A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT TO INITIATE CONSTRUCTION OF A BRIDGE FROM THE SAN JUAN CHAPTER COMMUNITY TO UNITED STATES HIGHWAY 64 AT HOGBACK.

WHEREAS, citizens of the San Juan chapter community must drive considerable distances to obtain basic necessities in either Shiprock or Farmington due, in part, to the lack of direct access to United States highway 64; and

WHEREAS, unlike many other chapter communities, there are no commercial enterprises within chapter boundaries from which residents may obtain basic necessities; and

WHEREAS, all of the roads within chapter boundaries are unpaved and, during warm weather, the main direct access to United States highway 64 is blocked by high water in the San Juan river; and

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1   WHEREAS, this condition isolates the community and

2   necessitates that chapter residents travel an additional

3   twenty miles, one way, over unpaved roads to access basic

4   goods and services; and

5   WHEREAS, residents of the San Juan chapter community are

6   at risk of high river water preventing speedy access by

7   emergency vehicles, including ambulances and law enforcement

8   and fire vehicles, as well as by social and human services

9   providers; and

10   WHEREAS, one family whose land will be directly impacted

11   by such construction gave its consent to the bridge project

12   years ago;

13   NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE

14   STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the state highway and transportation

15   department immediately initiate efforts to design and

16   construct a bridge over the San Juan river connecting the San

17   Juan chapter community with United States highway 64 at

18   Hogback; and

19   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be

20   sent to the San Juan chapter of the Navajo Nation, the

21   secretary of highway and transportation and the state highway

22   commission.

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