

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND OTHER
3 GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES UNDERTAKE A HEALTH STUDY OF RESIDENTS
4 IN THE FOUR CORNERS AREA OF THE STATE, WITH EMPHASIS ON
5 RESPIRATORY ILLNESSES.

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7 WHEREAS, there are presently two coal-fired power plants
8 operating in the Four Corners region of the Navajo Nation
9 that generate significant amounts of air pollution; and

10 WHEREAS, there is a proposal to construct an additional
11 coal-fired power plant in the Four Corners region of the
12 Navajo Nation that may increase current levels of air
13 pollution in that region; and

14 WHEREAS, there are reports that residents of the Four
15 Corners region of the state suffer respiratory illnesses at a
16 rate that is significantly higher than that experienced by
17 state residents in general; and

18 WHEREAS, there may be a connection between the rate of
19 respiratory illnesses among residents of the Four Corners
20 region of the state and the levels of air pollution in that
21 region, but no studies have been undertaken to establish
22 whether such a relationship exists;

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
24 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the department of health, in
25 cooperation with other appropriate state, tribal and federal

1 agencies, be requested to undertake a health study of
2 residents in the Four Corners region of the state, with an
3 emphasis on respiratory illnesses; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
5 transmitted to the governor, the secretary of health, the
6 secretary of Indian affairs, the president of the Navajo
7 Nation, the speaker of the Navajo Nation council, the federal
8 assistant secretary for Indian affairs and the director of the
9 Navajo area of the Indian health service. _____

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