

## Film Examining Energy Resource Development on Tribal Lands Earns Three Industry Awards

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A film examining a unique tribal and industry partnership that provides low-cost energy for more than 3 million Southwest families, hundreds of high paying jobs and a steady stream of tribal revenue has earned three film industry awards in 2002.

The production, *Miracle on Black Mesa*, has been broadcast on network and cable television stations in Arizona, Nevada and California. The film earned two Communicator Awards of Distinction, as well as a Telly Award for its sensitive handling of social issues and for improving public awareness about issues on tribal lands.

Set amidst a dramatic backdrop on Arizona's Black Mesa, the 27-minute *Miracle on Black Mesa* highlights a 30-year energy partnership that enables the Navajo Nation and the Hopi Tribe to balance cultural preservation with development of their natural resources. The film examines contemporary issues that include:

- Protection of historical resources through reclamation and cultural plant restoration;
- Protection of the Navajo Aquifer through extensive scientific study; and
- Efforts to explore new water supplies for mining and municipal needs that are technically feasible and environmentally friendly. Over the past 18 months, the tribes and energy companies have examined a half-dozen water alternatives that include sourcing surface water, groundwater and wastewater.

Produced by Steven Schwartz Communications of New York City and sponsored by Peabody Energy, the film is available in VHS and Beta format and can be ordered at no cost by forwarding a name, mailing address and format requirements to [publicrelations@peabodyenergy.com](mailto:publicrelations@peabodyenergy.com).

Coal mining on Black Mesa provides a \$2 million weekly economic injection into tribal communities and more than \$2 billion since mining began. The activities also provide 650 jobs on reservation lands, where unemployment hovers above 50 percent.

The Communicator Awards is an international competition that includes more than 3,400 entries from the United States and 11 other countries. Judging is based on videos that exceed a high level of excellence and serve as a benchmark for the industry. The Telly Awards were founded in 1980 and showcase film and video production as well as non-network television programming and commercials. The Telly Awards competition receives more than 11,000 entries annually.

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