



**THE
NAVAJO
NATION**

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SEP 2 1 2004

JOE **SHIRLEY, JR.**
PRESIDENT
FRANK J. **DAYISH, JR.**
VICE PRESIDENT

SEP 1 0 2004

Gerardo C. Rios, P.E.
Chief, Air Permits Office
Air Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

**Re: Navajo Nation Support
Dine Power Authority/Steag Power LLC "Desert Rock" Project**

Dear Mr. Rios:


Thank you for meeting with representatives from the Navajo Nation EPA, the Dine Power Authority, and Steag Power LLC on Tuesday, February 3 for the second Pre-Application Meeting on the PSD (air) permit for the Desert Rock power plant project.

The Office of the President and Vice President of the Navajo Nation fully support the Desert Rock project. Dine Power Authority, the Navajo Nation enterprise authorized to develop large-scale energy projects for the Navajo Nation, has worked very hard for many years to bring this project and its many benefits to the Navajo people. Dine Power Authority and Steag Power LLC have also worked closely with the Navajo Nation EPA to ensure the project meets all environmental requirements of the Navajo Nation and EPA Region IX. The Navajo Nation is very excited about the progress of the Desert Rock project.

In addition, Dine Power Authority and Steag Power LLC are continuing to meet with the local Navajo Nation people who live on and near the project site to ensure the questions and concerns of our citizens are addressed. The level of effort undertaken by Dine Power Authority and Steag Power LLC in this regard is a model for any project on the Navajo Nation.

We appreciate your efforts in working through the pre-application permitting issues on the Desert Rock project as well as processing the application after filing. Please feel free to contact me personally or the staff at Dine Power Authority if you have any questions.

Respectfully,


Joe Shirley, Jr.
President