

Monday, April 16, 2012

Washington, D.C. – Congressman Ben Ray Luján of New Mexico’s Third District highlighted the announcement by Interior Secretary Ken Salazar today that the Bureau of Reclamation has awarded the first construction contract for the Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project. The \$10.75 million construction contract, which consists of placing approximately four miles of 42-inch diameter water supply pipeline and appurtenant facilities, will enable construction to begin as early as this summer.

“Today’s announcement is another important step toward providing the Navajo Nation, the city of Gallup, and the Jicarilla Apache Nation with a reliable supply of clean water that is critical to the health and economic well-being of so many in New Mexico,” Congressman Luján said. “During this difficult economic time, the construction of this vital pipeline will create jobs and help put people back to work improving our communities with much needed infrastructure.”

The Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project is one of 14 high-priority infrastructure projects the Obama Administration is expediting through the permitting process. The completed project will provide more than 37,000 acre-feet of water from the San Juan River Basin to more than 43 Navajo chapters, the city of Gallup, and the Jicarilla Apache Nation. As part of the project two water treatment plants will be built to deliver water through approximately 280 miles of pipeline, 24 pumping plants, and numerous water regulation and storage facilities.

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