



# Closing the Gap- AZ Perspective

- Resident of Black Mesa
- Member of Navajo Nation
- Farmer, Weaver
- Participant in Ceremonies
- Advisor to Water Rights Task Force
- Administrator at Pinon Unified School District
- Advocate for Ground Water Protection – N Aquifer since 1999
- Mother



Black Mesa Meeting July 9, 2010  
Meeting with Navajo Nation Resources  
Committee









# The Gap is widening for the Dine' (Navajo) of Northeast Arizona

- Central Arizona Farmer - \$41 per Acre/foot of CAP water for irrigation.
- Peabody Coal Company - \$471 per Acre/foot of pristine groundwater for industrial use.
- Glendale Resident - \$551 per Acre/foot of CAP water for municipal use.
- Black Mesa Resident - \$3258 per Acre/foot; that's .01 cents a gallon for pristine groundwater but does not include the cost of hauling the water.
- Kaibito Resident (Community near Lake Powell and NGS) - \$13,000 per Acre/foot, that's .04 cents a gallon for municipal use not including the cost of hauling.



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- 2 Contributions of the Navajo Nation to AZ demands for Water and Energy
  - Glenn Canyon Dam
    - Authorized in 1959
  - Navajo Generating Station (NGS)
    - Construction in 1970

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## – Navajo Generating Station (NGS)

- Operational in 1971
- Required Navajos to waive 50,000 acre feet of water from the upper basin CR for 50 years or life of NGS
- Tens of millions of tons of coal combustion waste (CCW) is being disposed of insufficiently and pose problem for drinking water sources

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- In addition:
- The Coal dedicated to Coal-fired Power Plant is mined on Black Mesa by Peabody Coal Company
  - More than 1.3 billion gallons of potable water annually was pumped from 1969 to 2005.
  - Water used as transportation
  - Since Peabody has began using water for mining purposes water levels have decreased by more than 100 ft. in some wells and springs have slacked by more than 50%.



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- As a Result:
  - Signs of Earth Fissures
  - Loss of Springs and Seeps
  - Industrial waste and contamination

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# Closing the Gap- AZ Perspective

- Solutions:
  - Renewable Energy
  - Green Projects
  - Sustainable practices
  - Protective Laws





# Closing the Gap- AZ Perspective

- Environment
- People