

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

May 1, 2019

The Honorable Donald Trump  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Trump:

We respectfully request that you take prompt action on Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez' request for a major disaster declaration resulting from historic snowstorms and subsequent flooding that occurred between February 21-24, 2019.

The Navajo Nation began monitoring two impending snowstorms on February 17, 2019, and preparing to manage and mitigate the impacts of those storms on local Navajo Communities. Between February 20-22, 2019, the Navajo Nation experienced heavy snowfall and historic snow accumulations. Among the Navajo Nation's 110 Chapters, 37 reported adverse road conditions that required debris removal, welfare check ups of stranded Navajo citizens and/or emergency deliveries of food and firewood.

Thousands of Navajo Nation Citizens live traditionally without power, or water, or both. For them, these snowstorms and subsequent flooding were life-threatening because they prevented access to food, water, heating, and medical treatment. If the Local Government Chapters and the Navajo Nation Government had not expended a significant amount of their emergency funds, President Nez believes the results would have been catastrophic and deadly.

Native communities deserve full and complete protection of their resources, land, and livelihoods. Recovering from this incident will require a full and coordinated approach. Thank you for your attention to this important request.

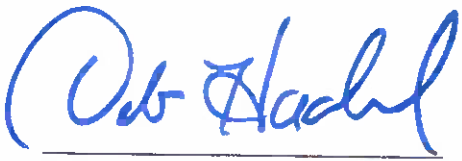
Sincerely,



Martin Heinrich  
United States Senator



Tom Udall  
United States Senator

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Deb Haaland  
United States Representative

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ben Ray Lujan", written over a horizontal line.

Ben Ray Luján  
United States Representative

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Xochitl Torres Small", written over a horizontal line.

Xochitl Torres Small  
United States Representative