



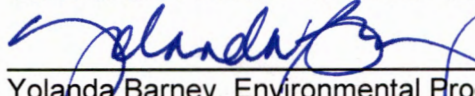
THE NAVAJO NATION


RUSSELL BEGAYE PRESIDENT
JONATHAN NEZ VICE PRESIDENT

MEMORANDUM

December 18, 2017

TO : Russell Begay, Navajo Nation President
Office of the President and Vice President

FROM : 
Yolanda Barney, Environmental Program Manager
Public Water Systems Supervision Program
Surface and Ground Water Department
Navajo Environmental Protection Agency

THRU : 
Ronnie Ben, Environmental Department Manager
Surface & Ground Water Department
Navajo Environmental Protection Agency



SUBJECT : Off Reservation Approval of the "Navajo Nation Operator Certification & Training", June 05-08, 2018

In an effort to promote program initiatives by addressing issues with public water systems on the Navajo Nation, the Navajo Environmental-Public Water Systems Supervision Program (PWSSP) conducts their Navajo Drinking Water Conference/Training every (2) years. This year, PWSSP is happy to announce the Navajo Operator Certification & Training to be held on June 05-08, 2018 at the WeKoPa Resort & Conference Center, Fountain Hills, Arizona.

The Navajo Environmental Protection Agency-Public Water Systems Supervision Program (PWSS) has obtained primacy from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and is recognized as a regulatory authority for drinking water systems on the Navajo Nation. To date, there are approximately 338 active sources which PWSSP currently regulates and a majority of these drinking water sources require a certified operator. This training is a critical event where the Navajo Water Operators can obtain a large portion of their Professional Development Hours (PDH), which is needed to retain their certification. This training will also provide Water and Wastewater Operators take an exam to become certified at required level of their water or wastewater systems. Identifying certified operators will help promote safe drinking water on the Navajo Nation. Also, to provide to other organizations the occasion to experience and be a part of our evolving program.

The training will address regulated water systems, regulations and compliance issues, enforcement, wastewater regulations and compliance, data management, GIS mapping, Source Water Protection, Water Quality issues and drinking and wastewater construction. Other topics may include Water Rights, Water Codes, water conservation, water pollution, sustainability and perspectives on the Navajo traditional values on water.



We received (6) proposals for hosting the Navajo Operator Certification and Training, attach is a comparison of the facilities. Base on the selection we've made, WekoPa Resort has been our host for the past 4 conferences and are able to assist and accommodate staff, operators, chapter officials, delegates, etc. in a professional manner. All the registration fees and exhibitors' fees have been used to cover the expenses of meals for the attendees. With the past conference, our attendance has increased year by year and we are expecting 350+.

The program is requesting approval to hold this training off the Navajo Nation. We are also, requesting approval for other Navajo EPA Departments and its program, including interested Navajo Nation offices and chapters to attend this training. The program is also requesting waiver of the Training Request Form.

If you have any questions, please contact our office at 928-871-7755 or 7715. Thank you.

CONCURRENCE:

APPROVED

DISAPPROVED



Dr. Donald Benn, Executive Director Date
Navajo Environmental Protection Agency

 12/28/17

Clara Pratte, Chief of Staff Date
Office of the President & Vice President