

Committee on Resources

Subcommittee on Forests & Forest Health

Testimony

**Testimony Before the
House Committee on Resources
Subcommittee on Forest and Forest Health
Regarding the
Conveyance of the "Old Jicarilla Site" to San Juan College, H.R. 695
Congressman Tom Udall
Thursday, June 17, 1999**

Madame Chairman, I would like to start by thanking you and the Committee for your attention to this legislation. Today, I am here to discuss a bill, known as the "Old Jicarilla Site" bill, that would convey a Forest Service administrative site in San Juan County, New Mexico, to San Juan College. Passage of this bill will be of special benefit to the San Juan College students.

Congresswoman Wilson is a co-sponsor of H.R. 695 and Senators Domenici and Bingaman are sponsors of a similar measure in the Senate, all from New Mexico.

The Administration is expected to support this legislation and may make a few minor technical changes.

This legislation would direct the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to convey real property and improvements at an abandoned and surplus ranger station administrative site in San Juan County, New Mexico to *San Juan College. The Forest Service has determined that this site is of no further use because the Forest Service has moved its operations to a new administrative facility in Bloomfield, New Mexico several years ago. In fact, the site has been unoccupied for several years. The land to be conveyed shall be used for education and recreation purposes and would revert to the United States if the land ceases to be used for such purposes.

This legislation creates a situation in which the federal government, the State of New Mexico, the people of San Juan County, and especially the faculty and students of San Juan College all benefit. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

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