Proclamation

NAVAJO NATION COMMERCIAL TOBACCO-FREE DAY

In Observance of World Health Organization's World No Tobacco Day ~ May 31, 2011

Whereas, commercial tobacco is harmful to the sacred elements of air and earth; and

Whereas, the use of commercial tobacco by our people harms our environment resulting in disharmony with the body and the earth; and

Whereas, each year approximately 440,000 people in the United States die of illness attributed to smoking; and

Whereas, secondhand smoke has been classified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as a Group A carcinogen; and

Whereas, an estimated 3,400 lung cancer deaths and 46,000 heart disease deaths occur annually among adult non-smokers in the United States and 202,300 episodes of childhood asthma occur annually as a result of exposure to secondhand smoke; and

Whereas, there are no safe levels of secondhand smoke and no available adequate ventilation technology based upon scientific studies that can ensure the protection and prevention of exposure to secondhand smoke and its health related illnesses; and

Whereas, our people should be respected, honored, and protected with a healthy physical and mental environment, free from abuse of commercial tobacco.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BEN SHELLY, President of the Navajo Nation, do hereby proclaim Tuesday, May 31, 2011, as NAVAJO NATION COMMERCIAL TOBACCO-FREE DAY.

Attest:

SIGNED AT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE THIS 25TH DAY OF MAY 2011
Witness My Hand & The Great Seal Of The Navajo Nation

Ben Shelly, President
THE NAVAJO NATION