



THE NAVAJO NATION

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NAVAJO NATION RESPONDS TO THE POSSIBLE CLOSURE OF THE SAN JUAN GENERATING STATION

WINDOW ROCK – President Russell Begaye released the following statement in response to the possible closure of the San Juan Generating Station in the Farmington area.

“We understand we are in challenging times where natural gas is impacting the numbers and ongoing operations for all coal-powered power plants. The four corners region will be severely impacted by the closure,” said President Begaye “We are asking the Industry, should they close, to assist employees in finding other jobs.”

The Navajo Nation is aggressively developing alternative renewable sources of energy to generate electricity for customers in the west and for the Navajo Nation.

“We are asking the Trump administration and his support of coal be utilized to possibly waive other requirements that are causing the two generators of San Juan to close in 2017,” said President Begaye. “These requirements impact both the San Juan Power Plant and the Navajo Generating Station. The waiver of these requirements will help us maintain these jobs.”

Based on a preliminary analysis by the Public Service Company of New Mexico (PNM) regarding the future of providing customers energy, retiring the two remaining units at the San Juan Generating Station in 2022 could provide long term benefits.

PNM currently has two power plants located on the Navajo Nation. The San Juan Generating Station and the Four Corners Power Plant utilize coal to produce energy. Based on the information provided by the PNM website, these two Navajo power plants generate 42% of the megawatt capacity of PNM.

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