



The Navajo-Gallup Water Supply

Project Amendments Act

The Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project (NGUSP) is an infrastructure project to carry water from the San Juan River (a Colorado River tributary) to the Eastern section of the Navajo Nation. It involves around 300 miles of pipeline, 19 pumping plants, and 2 water treatment plants. It was first conceived in the 60s and was authorized by The Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009, Title X Part III (Public Law 111-11), which was signed on March 30, 2009. It is funded by the Bureau of Reclamation. It is designed to provide long-term sustainable municipal and industrial water supply for the current and future population needs. It aims to deliver water to 250,000 people with an annual delivery of 37,764 acre-feet of water.



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From the official Bureau of Reclamation website: "These areas currently rely on a rapidly depleting groundwater supply that is of poor quality and inadequate to meet the current and future demands of more than 43 Navajo chapters." "Ground water levels for the city of Gallup have dropped approximately 200 feet over the past 10 years and over 40 percent of Navajo Nation households rely on hauling water to meet their daily needs." The act required the project be completed no later than December 31st, 2024. The deadline could be extended if all three signatory parties - the Navajo Nation, the State of New Mexico, and the Department of the Interior - agree on it. That date has come and gone and the project has not been completed.

Example message:

Dear Senator -----,

I am writing to ask Senator ----- to vote for S. 1898 (118th), the Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project Amendments Act of 2023. The Navajo Nation needs clean, safe drinking water. The Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project has been working to provide this since 2009 but it needs more time and money. "More than 1 in 3 Diné, as Navajo people call themselves, must haul water to their homes, often across long distances. The Diné use the least amount of water per person of anyone in the U.S., and pay the most." (TIME Magazine, 2024) You have the power to help deliver water to people who need it the most. Please, vote for this bill.

Thank you for your time.

The Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Amendments Act of 2023 (NGUSAA) extends the deadline for the NGUSP to December 31, 2029. In addition to more time, the NGUSAA brings the service area of the project further to Lupton, Arizona. Direct quotes from the proposed bill: "(i) NEW MEXICO. In addition to delivering water supply from the Project to the Nation communities in the San Juan River Basin, the Nation may expand the Project Service Area in order to deliver water supply from the Project to communities of the Nation within the Rio San Jose Basin, New Mexico, (ii) ARIZONA.—In addition to delivering water supply from the Project to the Nation communities of Fort Defiance and Window Rock, Arizona, and subject to section

Contact your Arizona Senators:

Sen. Mark Kelly Sen. Ruben Gallego



And if you don't live in Arizona, use this tool to find your senators and contact them:



10603(C)(1), the Nation may expand the Project Service Area in order to deliver water supply from the Project to the Nation community of Lupton, Arizona, within the Little Colorado River Basin, Arizona." The bill is sponsored by Sen. Ben Ray Lujan (D) of New Mexico. The bill is cosponsored by Sen. Martin Heinrich (D) of New Mexico and Sen. Mitt Romney (R) of Utah. Currently, it has been placed on the Senate calendar and has no announced upcoming hearing date. There is still time to contact your Senators and ask them to cosponsor this bill. The more cosponsors it gets, the more likely it is to be passed. Turn the page for contact information and an example message to send!

