

VILLAGE OF MOENCOPI (LOWER)

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Timothy Nuvangyowma, Chairman, Hopi Tribe
Clark Tenakhonva, Chairman, Hopi Tribe
Hopi Tribal Council

FROM: *Margaret Pooyouma*
Margaret Pooyouma, Community Service Administrator

DATE: March 18, 2020

RE: Village of Moencopi (Lower) Temporary Closure

On behalf of the Village of Moencopi (Lower), I regret to inform you and others that the Village Administration will go into lockdown beginning Thursday, March 19, 2020 through April 17, 2020 in response to the threat of the Corona Virus now evidently identified in two cases in the Kayenta area as of Tuesday, March 17, 2020. We can no longer wait for news of an Emergency Plan of Operation from the Tribe when the entire community is now threatened.

Moencopi area lies at the crossroads of three main state highways; Hwy 89, Hwy 160 and Hwy 264. Highways 89 and 160 are heavily traveled by interstate travelers. All three highways are heavily traveled by members of the Navajo Nation. The two individual cases of Corona Virus are identified as members of the Navajo Nation from the Kayenta area that is 72 miles north of the Moencopi area.

Village of Moencopi staff will continue to work remotely from their homes. Water Operator, Earl Talayumptewa, Sr. will be the primary staff person responsible for necessary daily operations of the Village water system.

Employees will continue to be paid as this is a situation beyond their control.

We advise all entities to remain in contact with the Village of Moencopi (Lower) Administration through regular email and by phone. Contact information is as follows:

Margaret Pooyouma, CSA – margaretmp@frontier.com – Ph. 928-326-0779/928-734-9425
Robert Sumatzkuku, Accountant – rbsumatz@gmail.com
Rhonda Loma, Secretary, rlomahaptewa@frontiernet.net
Earl Talayumptewa, Sr., Water Operator – earltalay@gmail.com

I highly recommend that responsible entities and individuals within the tribal organization develop talk segments for frequent radio broadcast on KUYI and begin these as soon as possible as the fastest, most effective way to get communication about how critical it is that people understand what the risks are and how to prevent contacting the disease.

All public meetings and events planned for the Village of Moencopi (Lower) for the remainder of March 2020 through April 20, 2020 are either cancelled or postponed.

Copy: Village of Upper Moenkopi

Village of Hotevilla

Village of Bacavi

Village of Kykotsmovi

Village of Shungopavy

Village of Sipaulovi

Village of Mishongnovi

Village of Walpi

Village of Sichomovi

Village of Tewa

Yu Weh Loo Pahki Community

All Departments, Hopi Tribe

Village of Moencopi (Lower) Members and Residents

Carrie Joseph, Secretary, Board of Directors, Village of Moencopi (Lower)

File