



**THE NAVAJO NATION
FORT DEFIANCE CHAPTER**

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Dr. BUU NYGREN
Navajo Nation President

RICHELLE MONTOYA
Navajo Nation Vice President

RESOLUTION OF THE FORT DEFIANCE CHAPTER

**SUPPORTING TRIBAL INFRASTRUCTURE FUND (TIF) APPLICATION FOR THE
FORT DEFIANCE ASBESTOS-CONCRETE WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT
TO PROVIDE A SAFE, RELIABLE WATER SYSTEM FOR CHAPTER MEMBERS**

WHEREAS:

1. Fort Defiance Chapter is duly certified chapter of the Navajo Nation, pursuant to Navajo Nation Code 2, Sections 4001 and 4006, with authority to address and act on the needs and concerns of its people, and
2. Fort Defiance Chapter was governance-certified on January 15, 2016, which provides autonomy in its structure and governance; and
3. Fort Defiance Chapter provides multiple public services to the community, including services that directly affect the safety and health of the community; and
4. Fort Defiance Chapter is responsible for the safety, health and welfare of its chapter members; and
5. Fort Defiance Chapter's water distribution system currently relies on 7.1 miles of 18" and 14" asbestos-concrete trunk line that is the backbone of the entire regional water system serving multiple chapters; and
6. This water distribution trunk line was constructed in the 1940s and is far beyond its design life. As a result, it frequently breaks and causes water outages and is at risk of catastrophic failure at any time; and
7. This distribution water trunk line contains asbestos, which is a known carcinogen and thus puts human health at risk; and
8. Over 12,000 people in Fort Defiance and surrounding chapters currently rely on this distribution trunk line for their daily water needs; moreover, the region hosts the Nation's largest hospitals, schools, and Tribal government headquarters that serve the entire Navajo Nation; and
9. Fort Defiance and neighboring chapters are also working together with the Navajo Department of Water Resources on a separate project to construct a regional water supply. Correcting this decades-old deficiency in our distribution system would dovetail perfectly with the new water supply. Coordinating the schedules between these two separate but related projects to complete them both at the same time would meet our goal to provide safe, clean water for our communities; and

10. The asbestos-concrete waterline replacement project may be broken up into phases for planning, design, and construction; and
11. The New Mexico Tribal Infrastructure Fund (TIF) has grants available for planning, design, and construction phases; and
12. The asbestos-concrete waterline replacement project needs proper planning to ensure quality of work and efficient use of construction funds.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Fort Defiance Chapter supports a TIF application for planning funds for the asbestos-concrete waterline replacement project; and
2. Fort Defiance Chapter respectfully requests the TIF Board consider our funding application.

CERTIFICATION

We hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Fort Defiance Chapter at a duly called meeting at which a quorum was present and that same was passed by a vote of _____ in favor, _____ opposed, and _____ abstained, this 16th day of March 2026.

Motion By: _____ 2nd By: _____

Tom White, Jr., President
Navajo Nation Fort Defiance Chapter