Navajo Nation hurt by mine water spill

PHOENIX (KPHO/KTVK) - While environmental experts and state officials say the pollution spilled into the Animas River on Aug. 6, turning it yellow, will not impact Lake Powell or Arizona's water supply, communities on the Navajo Nation fear their water is tainted.

Now, help is on the way from Phoenix.

"They need access to safe drinking water," Rafael Tapia said.

Tapia is working for the Partnership with Native Americans on a shipment heading to the Four Corners area.

They are shipping 20 pallets of water to communities around Monument Valley and Mexican Hat.

"At least in the short term, it's about getting safe drinking water to Navajo Nation," Tapia said.

Tapia says people on the reservations already struggle to have enough usable drinking water.

The semi full of water and supplies will ship out Monday. It will be enough to help 7,000 people for a week.
More deliveries are planned, and more donations are welcome.