# Navajo Nation Trust Funds ASU Tempe Campus

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# PERMANENT TRUST FUND HISTORY

**BY PETERSON ZAH** 

#### A SEED IS PLANTED

1985 - NN received \$217 million.

- Result of the NN taxation program put into full operation.
- NN just won the Kerr-McGee v. Navajo Nation case - U.S. Supreme Court
- NN renegotiated all coal, pipeline right of way, oil and gas leases
- Increased royalty payments to NN

### Questions

What do the Navajo people and Council do with \$217 million?

Keep in mind the needs of the Navajo people in 1985 are the same today....

# CJY-53-85: AUTHORIZATION OF PERMANENT FUND

- 1985 N.N. Tribal Council created and authorized a Permanent Fund for the N. N.
- Each year 12% of all projected Tribal revenue is invested into the Fund
- No fund income shall be expended for a period of 20 years from date of first contribution (1986-2007)

### Continue...

- Thereafter, 95% of the fund income may be expended in accordance with a plan for its use covering at least a 5 year period. The plan would be approved by N.N. Council resolution provided that the expenditure of income in any fiscal year shall not exceed the income earned that year.
- Remaining 5% of income would be reinvested in the Permanent Fund
- All expensed directly associated with the administration and management of the fund shall be paid from the fund income expenses, such as payment to investment advisor and management fees.

#### **DEFINITIONS**

PRINCIPLE = Fund deposited for investment

FUND INCOME = Interest generated from the principle

## Purpose of the Permanent Fund

- Permanent Fund was established to provide a future source of income (\$) to replace the depleting natural resources (coals, oil, gas)
- Permanent Fund would generate interest from tribal contributions to rebuild the reserve (\$) for future use.



# Permanent Fund Work Group Members (2002)

- Peterson Zah (Chairperson) Ft. Defiance Agency
- Peggy Scott (Vice-Chairperson) NN Office of OPVP Designee
- ▶ Dr. Manley Begay Jr. Speaker NNC Designee
- Robert Billy Whitehorse Shiprock Agency
- Alfred Yazzie Chinle Agency
- Walter Begay Jr. Western Navajo Agency
- Bennie Cohoe Eastern Navajo Agency

#### NNC established the PFWG

To create the first 5 year plan for expendable income from the Permanent Fund

#### **Local Governance Trust Fund**

- CD-84-00 established the Local Governance Trust Fund (LGTF).
- Fiscal Year 2007 the LGTF will receive 50% of the Permanent Fund Income for Certified Chapters
- Only 45% of the Permanent Fund Income will be available to plan for by the Permanent Fund Work Group
- > 5% will be reinvested

# Purpose of Public Hearing

The purpose of this public hearing is to provide <u>public</u> education and to get public input and recommendation on the proposed use of the Permanent Fund.



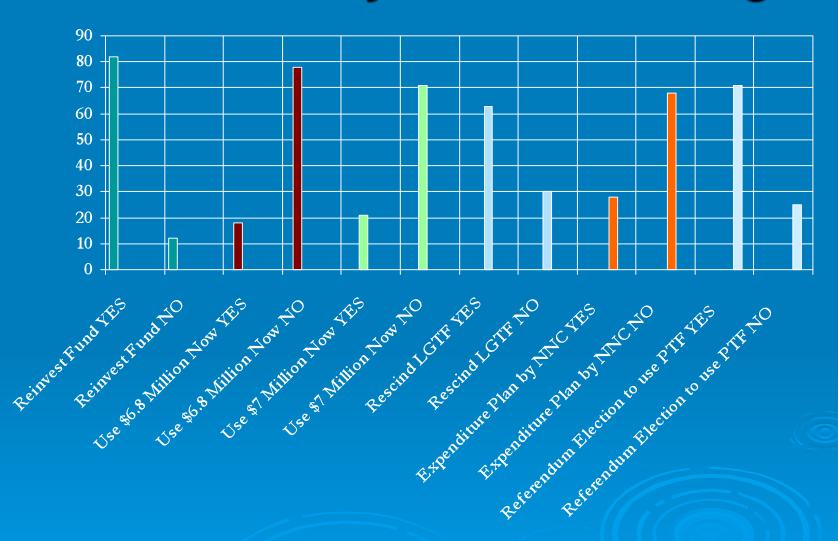
### Public Hearing Locations: 2003

- > 6/5/03 Ft. Wingate
- > 6/14/03 Phoenix
- > 6/21/03 Tuba City
- > 6/28/03 Shiprock

- > 8/17/03 Albuquerque
- > 9/13/03 Phoenix
- > 10/11/03 Oak Springs

- > 7/11/03 Ft. Defiance
- > 7/12/03 Chinle
- > 7/26/03 Kayenta

# Results of Survey& Public Hearings



### 5 Recommendations - PFWG

- Develop a vision with a strategic plan for the NN
- 2. Reinvest PF for 5 years
- 3. Repeal diversion of PF income by LGTF
- Resist further diversion and collateralization of PF
- Establish a mechanism for determining future expenditures of PF income

# Who Takes Care of Navajo Trust Fund Money? (3/97)

#### **Fixed Income Managers**

- Barrow, Hanley, Mewhinney & Strauss, Inc.
- Sovran Capital Management

# Investment Consultant/ Advisor

R.V. Kuhn & Associates

#### **Custodian Bank**

Northern Trust Company

#### **Equity Managers**

- Newbold's Asset Management
- Chancellor LGT Asset Management
- Smith Barney Capital Management

The Permanent Trust Fund belongs to the Navajo People. If we all Protect and take care of these funds, it could last forever.

Under Navajo Tribal law, the only way the principle trust funds can be taken out of the bank is if two-thirds of the Navajo Nation Council votes to do so, and two-thirds of the Navajo people (registered voters) approve it through a referendum vote.

# 8 TRUST FUNDS ESTABLISHED 1984 – 1986

- 1.) Chapter Government Nation Building Fund
  - = \$60,000,000 million
  - -Interest earned & distributed to 110 chapters each year
- 2.) College Scholarship Fund
  - = \$20,000,000 million
  - Interest earned & distributed for students use
- 3.) Vocation Education Scholarship
  - = \$6,000,000 million

#### Continue...

- 4.) Handicap able Trust Fund
  - = \$7,000,000 million
- 5.) Elderly Senior Citizens Trust Fund
  - = \$7,000,000 million
- 6.) Navajo Academy/Preparatory School
  - =\$1,000,000 million
- 7.) Land Acquisition Funds (est. 1993)
  - = \$50,000,000 million
- 8.) Permanent Fund
  - =\$958,000,000 million (expected to reach \$1 billion summer of 2007)

# **NNC Committee Proposals**

#### 2 EXAMPLES

- Budget & Finance Committee established a sub-committee on the Permanent Fund and recommended using Fund income to build more jails, pay off loans, and debts.
- Judiciary Committee had indicated using the Fund income to build Tribal Courts

# How Can Kee & Bah Make A Difference?

- Educate self, family, friends
- Voice concerns written & verbal to your chapters/delegates/NN officials
- Attend meetings
- Keep informed via newspapers, chapter & council reports
- Insist your NN elected officials be accountable to their constitutes.

"KNOWLEDGE IS POWER"

"EDUCATION IS OUR WEAPON"

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# Your Input

# Additional

# Major U.S Coal Mines

Data for: 2005 September 2007 Next Release Date:

From the Energy Information Administration Official Energy Statistics of the U.S. Government

- # 16 Navajo Mine/BHP Navajo Coal Co.
- # 19 Kayenta Mine/Peabody Western Coal Co.
- > #20 San Juan South/San Juan Coal Co.
- #37 McKinley/Pittsburg & Midway Coal Mining

# Mining Companies on Navajo

- > BHP Billiton
- Peabody Coal Company
- > Four Corners Mine
- > P & M Mine