

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	)	
and	)	
NAVAJO NATION,	)	No. 12cv1298 MV/WPL
Plaintiffs,	)	
	)	ZUNI RIVER BASIN
v.	)	ADJUDICATION
	)	
STATE OF NEW MEXICO, <i>ex rel.</i> STATE	)	Subproceeding 2
ENGINEER, <i>et al.</i>	)	Navajo Indian Claims
Defendants.	)	

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**JOINT STATUS REPORT**

The State of New Mexico *ex rel.* State Engineer (“State”), the United States of America (“United States”), the Zuni Indian Tribe (“Zuni”), and the Navajo Nation (“Navajo”) (collectively, the “Parties”), through undersigned counsel, jointly submit this Status Report to the Court pursuant to its December 30, 2015 *Order for Periodic Status Reports* [Doc. 375].

Since the Parties’ June 1, 2016 status report [Doc. 382], the negotiation technical committee met on July 19, 2016, September 23, 2016, and November 18, 2016, to continue information exchanges and discussions relevant to development of a model to assist settlement and administrative initiatives. The technical committee has discussed both conceptual issues related to model development and technical details of model implementation. Significant progress, including reaching agreement on a geologic conceptual model, many of the hydrologic properties, treatment of boundary conditions, and other model inputs has enabled the process of constructing the numerical model to begin. The meetings have included participation by counsel for all parties and consultants separately retained by the Zuni Tribe, the Navajo Nation and the United States, and by

technical staff of the State and the United States. The next technical committee meeting is scheduled for January 19, 2017.

The Parties jointly agree that further work by the technical committee is needed and that further time is necessary to determine whether a negotiated resolution of Subproceeding 2 is feasible. The Parties respectfully request the Court to hold all litigation deadlines in Subproceeding 2 in abeyance so that the Parties may continue their settlement negotiations and related efforts.

Respectfully submitted:

/s/ Bradley S. Bridgewater

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that, on November 29, 2016, I filed the foregoing Joint Status Report electronically through the CM/ECF system, which caused CM/ECF Participants to be served by electronic means, as more fully reflected on the Notice of Electronic Filing.

AND I FURTHER CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing was mailed to the persons listed below who are not CM/ECF Participants.

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