

# NEW MEXICO INTERSTATE STREAM COMMISSION

## COMMISSION MEMBERS

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September 7, 2023

The Honorable Martin Heinrich  
United States Senate  
303 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ben Ray Lujan  
United States Senate  
498 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Teresa Léger Fernandez  
1510 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Gabriel Vasquez  
1517 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Melanie Stansbury  
1421 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

### Re: Letter of Support for H.R. 3977

Dear members of the New Mexico Congressional Delegation:

In March 2009, Congress passed the *Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009* (Pub. L. 111-11). This Act included an authorization to construct, operate and maintain the Navajo Gallup Water Supply Project ("Project"), as part of a settlement to resolve the Navajo Nation's water rights claims in the San Juan River Basin in New Mexico.

Due to circumstances that were not foreseen in 2009, additional time and resources are needed to complete the Project as authorized by Congress. Therefore, for a couple of years, the Project Participants worked collectively on proposed amendments to Pub. L. 111-11. The participants in the Projects are the Navajo Nation, the Jicarilla Apache Nation, the City of Gallup, and the State of New Mexico through the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission ("NMISC"). The State of New Mexico, through the NMISC, is a member of the Project Construction Committee with the other Project Participants.

The amendments were introduced in the Senate as S. 1898 and in the House as H.R. 3977. The NMISC has reviewed the draft of the Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project Amendments Act of 2023 and appreciates its introduction in Congress. The NMISC supports advancing forward H.R. 3977.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Mark Sanchez".

Mark Sanchez, Chairman  
New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission