

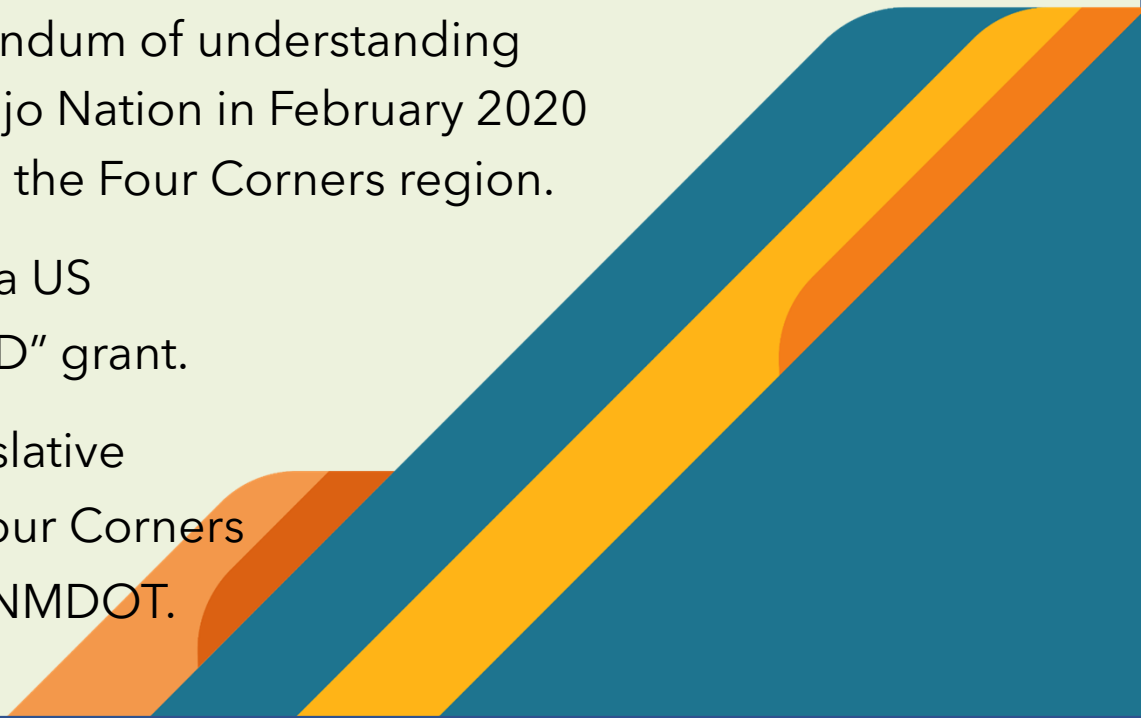
Freight Rail Line Feasibility Study San Juan County, New Mexico

"Opening the doors of economic opportunity for the Four Corners Region"



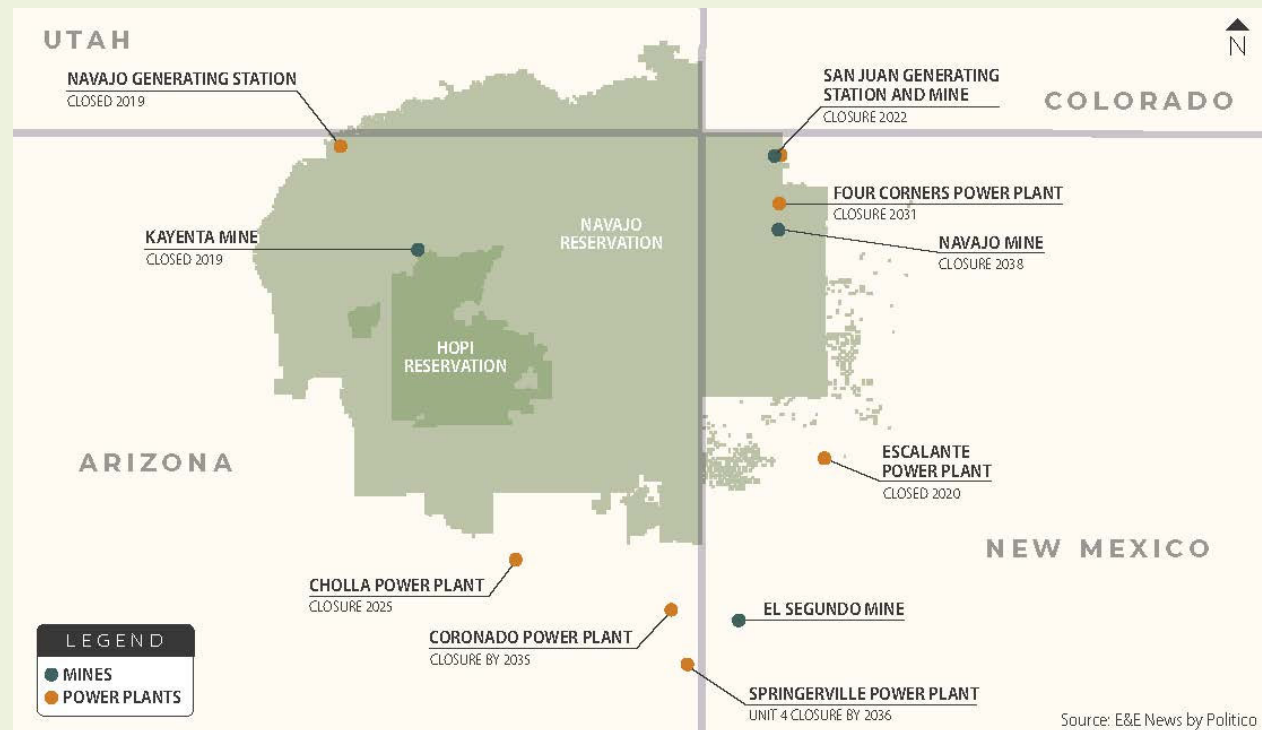
4 Corners Freight Rail
Feasibility Study

How Did We Get Here?

- After 50 years of multiple studies with little progress, new key partnerships and funding are now in place to move the project forward.
 - In February 2020, a historic memorandum of understanding between San Juan County and Navajo Nation in February 2020 created a partnership to bring rail to the Four Corners region.
 - Project awarded \$2 million through a US Department of Transportation “BUILD” grant.
 - Support from San Juan County Legislative Delegation, local elected officials, Four Corners Congressional Delegation, and the NMDOT.
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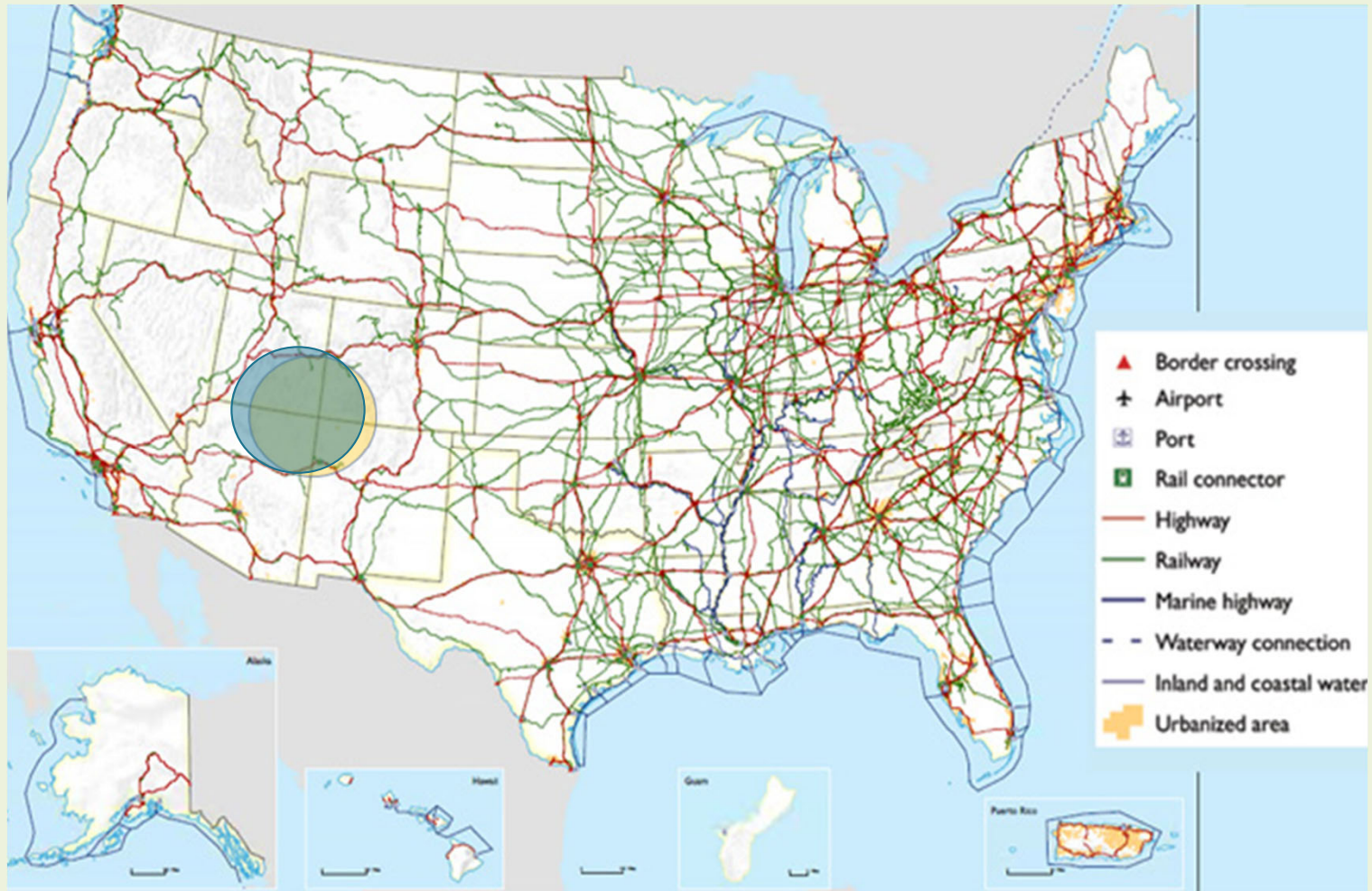
Why is this so important?

- High Systemic Poverty (Pre-Covid Statistics)
 - Poverty is 4 times the national mean.
 - Median Household income of \$20,000 and National Poverty Level is \$27,500.
 - Per capita income of \$7,269.
 - More than 75% of Navajo school age children live in poverty.
 - Unemployment rate 70%.



Article Link: [The Navajo, circled by coal, see jobs vanish as CO2 falls - E&E News by POLITICO \(eenews.net\)](https://www.eenews.net/stories/1060000000000000000)

Lack of Transportation Infrastructure in the Four Corners Area



AN INDEPENDENT NATION

SUPPORTING THE NAVAJO NATION'S ECONOMIC SOVEREIGNTY

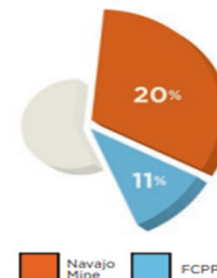
NTEC is devoted to providing sustainable financial and economic resources to its sole shareholder, the Navajo Nation. Our driving purpose is to give the Nation financial strength, jobs, and community benefits through sovereignty over its natural resources.

Support	Total NTEC Contribution
NTEC Taxes & Royalties	\$46,680,000
Employment Wages	\$55,770,000
Navajo Vendors/Contractors	\$7,920,000
Scholarships, Education & Other Community Giving	\$1,570,000
NTEC Community Benefit Fund (CBF)	\$250,000
CHRP	\$2,390,000

\$114,580,000

NTEC ECONOMIC IMPACT ON THE NAVAJO NATION IN 2023

NTEC's total economic contribution to the Navajo Nation exceeded \$114 million in 2023. This included taxes and royalties paid by NTEC from the Navajo Mine, Four Corners Power Plant, and NTEC Helium, as well as payroll to employees on the Nation, contracts with qualified Navajo contractors, and charitable donations. This year's contributions to the Navajo Nation reflected our continued commitment to the Nation's prosperity.



31%

OF THE 2023 NAVAJO NATION GENERAL FUND

came from the combined contributions of the Navajo Mine and Four Corners Power Plant

Support	Navajo Mine	FCPP
Taxes & Royalties	\$43,810,000	\$23,090,000
Employment Wages	\$52,270,000	\$33,380,000
Navajo Vendors/Contractors	\$7,540,000	\$2,780,000

\$162,870,000

NAVAJO MINE & FCPP ECONOMIC IMPACT ON THE NAVAJO NATION IN 2023

Project Benefits

A new connection to the BNSF freight rail network will improve the efficiency of the freight transportation system in the Four Corners region and expand economic opportunities.



Reduce freight traffic on U.S. 491, U.S. 550, and other roads thus decreasing the potential for crashes and providing less congestion and safer transportation.

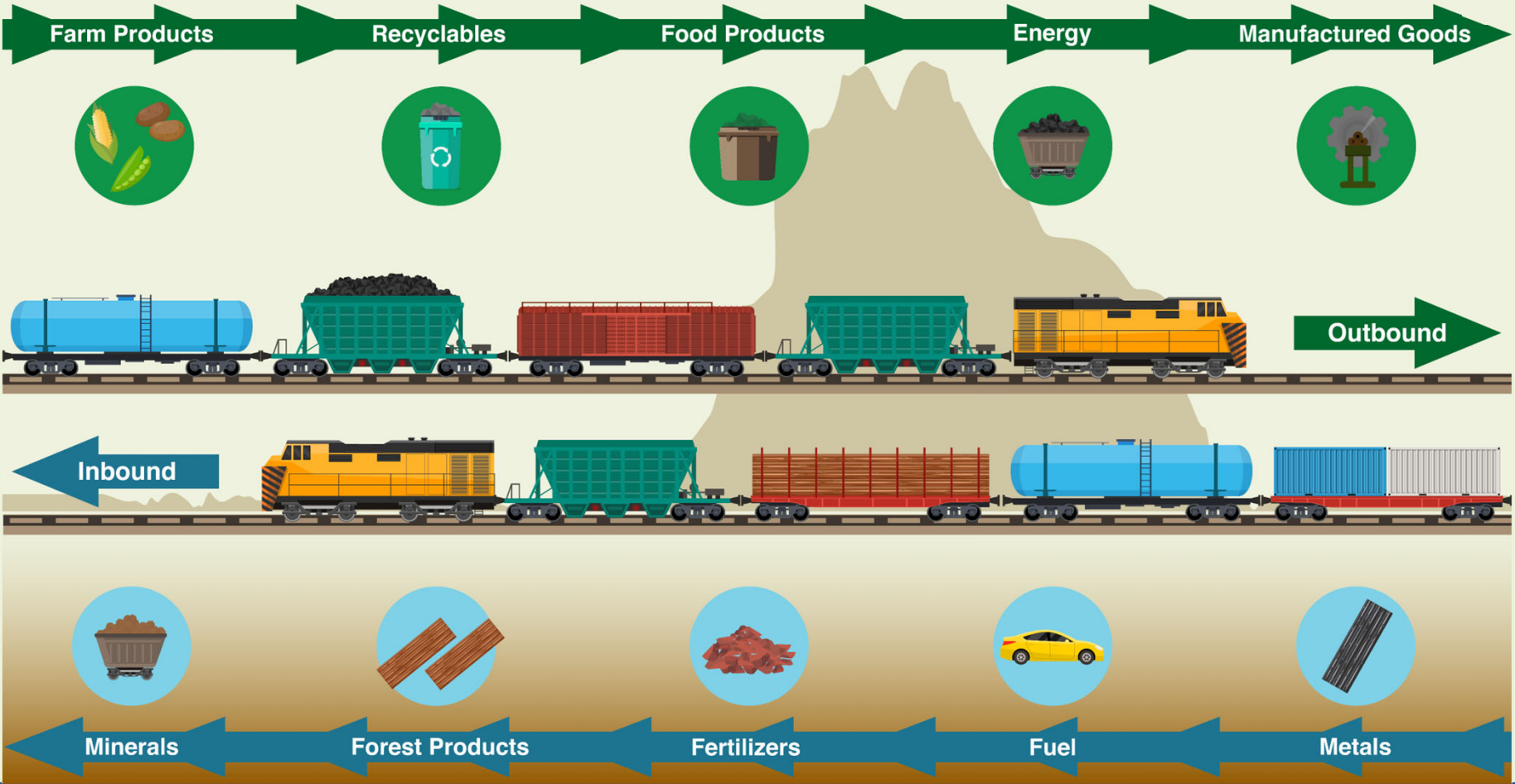
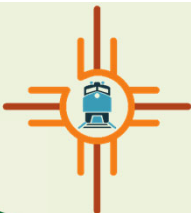
Reduced truck traffic leads to less wear and tear on roads and decreases maintenance costs.

A freight rail connection would reduce the cost of shipping goods to and from the Four Corners region.

Efficient movement of freight connections to existing BNSF network and decreases shipping costs.

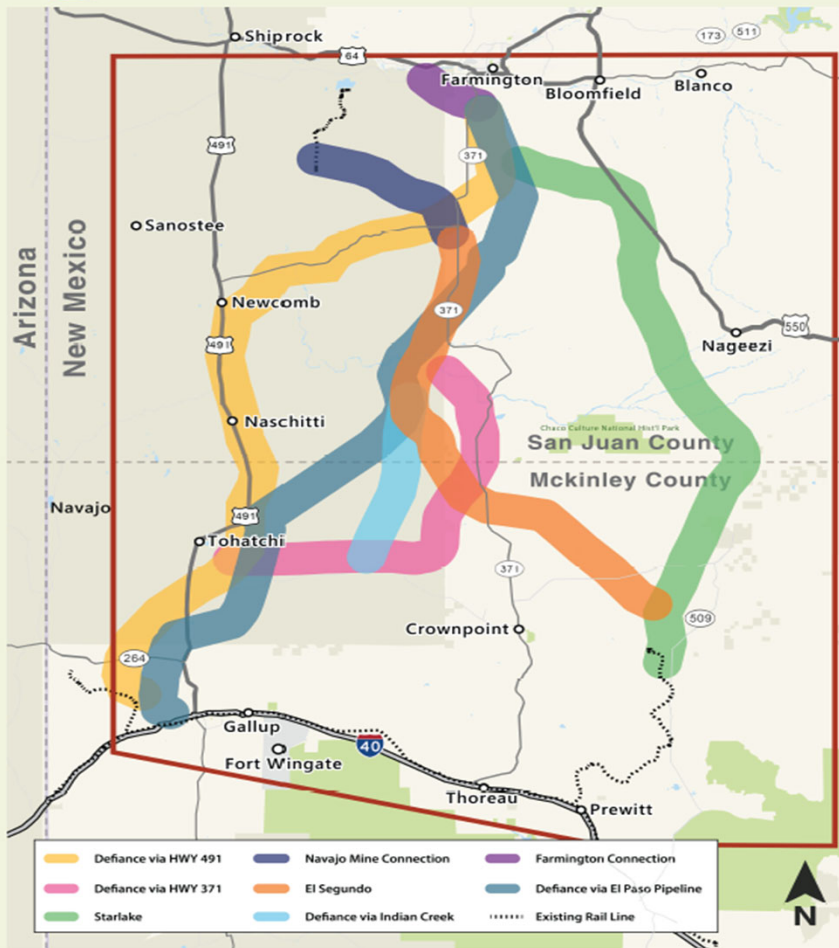
Freight rail can attract businesses looking to expand in the Four Corners region.

Potential Goods Shipped By Rail





Four Corners Freight Rail Feasibility Study



Recommended Alignment Routes



- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Defiance via HWY 491 | El Segundo |
| Defiance via HWY 371 | Defiance via Indian Creek |
| Starlake | Farmington Connection |
| Navajo Mine Connection | Existing Rail Line |



Public Involvement/ Agency Coordination

- Subcontract with Al Henderson, AHEC and Tom Chee, Consultant
- Outreach and consultation to 32 chapters that will likely be impacted by the project
- Presented to Navajo Nation elected leaders, NNC committees, departments, agencies and other interested parties
- Coordination with BNSF

Initial Public Information Meetings

Four Corners Freight Rail Feasibility Study



YOU'RE INVITED!

Public Information Meetings on the Four Corners Feasibility Study – September 13-14, 2022

San Juan County, the Navajo Nation, and the Federal Railroad Administration are studying the economic feasibility of freight rail service to the Four Corners region. The addition of this service would not only add freight rail to the region, but could also potentially reduce commercial traffic, decrease the potential for traffic accidents, and open up the doors of economic opportunity to the region.

The Four Corners Freight Rail Study Team is holding Public Information meetings to inform the study to the community and share information on what the project benefits are, the funding, and the study timeline.



Four Corners Freight Rail



Learn more and share your thoughts!

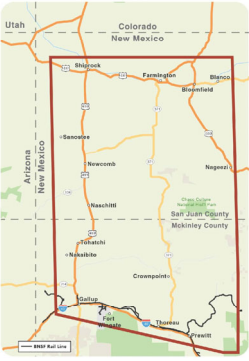
Public Invited to Informational Meetings on the Four Corners Freight Rail Feasibility Study

YOU'RE INVITED!

June 21 - 22, 2023

San Juan County, the Navajo Nation, and the Federal Railroad Administration are studying the economic feasibility of freight rail service to the Four Corners region. The addition of this service could potentially reduce commercial traffic, decrease the potential for traffic crashes, and open the doors of economic opportunity to the region.

The Four Corners Freight Rail Study Team invites you to participate in the second round of public meetings on Wednesday, June 21, and Thursday, June 22, 2023. The purpose of these meetings is to discuss potential route alignments and the study team's process. Your feedback is important and will help guide the development of this study.



STUDY AREA MAP



Persons with disabilities should contact Mike Stark at (505) 334-4273 to arrange for assistance. Individuals who require auxiliary aids or a translator for non-English speaking residents for this meeting should contact San Juan County at least two days before the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Public Information Meetings

Wednesday, June 21, 4 - 7 p.m.
Newcomb High School, US Highway 491
Newcomb, NM 87455

Thursday, June 22, 4 - 7 p.m.
Navajo Technical University, Lowerpoint Rd,
State Hwy 371 Crownpoint, NM 87313

Learn more at: www.4cornersfreightrail.com

- Two public information meetings held in September of 2022.
 - Sept 13th in Shiprock
 - Sept 14th in Farmington
- Two public information meetings held in June of 2023.
 - June 21 in Newcomb
 - June 22 in Crownpoint
- Meetings were to inform the public about the project.
- Received initial feedback from the public in attendance.

FY 2023-2024 CRISI Grant

In May 2024, San Juan County submitted a grant application and received \$4.0 million in federal funding from the USDOT FRA FY 2023-2024 Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) funding to advance the next phase of the Four Corners Freight Rail Project - which includes Preliminary Engineering (PE) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review. The State of New Mexico will provide \$1.0 million in non-federal matching funds.



The banner features a scenic landscape of a desert valley with a prominent, jagged rock formation in the background under a warm, orange-hued sky. In the top left corner, there is a logo consisting of a stylized sun with a train car in the center. To its right are the logos for San Juan County, New Mexico, and the New Mexico Department of Transportation.

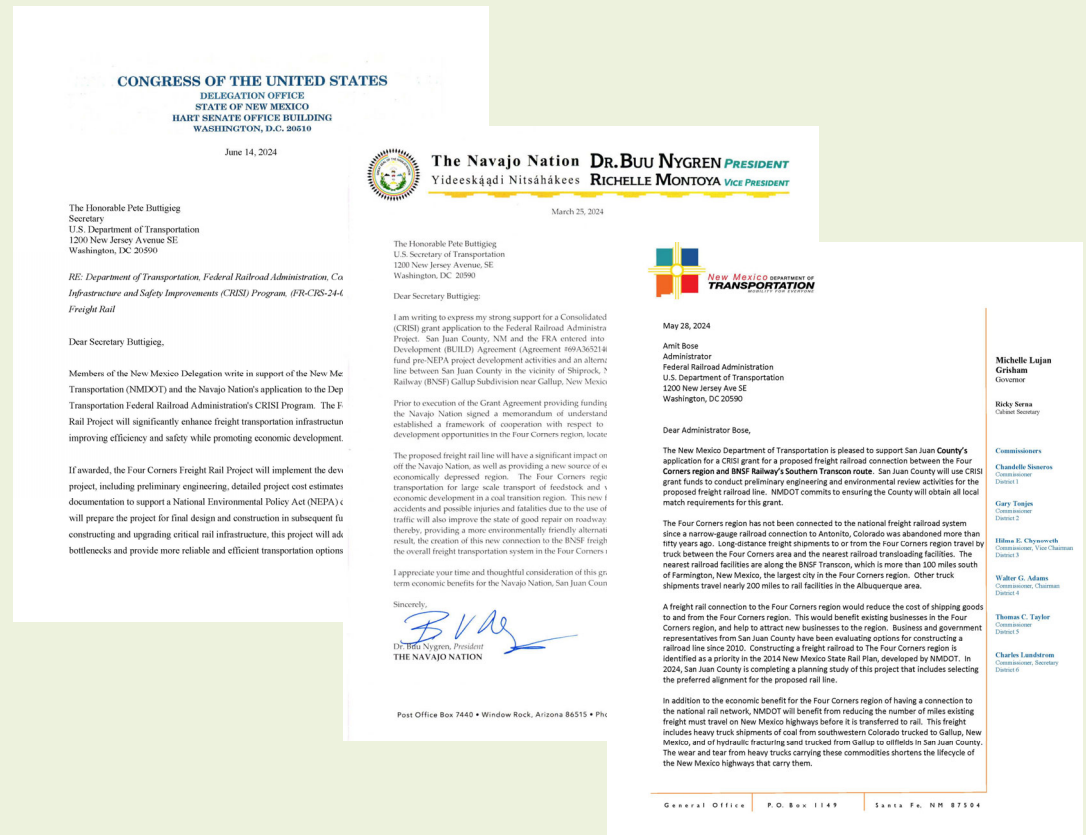
Four Corners Freight Rail Project

San Juan County, New Mexico
FY 2023-2024 Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and
Safety Improvements Program Grant Application

May 28, 2024

Letters of Support of the CRISI Grant Application

- New Mexico Congressional Delegation
- Navajo Nation
- New Mexico Department of Transportation



Tell us what you think & stay connected

- Take a moment to share your thoughts
- Sign up to receive study updates



Fill out a comment card, or just leave us your email address.
We'll add you to our contact list and ensure you get the latest updates and information about the Four Corners Freight Rail Line Feasibility Study.

Visit the website: **4CornersFreightRail.com**



info@4cornersfreightrail.com

Questions?



4 Corners Freight Rail
Feasibility Study