Indian Affairs - Office of Public Affairs

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WASHINGTON–Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs Larry Echo Hawk today announced that he will visit the Rough Rock Community School on Wednesday, Sept. 16, where he will be joined by Navajo Nation President Joe Shirley to attend a ceremonial groundbreaking for the Phase II portion of the Rough Rock Community School Replacement Project.

Rough Rock Community School is a Bureau of Indian Education funded grant school located 35 miles from Chinle, Ariz., on the Navajo Nation Reservation. First named the Rough Rock Demonstration School, it opened in 1966 as the first American Indian operated school within what was then the Bureau of Indian Affairs school system. Rough Rock Community School provides educational services for students in grades K-12.

The school is listed on the Replacement Construction Priorities List published on March 24, 2004, in the Federal Register. The project is funded under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA).

Who: Larry Echo Hawk, Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior The Honorable Joe Shirley, President, Navajo Nation John "Jack" Rever, Director, Office of Facilities, Environmental and Cultural Resources, Office of Indian Affairs Dr. Monty Roessel, Superintendent, Rough Rock Community School, Bureau of Indian Education Richie Nez, President, Rough Rock School Board

What: The Assistant Secretary Echo Hawk and Navajo Nation President Shirley will attend a ceremonial groundbreaking for Phase II of the Rough Rock Community School Replacement Project funded under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

When: Wednesday, September 16, 2009, 10:00 a.m. (M.D.T.)

Where: Rough Rock Community School. Driving Directions: Starting Point- Chinle, Ariz. 86503 1) Take HWY 191 North towards Many Farms approx. 13 miles 2) Take HWY 59 West approx. 13 miles to HC-61 3) Turn left onto HC-61 follow signs to Rough Rock Community School.

CREDENTIALS: This invitation is extended to working media representatives who are required to display sanctioned media credentials for admittance to this event. Please arrive thirty minutes before the event.