

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

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	)	
and	)	
ZUNI INDIAN TRIBE,	)	07cv00681-MV/JHR
Plaintiffs,	)	
	)	ZUNI RIVER BASIN
v.	)	ADJUDICATION
	)	
STATE OF NEW MEXICO, ex rel.	)	Subproceeding 1:
STATE ENGINEER, et al.,	)	Zuni Indian Claims
	)	
Defendants.	)	
_____	)	

**JOINT STATUS REPORT CONCERNING PROGRESS OF NEGOTIATIONS**

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 the June 21, 2017 *Order Directing Submission of Status Report* [Doc. 347].

1. Since the Parties’ June 15, 2017 status report [Doc. 346], the Parties have continued information exchanges and discussions relevant to development of a model capable of assessing impacts of proposed water uses to assist settlement and administrative initiatives. The cooperative efforts include participation by staff and/or technical consultants representing each of the Parties. The technical working group last met on August 22, 2017 and reached a number of consensus decisions relating to model construction, such as the number of calibration targets and boundary conditions. Technical staffs for the Zuni Tribe and the Navajo Nation are tasked with constructing the model and confer weekly on the model development. Since the August

meeting they have incorporated into the steady state numeric model the decisions of the technical working group and expect to be ready to begin converting the steady state model into a calibrated model in the near future.

2. The Zuni Tribe is actively in the process of developing a draft settlement proposal and anticipates being prepared to meet with other Parties in the upcoming months.

3. The Parties jointly agree further work by the technical working group is needed and that more time is necessary to determine whether these negotiation efforts will prove fruitful. Therefore, the Parties propose to continue settlement discussions and related technical work for an additional six months and to provide the Court with a Status Report on the progress of negotiations no later than June 20, 2018, pursuant to the Court's *Order Directing Submission of Status Report* [Doc. 347].

Respectfully submitted:

\_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_  
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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that, on December 15, 2017, I filed the foregoing *Joint Status Report Concerning Progress of Negotiations* 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.

\_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_  
Jane Marx