

**Joint Village Strategic Planning  
MEETING NOTES  
Tuesday, September 6, 2022  
10 AM MST  
Zoom Videoconference and Telephone**

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Brian Cole at 10:17 am MST.

**2. Self-introductions**

Meeting attendees included Claudina Burgener, Andrew Gashwazra, Ronald Honahni, Waylon Honga, Hubert Lewis, Le Roy Shingoitewa, Sam Shingoitewa, Hillis Tootsie, Oriel Tootsie, and Brian Cole.

**3. Planning and Initiatives**

**a. Approach to Congress for \$1.2 Billion**

**i. Repurposing ONHIR**

No report.

**b. Coordination with Chairman/Vice Chairman/Tribal Council**

Hubert Lewis asked about the status of the 2021 resolution and the 2022 resolution both passed by the Hopi Tribal Council. He was asking for clarification on how JVSP was responding to the resolutions. The group responded that Andrew Gashwazra was a regular attendee of the Hopi Water Energy Team and Hopi Land Commission meetings. In addition, JVSP would be developing a monthly report to be submitted to both of the Commissions. This report which is attached as Attachment A will be distributed to Tribal Council members.

Claudina Burgener responded that she believed that JVSP was doing what was requested of the Tribal Council. Hubert Lewis wanted to make sure that the two identified committees were the correct committees.

**i. Village Resolutions of Support for JVSP**

Both UMV and YPC indicated that they would be considering and probably approving the resolution within the next week or two.

Andrew Gashwazra stated that Cole should send the draft resolution directly to the VML board.

**c. Strategic Plans and Federal Budget Request Update**

No report.

**d. Moenkopi Water Development Projects**

Hubert Lewis inquired as to the timing of the “bid opening” for MUA projects. Brian Cole responded that his understanding was that it was not a “bid opening,” but rather a pre-bid conference. The meeting would take place on September 15. Governor Honahni indicated he would find out about the specific time and location of the meeting and notify his board.

**i. Approach to Hopi Tribe for ARPA Funding**

Governor Ronald Honahni stated that he was aware of Attachments D and E of the agenda and the Action Item would be considered at a forthcoming meeting of the Upper Moenkopi Village Board.

Le Roy Shingoitewa stated it would be wise for the village to approve the resolution. Governor Honahni indicated that he anticipated his Board would take up both the JVSP support resolution as well as the ARPA resolution at their next meeting.

**ii. Congressional Budget Allocation**

No report.

**e. Water Well #9 Study**

No report.

**f. HTHA Outreach and Response**

No report.

**g. Telecommunications Report**

Sam Shingoitewa stated that he continues to monitor and utilize Starlink. He stated that the Federal Communications Commission has recently made a decision that Starlink services are not eligible for the federal discount. Sam Shingoitewa and Le Roy Shingoitewa both stated that Starlink is working very well and is significantly better than other services. They pay approximately \$100 per month. Sam Shingoitewa indicated that the service provides 50-80 MBps. Brian Cole asked if there is still the possibility of developing the Starlink service on a "community scale" where multiple homes could benefit. Cole also noted that telecommunications is an eligible activity for ARPA expenditures.

**4. Reports from Villages/Community**

**a. Upper Moenkopi Village**

No additional report.

**b. Village of Moenkopi (Lower)**

No report.

**c. Yuwehloo Pahki Community**

No additional report.

**5. Presentation by Waylon Honga**

Because turnout was lighter than usual and many of the participants did not have access to the video component of Zoom, the presentation by Waylon Honga was tabled until next week.

**6. Other Business**

No other business to report.

**7. Next Meeting**

The next regular JVSP meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 13 at 10 am Arizona Time.

**8. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am MST.

**Joint Village Strategic Planning  
Report to Hopi Tribal Commissions**  
September 6, 2022 | Volume 1

Joint Village  
Strategic Planning

UMV, VML & YPC

**Project Purpose**

The purpose of Joint Village Strategic Planning (JVSP) is to address the impacts of the Bennett Freeze and Forced Relocation by planning for infrastructure, housing, community facilities, and economic development investments. JVSP coordinates with the Hopi Tribal Council to advocate for such funding and investment.

## **JVSP Issues First Report to Hopi Tribal Commissions**

Joint Village Strategic Planning (JVSP) has been active since 2017. JVSP has held weekly meetings virtually every Tuesday morning at 10 am MST since the spring of 2020.

### **Submitting Monthly Reports**

In addition to the distribution of meeting agendas and meeting notes, the Hopi Tribal Council has requested that JVSP submit a written monthly report to appropriate Hopi Committees. This report is being distributed to the Water Energy Team and the Hopi Land Commission at this time. If additional Hopi Committees should receive this report, JVSP will add to the distribution list.

In addition, Andrew Gashwazra of the Hopi Office of Community Planning Economic Development and Land Information Services (OCPEDLIS) strives to update appropriate committees on the work and recommendations of JVSP.

### **First Report: Focusing Upon Moenkopi Water**

Although the goals of JVSP are inclusive of three Villages/Communities and broader than water infrastructure, this first report details the three-pronged effort being advocated by JVSP to assist Moenkopi to address its short-term, medium-term, and long-term water supply needs. JVSP routinely coordinates with the Moenkopi Utility Authority (MUA), Hopi Utilities Corporation (HUC), and the Hopi Office of Mining and Minerals in order to generate and update this documentation.

# Addressing the Short-term, Medium-term and Long-term Water Supply Needs at Moenkopi



The most pressing concern at Moenkopi is the possibility that the village will “run out of water by 2025.” It has been a priority of Upper Moenkopi Village (UMV) and the Moenkopi Utility Authority (MUA) to work to address this potential crisis since 2020.

What has emerged is a three-prong solution that address the short-term, medium-term, and long-term water supply needs for the area. Three separate organizations have worked independently – and collaboratively due to the work of Joint Village Strategic Planning (JVSP) – over the past several years.

The content in this document relates to three water development projects potentially benefitting UMV and VML:

1. Short-term Project – MUA Pasture Canyon Water Development Project
2. Medium-term Project – HUC Siderock Well Project
3. Long-term Project – Hopi Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action Program (UMTRAP) Water Well #9 Pre-feasibility Study and Project

Why Advancing Both the MUA and HUC Projects are Essential
<p><i>The JVSP membership is unanimous in its advocacy for all of the water development projects. The bullets below underscore the importance of advancing the Siderock Well project even if both Water Well #1 and Water Well #2 of the MUA (short-term project) is completed in the near term.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Pasture Canyon project address current demand; the HUC project addresses long-term growth opportunities               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ It is typically the policy of IHS to address only the current needs</li> <li>○ The future demand could be 40 new home sites and servicing 20 additional businesses                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Village wishes to set the stage for future generations</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Wells drilled at different locations (Pasture Canyon and Siderock) help to address “well interference”               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The water sources tie into different portions of the aquifer                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The wells at Siderock are closer to the confined portion of the N-Aquifer</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• The Siderock Well project supports new community development at Range Unit 251</li> <li>• The projects are informed by the Arizona Department of Water Resources 2015 study related to the LCR</li> <li>• Sufficient water is critical for the health and safety needs of Moenkopi</li> <li>• Because the right-of-way related to the Siderock Well requires negotiations with Navajo, the timing and outcome is uncertain</li> <li>• The Siderock project is described and supported by the Daniel B. Stephens engineering firm</li> </ul>

The JVSP committee, which has met weekly for three years, will continue to assist the various efforts to bring about all three solutions to the water supply crisis.

Some background and highlights of the three initiatives are provided below.

### **Short-term: MUA Pasture Canyon Water Development Project**

The Moenkopi Utility Authority, with support from Upper Moenkopi Village, is advancing a \$1.5 million water development project that includes: 1) the transmission line from Pasture Canyon (including tunneling under the highway), 2) the pump house, 3) the SCADA System, 4) fencing, and 5) a 230,000-gallon fiberglass tank.

The existing well has been drilled and capped but it is not enclosed. The project has been signed off and does have approved blueprints. Well #1 currently can produce 45 gallons per minute.

MUA currently serves 210 residential customers and 10 businesses. All of the businesses are served by the same water system.

### **Medium-term: HUC Siderock Well Project**

The development of the Siderock well at Range Unit 251 was identified by the Hopi Tribe as a very high priority during the funding allocation phase for CARES Act funding in late 2020. This led to the drilling of Well #2 in December of 2020 followed by the drilling of Well #3 in December of 2021. There is still consideration of potential drilling of Well #4 and Well #5, although no funding has been allocated for this purpose as of August 2022. The project has been coordinated by the Hopi Utilities Corporation (HUC). HUC has indicated that the water supply from Well #2 (85 gallons per minute) and #3 (105 gallons per minute) could meet the medium-term demand for Moenkopi. Drilling Well #4 and #5 could accommodate the 50-year growth projection. (There is not a well referred to as Water Well #1).

The next goal associated with the Siderock Well project is to develop the right-of-way and to construct the transmission line from the new wells to Moenkopi. The estimated cost to develop the transmission line as of January 2022 was \$19 million.

One consideration is the identification of the precise right-of-way from Range Unit 251 to Moenkopi. One option is along Hwy 160 and the other option is along the Questar right-of-way which would also serve the proposed Poosiwlelena Community Development Project being advanced by the Village of Moenkopi (Lower). The JVSP committee supports the development along the Questar right-of-way because it could benefit the Poosiwlelena Project.

Much of the engineering and design of the project has been done by Daniel B. Stephens and Associates which regularly advises HUC.

### **Long-term: Hopi UMTRAP Water Well #9 Pre-feasibility Study and Project**

The Hopi UMTRAP is coordinating with the US Department of Energy to utilize \$150,000 from a Cooperative Agreement for pre-feasibility evaluation of potentially multiple options, rough order-of-magnitude estimates for capital and operating costs, potentially identifying and recommending a few viable alternatives for supplemental water supply, as part of our overall compliance strategy for the Tuba City site. Water Well #9 is capable of pumping 500-600 gallons per minute. The pre-feasibility evaluation would be a necessary first step, performed as a subcontract under your Cooperative Agreement, and would evaluate technical and cost factors including, but not limited to:

- Condition, evaluation and serviceability of the Black Mesa wells, pumps and storage tanks, and interconnection to the coal slurry pipeline:
- Well-water quality and production capacity,

- Current condition and remaining service life of the coal slurry pipeline (interior and exterior corrosion, weld integrity, susceptibility to a seismic stress),
- Rehabilitation potential (such as slip lining in a smaller diameter potable-quality pipe through the 70-mile pipeline route),
- Vulnerability assessment (vandalism impacting water quality),
- Ancillaries – distribution spur lines, storage, water treatment (filtration, removal of trace constituents, disinfection);
- System adequacy to meet supply needs based on long-term demographic and economic development planning, and
- Capital and operating expense (order-of-magnitude estimates), lifecycle cost analysis.

Other alternative water-supply alternatives may also exist regionally. For example, additional water supply may be available from Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA) wells located north of the Tuba City site, with potentially new, shorter lines, at potentially lower cost. If additional supply is available from this source, it should be included as a prefeasibility option and evaluated in parallel to the Black Mesa wells and re-purposed pipeline.

The initial evaluation should also address governmental jurisdictional factors including: Navajo Nation and Tuba City Chapter participation, adjudication of water rights and pipeline right(s)-of-way, and the structuring of other governmental support and authorities (such as through the Bureau of Reclamation, Indian Health Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and others).

Conceptual and detailed engineering design for a selected alternative would be conducted under a subsequent subcontract, which DOE would also support under our Cooperative Agreement. Under the initial subcontract, the Hopi Tribe would develop a detailed Statement of Work and bid package to secure a qualified engineering firm that specializes in potable water supply to explore available options. The report from the initial subcontract would identify a preferred alternative and recommendations for work to follow.