

THE NAVAJO TRIBE

WINDOW ROCK, ARIZONA

RAYMOND NAKAI
CHAIRMAN, Navajo Tribal Council

NELSON DAMON
VICE CHAIRMAN, Navajo Tribal Council

September 25, 1964



Mrs. Laura Gilpin
Box 1173
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear Mrs. Gilpin:

Herewith is the information I promised:

1. Uranium

The uranium production had its peak in 1962 when approximately 379,000 tons was produced. The decline in production is quite noticable in the present fiscal year 1964, producing 68,832 tons. The employment situation in the uranium mines and processing mills has also changed wherein at the peak between 1958 and 1963 there were approximately 400 Navajos employed. Fiscal year 1964 showed a substantial drop of employment, presently there are 225 Navajos employed in the mines and mills.

2. Saw mill

I believe I have given you some information on this and that is the old mill production was approximately 18 million board feet per annum. The present production of the sawmill has more than doubled this figure. The employment has also been doubled from the old to the new. Presently we have 416 Navajos employed in the mill and the woods, with 44 non-Navajos which makes a total of 460 employees. The annual income to the Navajo Tribe from the timber and manufacturing operation is approximately \$410,000 net per annum predicted over the next 5 years subject of course to the lumber market conditions.

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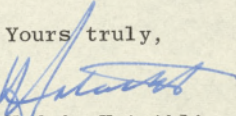
3. Oil and gas

In the oil and gas leasing business with the Tribe very little employment is realized since this is a highly technical field and very few of the oil companies have employed the Navajos, mostly as common laborers or rostadabouts. The income from the oil and gas leasing is very difficult to predict. The peak period was in 1957 when lease bonuses amounted to \$35 million.

From 1957 to 1963 this has dropped tremendously but the annual royalty has increased to approximately \$12 million a year. This past fiscal year 1964 the Tribe realized a little over \$25 million in bonuses. The future of the oil and gas business does not look too bright at the present time unless we get a new find in the Black Mesa Basin.

I hope that this information will help you to finish up your work and that before it goes to press I would have the privilege of reviewing same.

Yours truly,



Ned A. Hatathli
Director
Resources Division