



Navajo Nation Quadrennial Energy Review Presentation

August 11, 2014

Santa Fe, New Mexico

What is the source of federal power over Indian Nations?

- *The U.S. Constitution provides the legal rationale for implementing that power. Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 (the Commercial Clause) provides that “Congress shall have the power to regulate commerce with foreign nations and states, and with the Indian Tribes.”*
- The energy policy going through the House and Senate will help us to be on the same playing field as others, if passed. Right now, we are not on the same playing field with the states and others. We need to be on an equal basis as the states to exercise true tribal sovereignty over important areas such as energy development.



Financial Impacts

- Like many states, the Navajo Nation is concerned with the financial impact of moving away from non-renewables.
- Unlike the states, the federal government developed the Navajo Nation's economy.
- We share a government-to-government relationship with the federal government, protected by sacred treaties and executed through trust responsibilities.



Navajo Nation Energy Policy of 2013

- Spearheaded by the Shelly-Jim administration, this policy is focused on securing energy and a cleaner environment.
- We care about our land and want to develop renewable energy resources.
- This means partnerships with federal, state and tribal agencies.



Tribal Infrastructure Development

- Infrastructure is the key for economic growth.
- Short-term investments for infrastructure will reduce costs of product delivery through roads, technology and energy corridors.
- The Thoreau Rail Port is a major infrastructure development. Work will begin in Sept. and finish by Dec. 2014.



Supply and Demand

- The Navajo Nation has several hundred years worth of renewable and non-renewable energy sources.
- The Nation and other Indian Tribes deserve a seat at the table for future discussions on energy development.
- We must strengthen our relationship with the federal government.



Partnerships

- The federal government must work with Indian Tribes at the start. It's important that we do not work against each other.
- Indian Tribes are limited on funding and resources. It will take the leveraging of funds and partnership to make it work.
- It boils down to numbers and jobs. We must work together. Ahe'hee.





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