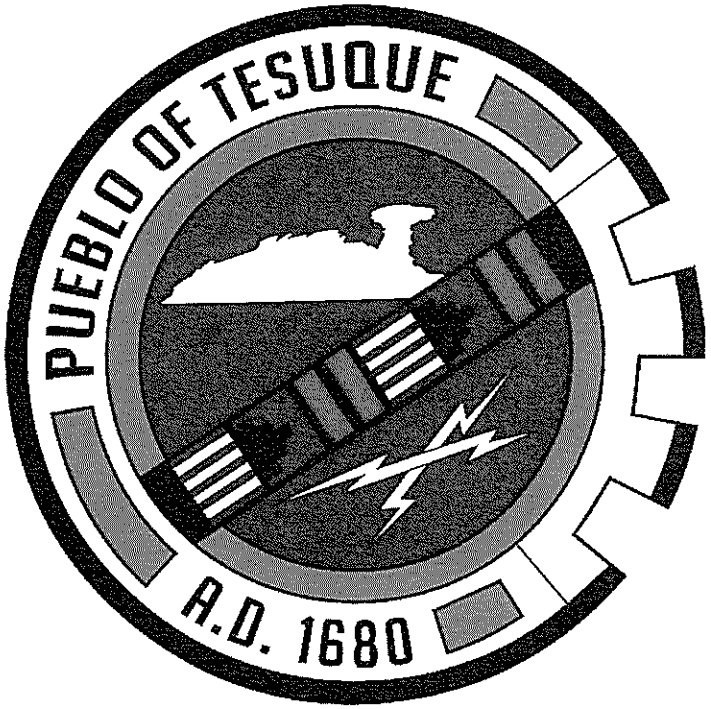
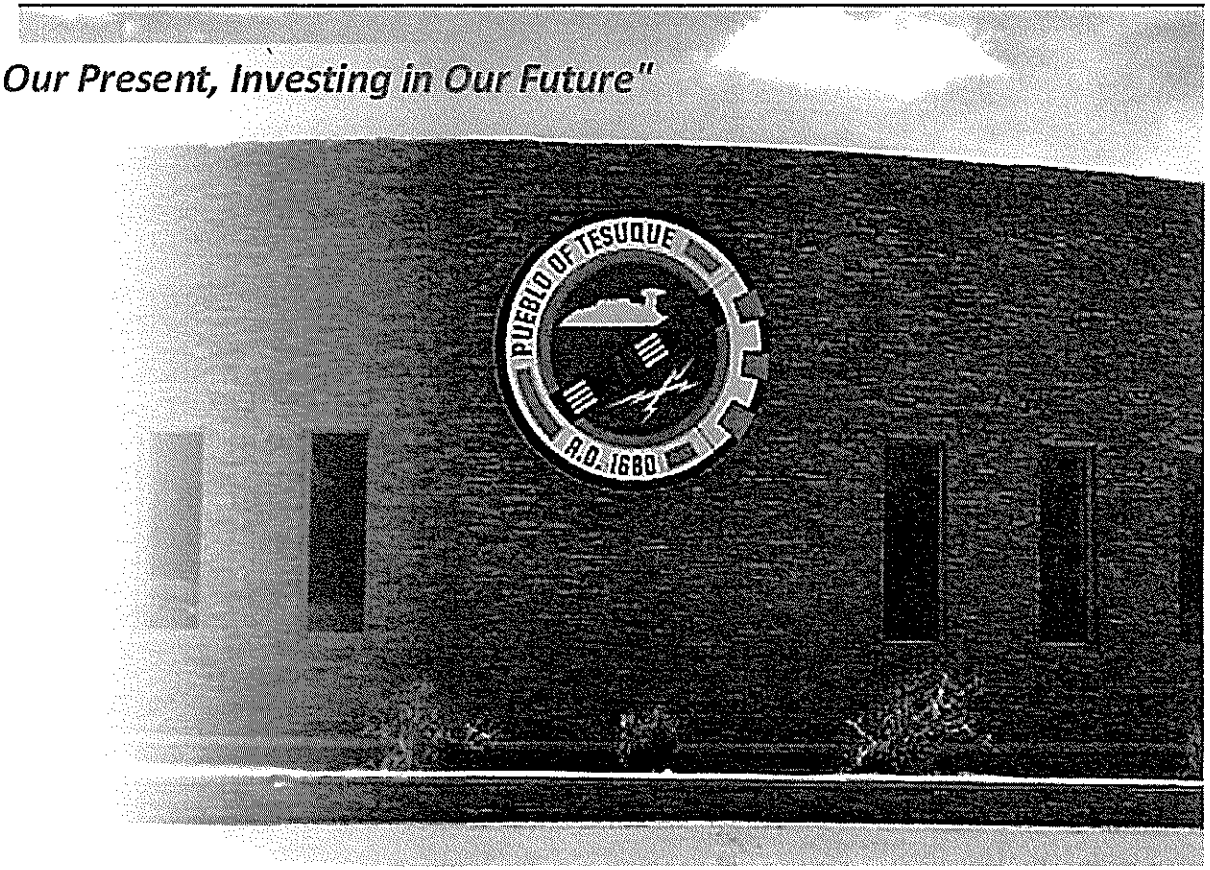
Pueblo of Tesuque Legislative Briefing – 2027 Session

Priorities for the New Mexico Legislature Committee



"Honoring Our Past, Building Our Present, Investing in Our Future"



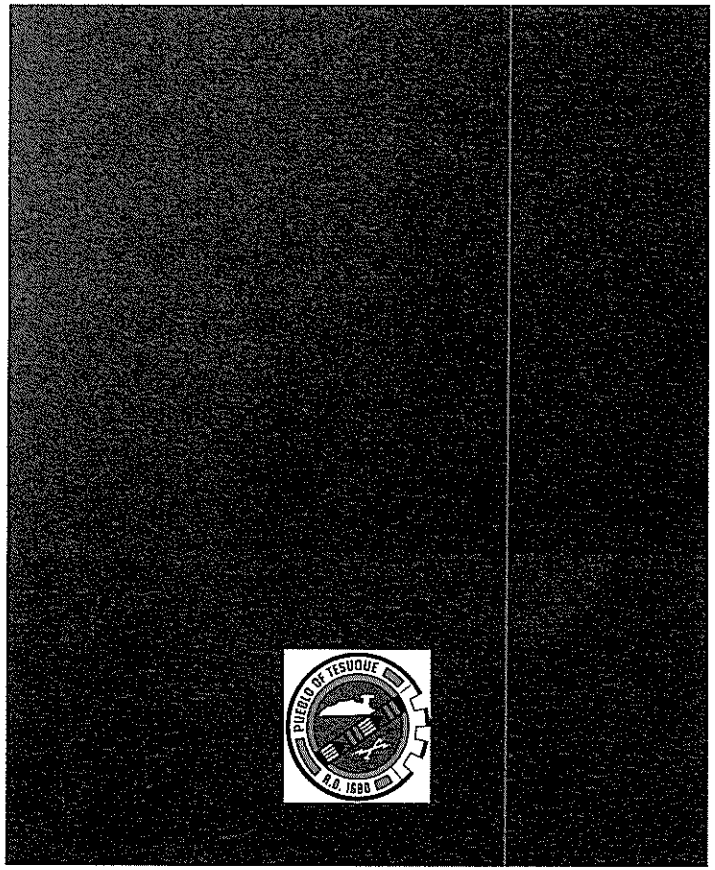
Pueblo of Tesuque Overview

•The Pueblo of Tesuque is a federally recognized sovereign Tribal Nation located north of Santa Fe, New Mexico.

•Our people have maintained a continuous connection to our ancestral homeland, traditions, language, and cultural practices for countless generations.

•The Pueblo is responsible for providing essential services, infrastructure, public safety, environmental stewardship, and community development for our community

•The Pueblo works collaboratively with federal, state, local, and Tribal partners to strengthen communities throughout Northern New Mexico.



- **Key Legislative Priorities**

- **Infrastructure Investments**

✓ Water Systems: Drinking Water
✓ Wastewater Infrastructure
✓ Housing Development
✓ Broadband Expansion:
✓ Community Facilities: Police Department, Cultural Preservation, Multipurpose, DENR, IGC and Utility Buildings

NM Tribal Infrastructure & Capital Outlay Spending
Water Infrastructure & Water Security

Challenges
- Aging infrastructure
- Drought impacts and reduced water supplies
- Increasing demand for reliable drinking water
- Watershed degradation and wildfire impacts

Legislative Requests
- **Funding for water system improvements**
- **Watershed restoration investments**
- **Water conservation infrastructure**
- **Regional water planning partnerships**

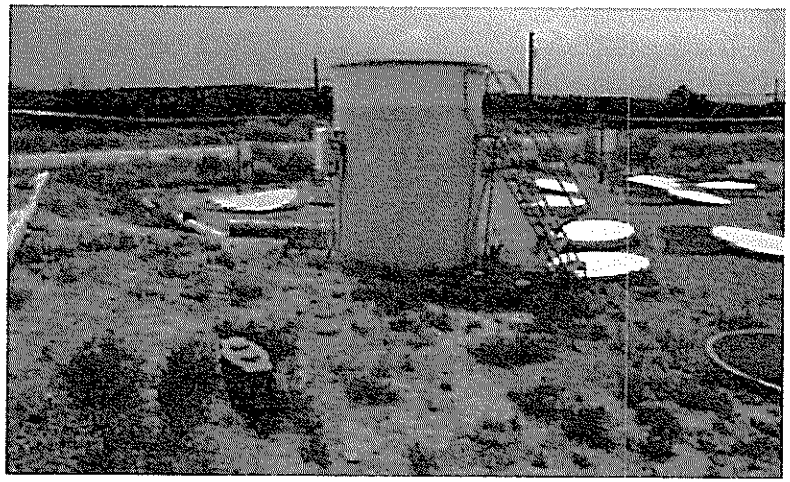
Outcomes
- Reliable drinking water
- Improved public health
- Increased drought resilience
- Long-term water security

Agriculture & Food Sovereignty
Community Priorities
- Traditional agriculture
- Seed preservation
- Irrigation modernization
- Greenhouse expansion

Legislative Opportunities
- Agricultural infrastructure funding
- Drought resilience programs
- Food security investments
- Traditional farming support

Received NM Match $249,000
Reverted back June 30, 2026
Re-applied for NM Match funds, awaiting response

Legislative Requests
NEED Matching to secure remaining funds
$749,000



Budget & Funding Strategy

Project Cost Estimate for 2026 from IHS was at $6,292,000.00.

Funding Source	Purpose	Amount Awarded	Status
Indian Health Service	Planning	$175,000	In Progress
EPA State & Tribal Set a Side Grant (STAG)	Planning & Design (may include small portion of construction	$959,752.00	In Progress
Congressional Direct Spending Army Corp of Engineers	Construction	$1,000,000	Not awarded through the Community Project Funding this budget cycle
NM Tribal Infrastructure Funds	Construction	$5,127,248.00	Not awarded in 2025. Will reapply in 2026

Wastewater Treatment Plant Replacement

Critical Need

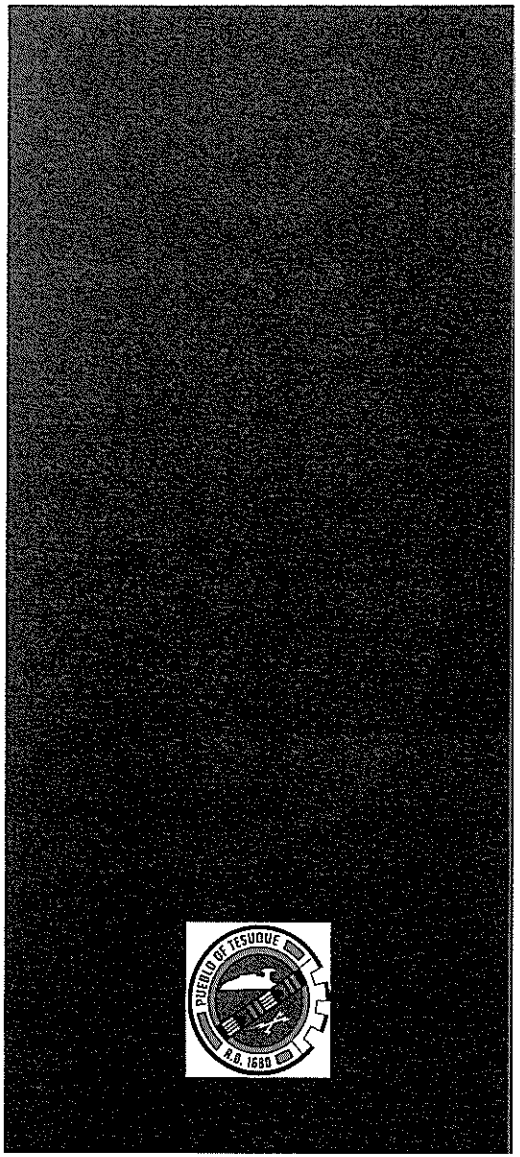
- Aging infrastructure

Current wastewater infrastructure requires modernization to:

- Protect groundwater resources
- Meet environmental compliance requirements
- Accommodate future growth
- Improve operational efficiency

Legislative Priorities

- Capital outlay funding
- Engineering and design support
- Construction funding assistance
- Long-term infrastructure sustainability



Tribal Facilities & Community Infrastructure

Police Department, Multipurpose Facility, DENR, IGC and Utility Buildings

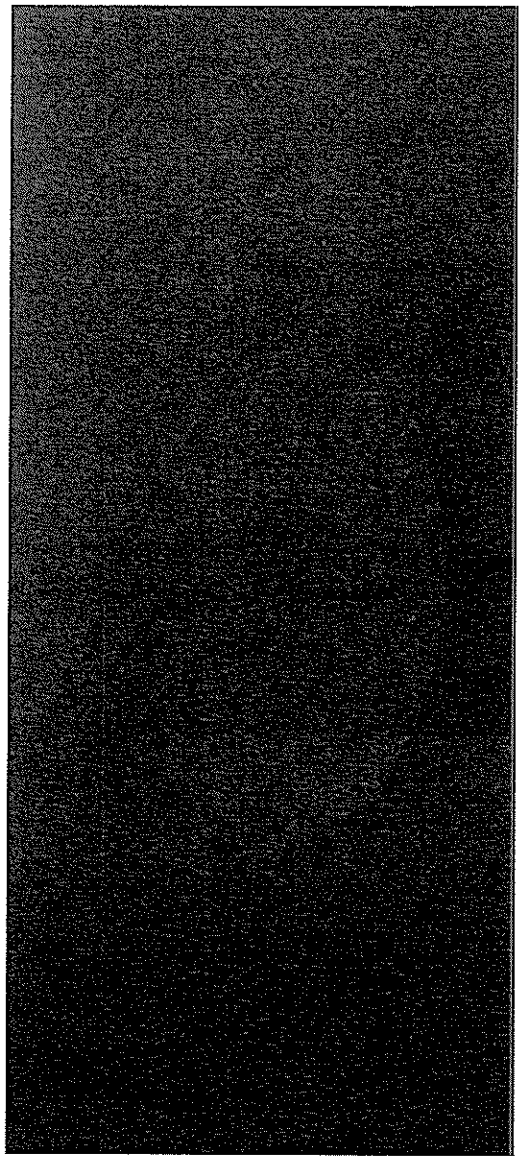
- Supports:
- Workforce development
- Education and training
- Emergency operations
- Community meetings
- Public services
- Equipment and Vehicle Storage

Cultural Preservation Facility

- Supports:
- Historic preservation
- Museum exhibits
- Archive protection
- Language preservation
- Community cultural programming

Legislative Need

For the majority of the projects planning & designs are completed. Continued capital investment for construction & roof repair funds for community facilities.



Broadband & Digital Equity

Importance of Broadband

- Broadband is essential infrastructure.
- Supports:
- Education
- Telehealth
- Remote employment
- Emergency communications
- Economic development

Legislative Requests

Continued funding support for:

- **Expansion of rural broadband networks**
- **Tribal last-mile connectivity**
- **Digital inclusion programs**
- **Technology workforce training**

Pueblo of Tesuque Priority
Tesuque North Subdivision Development
Plaza Restoration – Homes

Challenges

- Housing shortages
- Overcrowding
- Multi-generational families in limited space
- Rising construction costs
- Construction of additional homes
- Infrastructure expansion
- Workforce housing opportunities
- Improved quality of life

Benefits

- Family stability
- Community growth
- Economic development
- Reduced overcrowding

Legislative Need

Continued capital investment for construction funds for the development of affordable homes.



2026 FALL Tribal Infrastructure Funds Request

The below listed application(s) was(were) not selected this cycle. We will send an additional email with feedback on the application.

Pueblo of Tesuque Wastewater Treatment and Beneficial Reuse Improvements	$7,425,000.00
Pueblo of Tesuque Utility Department Operations Facility	$3,740,000.00
Pueblo of Tesuque Water Distribution System Improvements	

Legislative Need
Continued capital investment for remaining construction funds for Utility Department Operations Facility. $1,809,000.00

Thank you for applying to the Fall 2026 TIF cycle.

The below listed application(s) was(were) not selected this cycle. We will send an additional email with feedback on the application.

As you are aware, the funds available for this cycle were due to House Bill 247 (2026) Capital Outlay Changes, codified at NMSA 1978, §6-4-1.1. The available funding was unknown at the time of the Notice of Funding Availability, published July 28, 2026. The TIF Review Committee reviewed and scored 48 eligible applications, totaling $181,986,564.45 in requested funding.

The available funding is $5,168,118.24.

- 2028
- Capital Outlay Priorities

Legislative Request:

Support Tribal Capital Outlay Priorities

Year

2028

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Priority	Year	Project Title	Date Created	Start Date
1	2028	Law Enforcement Complex	8/29/2025	7/01/2027
2	2028	IGC Roof Repair	6/30/2026	7/01/2026
3	2028	Utility Dept Cmplx Construct	8/29/2025	7/01/2027
4	2028	Wastewater Collections and Treatment Equipment	8/29/2025	7/01/2026
5	2028	Plaza Restoration	8/29/2025	7/01/2027
6	2028	Flood/Erosion Control/ Diversion Dams	8/29/2025	7/01/2027
7	2028	Irrigation Well	8/29/2025	7/01/2027
8	2028	Natural Resource Dept Infrastructure Improvements	8/29/2025	7/01/2027
9	2028	Information Technology Data Center	8/29/2025	7/01/2026
10	2028	Multi Purpose Facility Building Construction	7/1/2026	7/01/2027
11	2028	Cultural Building Construction	7/1/2026	7/01/2027
12	2028	Administration building repair/maintenance roof &stucco	6/30/2026	6/30/2026
13	2028	Tesuque North Sub Division - Home Construction	7/1/2026	7/01/2027
14	2028	Electric vehicle Plug Ins	7/1/2026	7/01/2027

Protecting the Pueblo of Tesuque Tribal Sovereignty: Opposition to Senate Bill 5653, the Bipartisan American Affordability and Jobs Act of 2026 (BAAJA)

S. 5653 Threaten our Tribal Sovereignty

- Senate Bill 5653 fast-tracks energy and infrastructure projects by dismantling environmental and historic preservation safeguards.
- Circumvents meaningful government-to-government consultation required with sovereign Tribal Nations under federal law.

Erosion of NHPA & Section 106 Reviews

- Section 2301 makes cultural resource consultation optional for federal agencies.
- Mandates agencies ignore auditory and visual impacts on sacred grounds
- Imposes tight 30 to 90-day deadlines that truncate thorough field surveys.

Clean Water Act Deregulation

- SB 5653 stalls regulations on toxic PFAS and tire chemicals in permitting, while restricting Tribal authority under Section 401 to safeguard reservation waters.
- Curtails State and Tribal certification authority over water quality standard enforcement for major industrial projects.

Legislative Requests

- **Protect government-to-government consultation and preserve sacred cultural heritage.**
- **Real permitting reform requires collaborative Tribal leadership.**

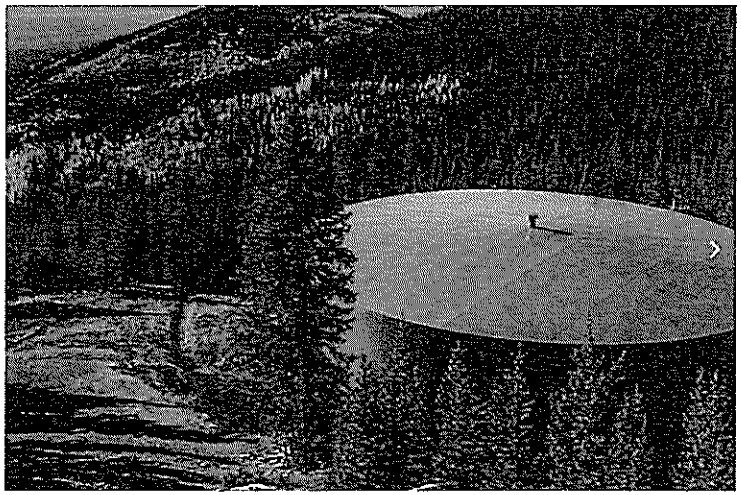
Project Certainty

Refers to a provision in the Bipartisan American Affordability and Jobs Act of 2026 that would lock in existing environmental standards and prohibit federal agencies from altering permits or actions that could "interfere" with a project's "operation at full capacity"

Example: Project Jupiter & LANL's Modernization Project (Project Genesis)

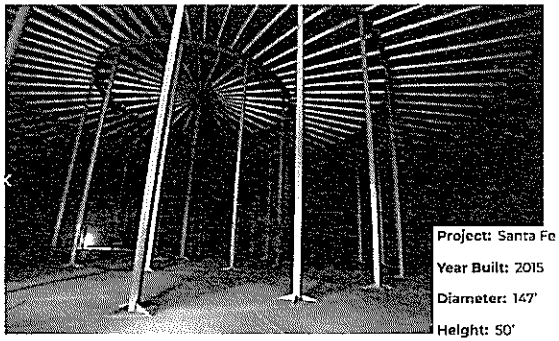
Will allow all permitted projects to be grandfathered in without federal, state or tribe review.

Protecting the Tesuque Watershed: Opposition to Ski Basin Snowmaking Water Tank



Protecting a Sacred and Critical Watershed
The upper Tesuque Watershed is the primary source of water for the Pueblo of Tesuque community, wildlife habitat, traditional cultural resources, and downstream ecosystems. Increased water withdrawals for artificial snowmaking threaten the long-term sustainability of this already stressed watershed.

Existing Climate and Drought Challenges
- Northern New Mexico continues to experience prolonged drought conditions.
- Reduced snowpack and earlier spring runoff have diminished natural water availability.
- Climate change is increasing water scarcity and placing additional pressure on watersheds throughout the region.



Project: Santa Fe Ski Area, NM
Year Built: 2015
Diameter: 147'
Height: 50'
Capacity: 5MG

Concerns with the Proposed Snowmaking Water Tank
- Increased diversion and storage of water for recreational purposes.
- Potential reduction in streamflows necessary for watershed health.
- Greater impacts on aquatic habitat, riparian vegetation, and wildlife.
- Prioritization of commercial recreation over community, cultural, and environmental water needs.
- Long-term cumulative impacts have not been fully evaluated.

Watershed Protection Must Be the Priority
The Tesuque Watershed:
- Supports community drinking water sources.
- Protects culturally significant landscapes and traditional use areas.
- Provides critical wildlife habitat and biodiversity.
- Serves as a natural buffer against wildfire and post-fire flooding.

Protection of the Española Basin Aquifer System

Sole Source Resource

Primary groundwater source for Northern NM communities, including Pueblo of San Ildefonso, Santa Clara, Ohkay Owingeh, Tesuque, Pojoaque, Nambé, City of Santa Fe, and Española.

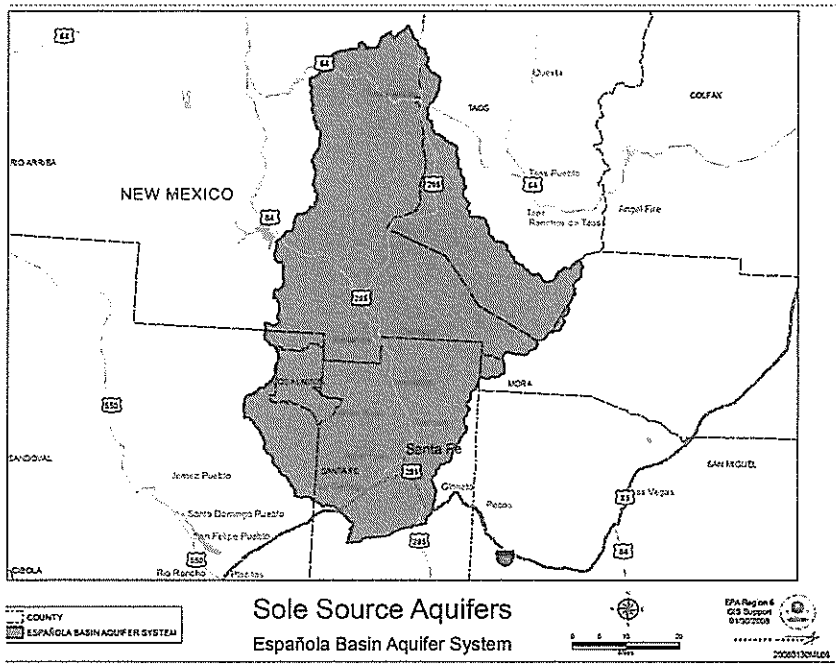
- Sustains perennial Rio Grande baseflow
- Feeds historical acequia agricultural systems
- Supports unquantified Pueblo aboriginal water rights

Hydrogeological Overview & Vulnerabilities

Compounding pressures from industrial contamination plumes, climate-driven recharge decline, and regional over-pumping.

- LANL Hexavalent Chromium & RDX plume migration risk
- Depletion of shallow alluvial aquifers affecting domestic wells
- Preemption risks from federal permitting acceleration

Legislative Recommendations: The Española Basin aquifer is under active contamination risk from a documented hexavalent chromium plume, compounded by its complex geology and limited alternative water sources. Immediate, coordinated action on cleanup, monitoring, and funding is critical to protect drinking water supplies.



Why Legislative Partnership Matters

State investments help the Pueblo:

- Modernize critical water and wastewater infrastructure.
- Address housing shortages and overcrowding.
- Expand broadband and digital access.
- Preserve cultural and natural resources

Investing in Tribal Communities Strengthens New Mexico
Healthy Lands, Healthy Waters, Healthy Comunities, Strong Tribal Nations

Thank You
Pueblo of Tesuque