**SCRIPT— WATER DESK**

**TITLE: NAVAJO WATER**

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| **VIDEO** | **AUDIO** |
| **SUGGESTED LEAD-IN**  :14 Shanna Yazzie  Navajo Water Project  :32 George McGraw  DigDeep  1:12 Steven Chief  Water Project Technician  1:22 Jovita Thinn  Reservation Resident | **------------------------------------------------------------------------------**  **ON THE SPRAWLING NAVAJO RESERVATION THE SIZE OF WEST VIRGINIA, MANY RESIDENTS LIVE WITHOUT**  **CLEAN RUNNING WATER IN THEIR HOMES.**  SOT (Shanna Yazzie) -- “Ever since I was young, I never had running water.”  **MOST NAVAJO FAMILIES LIVE IN SCATTERED HOMESITES ACROSS THIS VAST LANDSCAPE…**  **…AND PROVIDING A PIPED WATER SYSTEM TO THEM WOULD COST FAR TOO MUCH.**  Sot (George McGraw) – “About 30 percent of families on Navajo are estimated not to have access to water now, and are hauling water from outside their house.”  **THE NONPROFIT DIGDEEP SPONSORS THE NAVAJO WATER PROJECT WITH THE GOAL TO PROVIDE CLEAN RUNNING WATER TO THESE FAMILIES.**  SOT (McGraw) – “It’s a native-led program that installs off-grid solar-powered water systems.”  **WITHOUT CHARGE TO THE HOMEOWNER, THEY BURY A 1200-GALLON WATER TANK AND INSTALL A SOLAR SYSTEM TO PUMP WATER TO A TAP IN THE HOME…**  **…THEN REFILL THE TANK AS NEEDED.**  SOT (Steven Chief) —“They’re grateful…They’re really happy that we installed these and got them running water instead of them having to go out and get water.”  SOT (Jovita Thinn) – “The guys came and they finished and they showed me how to do it and I was excited to press that button (laughs).”  (nat—button pressed)  SOT (McGraw) – “I think the biggest challenge is getting government to pay attention to this and make the level of investment to grind this number down to zero, to make it so there’s no American falling into the water gap anymore.”  **FOR THE WATER DESK, GARY STRIEKER REPORTING** |