



# PRESS RELEASE



Navajo Nation  
Water Rights  
Commission

P.O. Box 4251  
Window Rock, AZ 86515  
(928)871-7574 \*Fax (928)871-7570  
Internet: [www.nnwrc.navajo-nsn.gov](http://www.nnwrc.navajo-nsn.gov)



Navajo Nation President  
Dr. Baa Nygren

Navajo Nation Vice President  
Richelle Montoya



Water Rights Commissioners

Joelynn Ashley, Chairperson  
Western Agency

Earl Tulley, Vice Chairperson  
Central Agency

Lani Tsinjainnie, Commissioner  
Eastern Agency

Lorenzo Bates, Commissioner  
Northern Agency

Vacant, Commissioner  
Fort Defiance Agency

Ethel Branch, Attorney General  
OAG/Department of Justice

Jason John, Director  
Department of Water Resources



Water Rights Commission Staff

Jacqueline Mitchell, SOS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: [jacquelinemitchell@navajo-nsn.gov](mailto:jacquelinemitchell@navajo-nsn.gov) or 505-728-0760

**United States Senate Committee on Indian Affairs**  
Senate Committee Hearing on the Northeastern Arizona Indian Water Rights  
Settlement Act of 2024  
September 24, 2024

The US Senate Committee on Indian Affairs has scheduled a hearing tomorrow September 25, 2024, which includes two pending Navajo Nation water right bills, S. 4633 the Northeastern Arizona Indian Water Rights Settlement Act of 2024 and S. 4998 the San Jose Stream System Water Rights Settlement Act of 2024. The hearing will take place at 2:30 p.m. (Eastern Daylight Time) in Room 628 of the Dirksen Senate Building, Washington, DC. On behalf of the Navajo Nation Water Rights Commission Chairperson Joelynn Ashley stated: “This hearing represents a historic monumental, coordinated effort between the Navajo Nation, the Hopi Tribe, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe and the state of Arizona.”