capital outlay and infrastructure projects vital to the Nation. Gov. Martinez recently approved capital outlay and infrastructure funding for the Navajo Nation, the result of continued negotiations and updates through a government-to-government relationship. (Photo by Rick Abasta)

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz.— Today, Navajo Nation President Ben Shelly praised U.S. Department of Interior Secretary Sally Jewel’s announcement of a \$20 million contract to assist with building the Tohlokai Pumping Plant, the first pumping plant for the Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project. The pumping plant will be located eight miles north of Gallup, N.M.

“This priority project will bring clean drinking water to thousands of Navajo citizens and

much needed jobs to the Navajo Nation,” President Shelly said.

The collaborative effort between the Navajo Nation and DOI highlights a working government-to-government relationship.

“The Navajo-Gallup project will deliver clean, safe drinking water to tribal and rural communities, many of which have been hauling water over long distances for far too long,” stated Secretary Jewel in a news release.

President Obama’s proposed fiscal 2015 budget requests an \$80 million investment in the Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project and has the capacity to deliver clean running water to approximately 250,000.

The Shelly-Jim and Obama administrations utilized a streamlined permitting and environmental review process for the project.

“I express my support and thanks to the Obama administration to continuing to

fund this high priority project for the health and economic benefit of the Navajo people,” President Shelly said.

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