

THREE DAY TRIP TO WASHINGTON DC

**TULAROSA BASIN DOWNWINDERS CONSORTIUM CONTINUES TO SEEK TO
HAVE NEW MEXICO INCLUDED IN RECA**

**NEW MEXICO IS A STATE OF PATRIOTS INCLUDING THE
HEROES OF THE BATAAN DEATH MARCH AND NAVAJO
CODE TALKERS.**

**MORE NEW MEXICANS SERVED IN WWII THAN ANY
OTHER STATE.**

**WE HAVE SIX MILITARY INSTALLATIONS INCLUDING ONE
OF THE LARGEST LAND BASES IN THE WORLD; WHITE
SANDS MISSILE RANGE**

- SEPTEMBER 24 TO 26 MEMBERS OF NAVAJO AND OTHER RADIATION, URANIUM MINE SURVIVORS AND DOWNWINDERS DEMAND ACTION ON STALLED RECA PROGRAM.
- DAY ONE STARTED WITH BREAKFAST HOSTED BY THE NAVAJO NATION DC OFFICE AND A PRESS CONFERENCE HOSTED BY BUU NIGREN, NAVAJO PRESIDENT.
- MARCH THROUGH THE STREETS TO CAPITOL HILL; DRUMMING AND CHANTING; THE MARCH WAS JOINED BY BUU NIGREN AND STAFF.
- THERE WAS A VERY HIGHLY ATTENDED PRESS CONFERENCE WHERE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AND ADVOCATES SPOKE.
- **OVER 40 UNIQUE MEDIA STORIES COVERING THE THREE DAYS OF EVENTS!!**
- PERFORMANCES AND DRUMMING BY THE DINE TAH DANCERS.
- MARCH TO SPEAKER MIKE JOHNSON'S OFFICE TO PRESENT THE LETTER FROM THE RADIOACTIVE AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS COMMITTEE – THE LETTER WAS HIGHLY REGARDED. WE ALSO PRESENTED INVOICES. THE TOTAL ESTIMATE OF MEDICAL COSTS FROM ALL OF THE BILLS PEOPLE FILLED OUT WAS **OVER \$7 MILLION FROM PROTESTERS PRESENT.**
- CANDLELIGHT VIGIL IN FRONT OF THE US CAPITOL BUILDING.
- CULTURAL PRAYERS, SINGING, AND CHANTING IN FRONT OF THE CAPITOL.

POTENTIAL COMPROMISE

- DURING THE THREE DAY TRIP MEETINGS WERE HELD WITH ABOUT A DOZEN MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, INCLUDING THE HOUSE MAJORITY WHIP AND THE ENTIRE UTAH HOUSE DELEGATION.
- THE PUSH BACK FROM A HANDFUL OF LEGISLATORS, PRIMARILY UTAH, IS STILL **COST**.
- A COMPROMISE CAP IS BEING DISCUSSED. THE CAP WOULD SUNSET THE PROGRAM IN 5 OR 6 YEARS OR WHEN \$5 BILLION IS PAIDOUT, WHICHEVER IS REACHED FIRST.
- THIS LOOKS LIKE A GOOD COMPROMISE BECAUSE IN 33 YEARS ONLY \$2.5 BILLION HAS BEEN PAID TO THOSE ELIGIBLE.

- VERY POSITIVE MEETING WITH REP. CELESTE MALOY FROM UTAH, WHO HAD PREVIOUSLY SEEMED VERY OPPOSED TO OUR BILL, BUT NOW IS MUCH MORE RECEPTIVE TO EXPANDING THE PROGRAM. THIS COULD BE VERY HELPFUL IN FLIPPING THE UTAH DELEGATION AND REMOVING A MAJOR OBSTACLE.
- [ICT POLITICAL NEWS REPORTED THE FOLLOWING](#): **REPUBLICAN REP. TOM COLE, CHICKASAW, FROM OKLAHOMA TOLD ICT HE WOULD URGE REPUBLICAN HOUSE SPEAKER MIKE JOHNSON FROM LOUISIANA TO HOLD A VOTE FOR THE ACT.** “I THINK THOSE THINGS OUGHT TO COME TO THE FLOOR AND LET THE HOUSE WORK ITS WILL.” THE REPRESENTATIVE ADDED, “HARM WAS DONE AND APPROPRIATE COMPENSATION NEEDS TO BE RENDERED,” HINTING AT SUPPORT FOR THE EXPANDED BILL.” THIS IS HUGE, SINCE REP COLE IS THE HEAD OF THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE AND HAS A LOT OF POWER TO BRING OUR BILL FORWARD.
- [REPORTING FROM STATES NEWSROOM](#) LISTED RECA AS ONE OF THE "UNFINISHED BUSINESS" ITEMS FOR CONGRESS TO ADDRESS BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR, DURING THE LAME DUCK SESSION. THIS WAS THE GOAL FOR THIS EVENT - MAKE SURE THAT CONGRESS DOES NOT FORGET ABOUT THE ISSUE AND TEE IT UP TO BE PASSED IN THE LAME DUCK
- **AFTER THE TRIP, TINA CORDOVA AND TWO OTHER DOWNWINDERS MET WITH HAKEEM JEFFRIES, HOUSE MAJORITY LEADER WHO SAID “I’M WITH YOU UNTIL WE GET THIS DONE; UNTIL WE GET THIS DONE.” HE PLEDGED THAT SB 3853 WOULD BE A PRIORITY IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH SPEAKER MIKE JOHNSON.**

Breakfast provided by Buu Van Nygren, Navajo President at Navajo Nation Headquarters in Washington, D.C.





- IN THE LOBBY OF NAVAJO HEADQUARTERS IN DC GETTING READY TO MARCH TO THE CAPITAL



March through the streets to Capitol Hill; drumming and chanting; joined by Buu Nigren and staff.





THE GOVT POISONED
ME AND MY FAMILY

79 YEARS LATER, YOU
CAN DO THE RIGHT THING
BEFORE WE DIE

THE GOVT POISONED
ME AND MY FAMILY

79 YEARS LATER, YOU
CAN DO THE RIGHT THING
BEFORE WE DIE

SPEAKER
JOHNSON
PASS
RECA
BEFORE
WE DIE

SAVE RECA



Waiting to get
through security
in advance of the
Press Conference





VERY HIGHLY ATTENDED
PRESS CONFERENCE
WHERE MEMBERS OF
CONGRESS AND
ADVOCATES SPOKE. THERE
WERE **40 UNIQUE MEDIA
STORIES COVERING THESE
EVENTS!!**







HOW many PEOPLE
Have to DIE
Before the RECA BILL





WE ARE THE
UNKNOWING,
UNWILLING,
UNCOMPENSATED
VICTIMS OF
THE COLD WAR



CALL TO ACTION

We believe the only bill that will pass is Senate Bill 3853 because other bills do not have anywhere near as much support.

Contact Speaker Mike Johnson – 202-225-4000

Contact Utah Delegation:

Senator Mike Lee: 202-224-4521

Senator Mitt Romney: 202-224-5251

Representative Burgess Owens: 202-225-4404

Representative Blake Moore: 202-225-0453

Representative Celeste Maloy: 202-225-9730

Representative John Curtis: 202-225-7751

ASK THEM TO PLEASE PASS SB 3853

SB 3853 benefits more Red districts than Blue



Many of the slides
in this presentation
are provided by
Joe Newman
Photography and
Mary (Martinez)
White