

THE NAVAJO NATION



BEN SHELLY PRESIDENT
REX LEE JIM VICE PRESIDENT

RECEIVED

2012 APR 17 P 3:54
April 17, 2012



0000132448

ORIGINAL

AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 West Washington
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

RE: Docket No. E-01345A-10-0474

Dear Chairman Pierce and Members of the Commission;

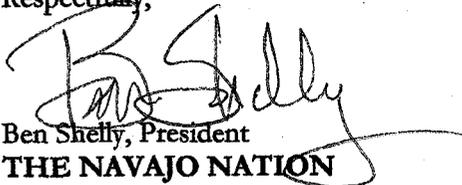
The Four Corners Power Plant is an essential component to the economic sustainability of the Navajo Nation. I urge the Arizona Corporation Commission to approve the recommended Opinion and order with regard to Arizona Public Service's application (hereinafter "APS") concerning the Four Corners Power Plant (hereinafter "FCPP").

The FCPP is part of the economic lifeblood of the Navajo Nation. Between the FCPP and the BHP Navajo Mine that provides its fuel, the Navajo Nation receives approximately \$65 million, or 35% of the Navajo General Fund in the form of annual tax and royalty payments. Additionally, these facilities employ almost 1,000 mostly Navajo people providing over \$100 million salary, and an additional \$225 million in benefits to the surrounding community.

The potential closure of the FCPP and the ripple effect it would cause across the Navajo Nation would be devastating. However, if the Arizona Corporation Commission approves the transaction as proposed by APS, and as recommended in the Opinion and Order, and if the transaction is completed, the potential for Four Corners to shut down completely when SCE withdraws in 2016 would be mitigated.

The Arizona Corporation Commissions' approval will save Navajo jobs, and continue to fund vital Navajo government programs and services. I urge the Commission to grant APSs proposal concerning FCPP.

Respectfully,


Ben Shelly, President
THE NAVAJO NATION

Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED

APR 17 2012

DOCKETED BY 