NAVAJO NATION DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

LOUIS DENETSOSIE ATTORNEY GENERAL

HARRISON TSOSIE DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

November 30, 2005

Mr. David Albright Ground Water Office Manager U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9 75 Hawthorne Street, Mail Code WTR-9 San Francisco, CA 94105

Re: Comment Period for Determination of Indian Country Status, Section 8 of Township 16 North, Range 16 West, McKinley County, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Albright:

This is to advise you that the Navajo Nation joins in the Churchrock Chapter's request for an extension of time in which to comment on the pending EPA determination regarding the Indian Country status of Section 8, Township 16 North, Range 16 West, McKinley County, New Mexico. We believe that a 30-60 day extension is appropriate and not prejudicial to any one.

Section 8 is located within the boundaries of the Churchrock Chapter. Churchrock Chapter residents are the people who will be most directly impacted by this determination. It is imperative that all parties be given adequate time to provide comments.

We thank you for your consideration of this request.

 $(I V)_{\wedge}$

David A. Taylor Staff Attornev

Natural Resources Unit

DAT/mv/740

xc: Edward Carlisle, Community Service Coordinator, Churchrock Chapter, P.O. Box 549, Churchrock, NM 87311

: Paul E. Frye, FRYE LAW FIRM P.C., 10400 Academy Rd., NE, Suite 310, Albuquerque, NM 87111