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THE NAVAJO NATION

WINDOW ROCK, ARIZONA 86515

PETER MacDONALD
CHAIRMAN

April 2, 1976

Theodore Marrs, M. D.
Special Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Marrs:

Condemned in 1972, the USPHS Indian Hospital in Winslow, Arizona is still in use. It was built 43 years ago as a tuberculosis sanatorium. Today that building is old, outdated, and unsafe. During an earthquake in 1972 the building sustained severe structural damage causing its condemnation. A structural engineering evaluation completed in June, 1973, by A. V. Schwan Inc. consulting engineering firm under contract to the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare stated that "any significant seismic activity in the area would most probably cause a complete failure of the structure with resulting loss of life to patients and staff alike."

During Fiscal Year 1975, \$475,000 planning monies were appropriated by the United States Congress as an emergency measure. For this money we thank you. The Indian Health Service realizing the emergent nature of this replacement facility has moved with all possible haste to design a new facility. I am informed that the planning is now considerably ahead of schedule and should money be available, construction could begin as early as June 1976.

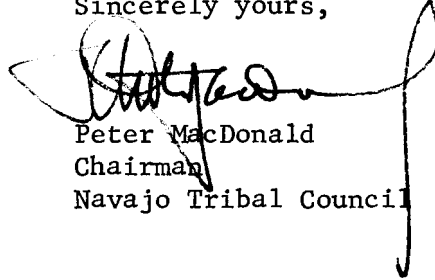
Replacement of the hospital facility at Winslow is not an ordinary project. Certainly I realize that many hospitals within the Indian Health Service are in need of replacement. The situation at Winslow however, goes much farther. Earthquakes do occur. There was a minor one in 1972 and another in 1976. The structure is now so badly damaged that even a slight tremor could cause a holocaust in lives lost.



April 2, 1976

The cost of building the much needed new facility is estimated today at \$12.5 million. As time goes by and inflation continues, that cost rises. That cost, however, cannot be compared to the loss--most certainly of lives--should another earthquake occur. As planning is virtually complete, I would urge you, Dr. Marrs, to do everything within your power to assist us in obtaining our needed emergency facility.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter MacDonald", with a long vertical flourish extending downwards from the end of the signature.

Peter MacDonald
Chairman
Navajo Tribal Council





THE NAVAJO NATION

WINDOW ROCK, ARIZONA 86515

PETER MacDONALD
CHAIRMAN

JUN 10 1976

Dear Mr. Livingston:

Our Navajo People have taken great pains to assure themselves adequate service programs capable of meeting their basic needs without jeopardizing their century old customs, beliefs and traditions.

To make certain our heritage and culture do not become victims of "forced--assimilation", our local grassroot population has exhibited their public influence by expressing deep concern over implementation of Food Stamps and termination of Commodity distribution.

Unfortunately, four our needy illiterate population much has to be explained and taught about the new Food Stamp Program benefits. A thoroughly beneficial commodity program took some five (5) years to adequately shape and develop before it was capable of being understood and of being accepted.

Our concerns are to accomodate our peoples' concerns without jeopardizing major benefits available under the Food Stamp Program, but to retain a portion or the Commodities Program until such time as more realistic guidelines are developed for our population who are unable to contain with so strange a program. With this venture, we will be in need for some assistance; therefore, I am requesting your immediate assistance in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter MacDonald".

Peter MacDonald
Chairman
Navajo Tribal Council



Mr. Bob Livingston
Assistant to Secretary
U.S. Department of Interior
Office of the Secretary
Pacific S.W. Region
Box 36098
450 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, California 94102



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
NAVAJO & HOPI INDIAN RELOCATION COMMISSION
2708 N. FOURTH ST. P.O. BOX 1178 FLAGSTAFF, ARIZONA 86001

F
Navajo
Hopi

September 2, 1976

Mr. Bradley F. Patterson, Jr.
Special Liaison for Indian Affairs
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Patterson:

Thank you very much for your letter of August 27, 1976. It is very reassuring to hear from you.

The Commission will hold its regular monthly meeting in Washington September 9th and 10th in order to meet with the Office of Management and Budget regarding budget requests for 1978. The Department of the Interior has provided Conference Room 7000-A for the use of the Commission during their stay in Washington.

There will also be a briefing of the Utah, New Mexico and Arizona congressional delegations on Friday, September 10, 1976 from 2-3:30 p.m. in the Speaker's Dining Room, H-122, Capitol. You are, of course, most welcome to attend this briefing, or any of the other scheduled meetings during these two days. A copy of the meeting schedule is attached for your convenience.

At the present time we do not have any specific requests to make of you. In the event that any extraordinary problems do arise, we would take the liberty of calling you. Also, if there is any reason that you would want to get ahold of us, we may be contacted through Dennis Ickes, Special Assistant to the Undersecretary, Department of the Interior, Room 6116, telephone number 343-3853, during these two days.

Sincerely,

Hawley Atkinson
Hawley Atkinson
Chairman

HA:bn

Attachment (1)



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
NAVAJO & HOPI INDIAN RELOCATION COMMISSION
2708 N. FOURTH ST. P.O. BOX 4478 FLAGSTAFF, ARIZONA 86001

MEETING SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER COMMISSION MEETING

September 9-10, 1976

Washington, D. C.

Thursday, September 9, 1976

9 a.m. Appointment with Howard Borgstrom
Office of Management & Budget
New Executive Office Building
Room 8208
Washington, D. C.

1 p.m. Appointment with Dennis Ickes
Department of the Interior
Room 7000-A
18th & "C" Streets
Washington, D. C.

2:30 p.m. Appointment with Byron Neilson
Department of the Interior
Room 7000-A
Washington, D. C.

3:30 Appointment with Frank Wiles
Department of the Interior
Room 7000-A
Washington, D. C.

Friday, September 10, 1976

10:30 a.m. Appointment with Morris Thompson,
John Kyl, Theodore Krenzke
Department of the Interior
Room 7000-A
Washington, D. C.

2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Briefing of the New Mexico, Utah
and Arizona Congressional Delegations
Speaker's Dining Room, H-122, Capitol
Washington, D. C.

