

**NAVAJO NATION ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ENFORCEMENT DEPARTMENT
PLAN OF OPERATION**

I. ESTABLISHMENT

The Environmental Law Enforcement Department is hereby established as a department within the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency of the Navajo Nation government.

II. PURPOSE

The Environmental Law Enforcement Department is established for the purpose of protecting the public health and the environment of the Navajo Nation through enforcement actions, inspections, investigations, monitoring activities, collection of data and evidence, obtaining funding, public education, and other appropriate means.

III. STAFFING AND ORGANIZATION

A. DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR

The Environmental Law Enforcement Department shall be administered by a Department Director, and the Department Director shall have overall supervisory authority over the department. The Department Director shall report directly to the Executive Director of the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency.

B. PERSONNEL

I. The Department Director shall be responsible for all personnel decisions within the department. The Department Director is authorized to fill enforcement, professional, technical, secretarial, and clerical positions as necessary to fulfill the purposes of the Enforcement Department. All departmental personnel shall be employed and compensated in accordance with Navajo Nation Personnel Policies and Procedures.

- II. Enforcement personnel, after completion of a certified law enforcement training course, may be commissioned by the Executive Director of the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency at the Executive Director's discretion, and thereby have all lawful authority of the Executive Director to enforce the laws of the Navajo Nation.

IV. AUTHORITY

The Environmental Law Enforcement Department shall have only such regulatory, monitoring, and enforcement authority as specifically delegated in writing by the Executive Director of the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency under the laws of the Navajo Nation. The Environmental Law Enforcement Department is authorized to:

- (1) Oversee the activities of the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency's environmental law enforcement personnel and other programs and personnel which the Executive Director of the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency deems necessary to accomplish the Department's purposes.
- (2) Formulate administrative and operating policies and procedures pertaining to the Department and the Department's programs.
- (3) Prepare development plans and annual budgets for the Department and the Department's programs.
- (4) Conduct periodic reviews of the Department and the Department's programs.
- (5) Negotiate contracts which must be submitted to the Executive Director of the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency for final approval before seeking the approval of the appropriate committee or committees.
- (6) Seek funding and negotiate grants, which must be submitted to the Executive Director of the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency for final approval before seeking the approval of the appropriate committee or committees.
- (7) Provide public education regarding the protection of the public health and the environment of the Navajo Nation.
- (8) Enforce all Navajo Nation laws that protect the quality of the Navajo Nation environment.

- (9) Coordinate with Federal, County, State, and Tribal law enforcement agencies to enforce laws that protect the quality of the Navajo Nation environment.
- (10) Conduct inspections, investigations, and monitoring activities and collect data and evidence of violations of Navajo Nation laws which protect the environment of the Navajo Nation.
- (11) Conduct any other activities relevant to the protection of the public health and the environment of the Navajo Nation.

V. LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT

Pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 1926, the Resources Committee serves as the legislative oversight committee for the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency, and consequently the Resources Committee shall serve as the legislative oversight committee for the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency's Environmental Law Enforcement Department.

VI. AMENDMENTS

This Plan of Operation may be amended by the Government Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council upon the recommendation of the Resources Committee of the Navajo Nation Council.