



NAVAJO NATION OFFICE OF THE  
PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT  
RUSSELL BEGAYE | JONATHAN NEZ

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT:** Navajo Nation Press Shop  
[press@operationyellowwater.com](mailto:press@operationyellowwater.com)

**August 19, 2015**

**Kirkpatrick vows to fight for the Navajo Nation**

**FLAGSTAFF, AZ** - President Russell Begaye and Vice-President Jonathan Nez met with Congresswoman Ann Kirkpatrick on the Gold King Mine spill.

President Begaye told Kirkpatrick that the Navajo Nation needs President Obama to declare the San Juan River a federal disaster area so that federal funds can be immediately released to the area.

“The Navajo people need clean drinking water and hay, feed and water for livestock and agriculture.” said Begaye.

The Navajo Nation and the current federal agencies are depleting in their resources in providing water, hay, equipment and feed.

“Contacting President Obama will be my priority, what is happening to the Navajo People is disheartening.” said Kirkpatrick “Tell me what you need and I will start working on this today.”

Vice-President Nez expressed his appreciation for Kirkpatrick’s support to the Navajo Nation in this time of need and raised the issue of Standard Form 95. USEPA has been distributing Standard Form 95 along the San Juan River to our People, telling the people to sign the form.

“That has been quashed, the EPA was not suppose to issue Standard Form 95, I am glad the Navajo Nation’s leadership immediately notified the people to not sign the forms, because it is pre-mature,” said Kirkpatrick.

President Begaye brought to Kirkpatrick’s attention the General Mining Act of 1872 as outdated and lack of regulation for Mines.

Kirkpatrick agreed and stated she will make contact with Senator Heinrich and Representative Lujan on revamping these outdated laws.

##