Naabik’iyati’ Committee Redistricting Workgroup and NNHRC Public Hearing set for September 30th

ST. MICHAELS, Ariz.—A public hearing is schedule to gain public input about redistricting efforts to protect Navajo voting rights on Friday, September 30, 2011 at 2 p.m., at the Mexican Water new Chapter House in Mexican Water, Navajo Nation (Ariz.). The hearing is hosted by the Naabik’iyati’ Committee Redistricting Workgroup and the Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission.

Before the public hearing begins, participants will receive an update about redistricting efforts in districts in which the Navajo Nation is located in Utah, New Mexico and Arizona.

Redistricting occurs after the release of decennial census data. Decennial census data indicates population shifts, growth and decline. The population shifts determine where congressional and legislative districts boundaries are drawn. To satisfy the one person to one vote requirement, Utah, Arizona and New Mexico must create districts with substantially equal populations. In that effort, U.S. Constitution standards are used.

The Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission and the Naabik’iyati’ Committee Redistricting Workgroup have diligently worked to protect Navajo voting rights by improving the legislative district in which the Navajo Nation is located to preserve the majority-minority standard; to improve the congressional district in which the Navajo Nation is located; to remain intact in a single legislative district to avoid cracking; and to ensure the Navajo peoples’ equal opportunity to elect a candidate of their choice to avoid dilution.

To learn more about the redistricting for the Navajo Nation, visit www.nnhrc.navajo-nsn.gov/redistricting.

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