



TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION
OFFICE OF THE
CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

EDWARD D. MANUEL
CHAIRMAN

VERLON M. JOSE
VICE CHAIRMAN

O'ODHAM HA-WE:HEJED

"For the People"



Contact: Matt Smith, 520-907-1234

May 10, 2017

POWER RETURNS TO THE TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION

Weather Related Outage Lasted for Nearly Two Days

Sells, AZ --- After nearly two days without electricity, power has returned to the Tohono O'odham Nation's main reservation at 7:11 PM this evening. The power outage was weather related and occurred late Monday evening. Returning power was particularly complicated as the level of damage was severe and experts were brought in to assist in restoring power. The Nation will resume regular business hours starting tomorrow.

Tohono O'odham Nation Chairman Edward Manuel provided the following statement:

"We are very pleased to announce that power has now returned to the Nation for the more than 3,500 users that have been dealing with this challenge. It is times such as this, when faced with significant controversy, that the best in people often comes out. That has certainly been the case here as so many people and organizations came together to ensure the health and well-being of Nation members.

The Tohono O'odham Utility Authority did an excellent job of resolving this difficult outage as quickly as possible. I would also like to personally thank the Nation's employees, District staffs and volunteers that have been working around the clock for the past two days. In particular, the Nation's Department of Public Safety, Office of Emergency Management, Hospital and Health Services, and so many other Departments and employees that immediately stepped up and implemented emergency management plans.

In the end, planning and implementation efforts only get you so far. The greatest praise goes to the Tohono O'odham members who rallied together to address this challenge. There were no reports of mischief or other questionable activity during this time which further demonstrates how positive the response was from the public."

The Tohono O'odham Nation would also like to thank the following agencies that offered support:

- Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona, deployed 7,874 lbs. of food
- Department of Emergency and Military Affairs; provided Access and Functional Needs Support Shelter kit
- Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community offered shelter support for access needs
- Pima & Pinal County offered support and assistance if needed

###

P.O. BOX 837, SELLS, ARIZONA 85634

PHONE: 520.383.2028

FAX: 520.383.3379