



THE NAVAJO NATION

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## DIRECTOR DESCHINNY CORRECTS BUSINESS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT FUND AUDIT OF 2009

WINDOW ROCK – The Division of Economic Development submitted a revised corrective action plan for an audit conducted in 2009 for the Business Industrial Development Fund.

The Business Industrial Development Fund provides low interest rate loans for new business start-ups and expansion.

“In 2009, Auditors came in and worked with the former Chief Financial Officer to create a corrective action plan that was approved in 2010. But after the approval, there was no movement on the corrective action plan for years,” said Division Director Crystal Deschinny.

The primary purpose of the Small Business Development portion of the Fund is to help establish start-up or expand existing Navajo-owned small businesses within the Navajo Nation’s territorial jurisdiction or within close proximity to the Navajo Nation by providing loans or loan guarantees to qualified Navajo-owned businesses. The 2010 corrective action plan was not acted upon by previous Division of Economic Development Directors.

“Despite how severe some of the findings were and the possibility of being sanctioned for something I was not a part of, I used this as a mechanism to teach my Team due diligence and rate of return,” said Division Director Deschinny.

The revised corrective action plan was submitted to the Auditor General’s Office for review. It is pending approval and does address major findings of the original corrective action plan.

“Many of our divisions, due to fiscal mismanagement have inherited a lot of problems from previous administrations. These problems inhibit growth and productivity of the divisions. Our directors are making it a priority to correct these problems,” said President Russell Begaye.

“Policies and procedures are being developed within the divisions to ensure continuity of operations and fiscal responsibility. The Begaye-Nez administration has made this a priority to ensure the delivery of services for the Navajo people is efficient,” said Vice-President Jonathan Nez.

The Office of the President and Vice President continuously advocate for our Government to be both fiscally responsible and transparent for our Navajo people.

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