

Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency Surface and Ground Water Protection Department

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Dr. Buu Nygren **President**

DEC 0 8 2023

Richelle Montoya Vice-President

NMED-GWQB Attn: Water Reuse Regulation P.O. Box 5469 Santa Fe, NM, 87502

GROUND WATER QUALITY BUREAU November 29, 2023

RE: Water Reuse Regulation

NMED-GWQB:

The Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency (NNEPA) Surface and Ground Water Protection Department has reviewed the New Mexico Environment Department's (NMED) *Draft Ground and Surface Water Protection – Supplemental Requirements for Water Reuse* (20.6.8 NMAC).

The NNEPA endorses the drafting of these regulations by NMED to allow demonstration projects to determine the scientific viability of treating produced water for possible reuses while concurrently not allowing discharges into surface or ground waters until such time as scientifically defensible water quality criteria are developed and adopted.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to these draft regulations. If you have any questions please contact our office at 928-871-7690.

Sincerely,

Yolanda Barney

Department Director

Surface and Groundwater Protection Department Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency

cc: Patrick Antonio, Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency