

PROCLAMATION OF STATE OF LOCAL DISASTER

Pursuant to the authority vested in me under Southern Ute Resolution Number 2004-225, I, Ramona Eagle, Acting Chairman of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe do hereby proclaim a state of local disaster on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation as set forth herein.

1. Background and Need

- (a) The Tribal Risk and Emergency Manager has advised me of a disaster (as that term is defined in Part 1 of the Southern Ute Emergency Operations Plan, Section IV, A, 2, a.) present on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation, to wit, the occurrence or imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury or loss of life or property resulting from water contamination caused from a large release of mine waste water, which was triggered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), on August 5, 2015, from the Gold King Mine into Cement Creek and subsequently into the Animas River, requiring emergency action to avert loss of life, danger or damage, including but not limited to unknown economic, environmental, financial and natural resources impacts.
- (b) The cost and magnitude of responding to and recovery from the impact of the water contamination from the Gold King Mine Animas River Spill, caused by the EPA on August 5, 2015, that may occur in 2015 is far in excess of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe's available resources.

2. Scope

- (a) The water contamination from the Gold King Mine Animas River Spill on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation, caused by the EPA on August 5, 2015, constitutes a local disaster for purposes of Resolution 2004-225.
- (b) The effect of this declaration of local disaster shall be to activate the response and recovery aspects of any and all applicable local and interjurisdictional disaster emergency plans and to authorize the furnishing of aid and assistance under such plans.

3. Recommendation

I recommend that the state of local disaster declared herein be continued for a period in excess of seven days and that the Southern Ute Tribal Council consider such recommendation at its August 11, 2015, meeting.

Dated this 8th day of August, 2015.


Ms. Ramona Eagle, Acting Chairman
Southern Ute Indian Tribe