

## **Napaskiak Activity Report**

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### **General Information:**

The community, through VSW and CRW Engineering firm, installed six residential flush haul systems as a demonstration project. In discussing the project with the tribal utility staff, they felt that the construction crew was rushing to get home before Christmas and did not do a very good job on the project. Whether they did or not, this perception may cause problems with customer relations in the future. The community still operates the container haul system to the majority (54) of the residential customers.

Utility services are still heavily subsidized through gaming operations. As for the six demonstration units, the six flush haul users are required to pay \$25.00 per month. This rate will be used as a figure in determining whether rates should increase or decrease.

### **Observations and Recommendations:**

Finances — The tribe's finances are still stable as revenue is received through compacting with the Association of Village Council Presidents, Inc. Gaming operations continue to subsidize the utility services. The amount of the subsidy is about \$35,000 annually. The tribal organization instituted a flat fee of \$25.00 per month for those connected to the new demonstration project.

Accounting Systems — The accounts are very well managed using Cougar Mountain accounting software.

Tax Problems — They are current with their tax liabilities.

Personnel System — There are no personnel issues.

Organizational Management — The tribal council acts as the utility board and are actively involved in all aspects of the planning process. The assistant tribal administrator was assigned responsibility of monitoring the new demonstration project.

Leadership/Governance — The tribal council is at the core of the successful operations of the organization.

Operation of Utility — The community is planning to connect thirty residents by next fiscal year. It remains to be seen how willing users are to pay for the system. If collections are a problem, the bingo subsidy of the system will need to increase.

(Continued on next page.)

**Ranking**

1 = Inadequate

4 = Adequate to meet minimum requirements

7 = Exceeds requirements

<b>Category</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>
Finances		<b>X</b>	
Accounting Systems			<b>X</b>
Tax Problems			<b>X</b>
Personnel System		<b>X</b>	
Organizational Management			<b>X</b>
Leadership/Governance			<b>X</b>
Operation of Utility		<b>X</b>	