



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Navajo Communities Get Phone and Internet Service** Sacred Wind Introduces New Phone Services to HUD Complexes

NAVAJO NATION, NM – JUNE 22, 2011 – HUD communities at the Nageezi and Huerfano Chapters of the Navajo Nation - for the first time ever - have basic phone services and high speed Internet. It is the first time any of the 100+ homes in the area have access to phone services since the HUD communities were constructed decades ago.

Sacred Wind Communications, a New Mexico-owned phone company, has completed construction of a system that combines wireless and landline services to reach the communities. The company's network is a new hybrid system that uses fixed wireless technology – a wireless signal sent directly to a house or housing project – in combination with copper and fiber optic landlines.

“Sacred Wind has been working through the rights of way processes ever since we purchased Qwest's network on Navajo lands,” said John Badal, Sacred Wind's CEO. “These two communities have been waiting for service for a long time and have been in the deep end of the Digital Divide. We are thrilled to finally offer phone and internet service to the residents, the Chapter House, Head Start and Senior Centers in these communities.”

Sacred Wind's system at Nageezi and Huerfano marks a historical milestone for the company and the Navajo Nation. “While we have installed over 1,000 previously unserved Navajo customers using either fixed wireless or copper wire facilities,” Badal said, “these two communities are special in that they exemplify the use of hybrid technology to an entire community.”

Badal said that Sacred Wind's plans include the HUD and Navajo Housing Authority developments in several other Chapters this year and over the next year as well as scattered homes throughout northwest New Mexico.

#### ***About Sacred Wind Communications***

*Sacred Wind Communications is a privately owned New Mexico-based company, dedicated to improving telecommunications services to rural areas within New Mexico. Focused primarily on introducing basic telephone and advanced Internet services to the thousands of underserved homes on Navajo lands, Sacred Wind also offers advanced services to remote non-Navajo communities, governmental entities and business in its territory. Sacred Wind was voted “The Most Inspiring Small Business in America” in 2009 in a national American*

*Express/NBCUniversal Shine A Light contest. For more information, please visit*  
[www.sacredwindcommunications.com](http://www.sacredwindcommunications.com).

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