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For Immediate Release
August 10, 2012

Navajo President Shelly Offers Statement Regarding BART Ruling

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – Navajo Nation President Ben Shelly offered the following statement about the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s rule to reduce has at Four Corner’s Power Plant released earlier this week.

“ The US EPA’s Best Available Retrofit Technology decision for Four Corners Power Plant does not deliver what the Navajo Nation recommended in our comments to the proposed rule. The Navajo Nation’s position is that Low NOx Burners and Separated Over-Fire Air should be the BART for Four Corners Power Plant.

The U.S. EPA’s decision reflects a counter-proposal (i.e. Alternative Emissions Control Strategy) developed by Arizona Public Service without Navajo Nation input. This U.S. EPA decision continues to impact the Navajo Nation in the way of lost revenue due to the reduced use of Navajo coal. The closure of Mohave Generating Station in 2005 curtailed the use of Navajo coal and caused a \$10 million annual reduction since 2006 in coal royalty payments to the Navajo Nation.

The imminent shutdown of units 1, 2, and 3 and the installation of Selective Catalytic Reduction technology, the highest cost emissions controls, on units 4 and 5 will cause a reduction in Navajo coal usage at Four Corners Power Plant, and this will result in the additional loss of up to \$16 million dollars a year in revenue to the Navajo Nation starting in 2013.

We will not know the total visibility improvements associated with this decision until 2020.

U.S. EPA will propose BART for Navajo Generating Station by September 30, 2012 and we have strongly recommended that Low NOx Burners/SOFA be BART for NGS.”

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