

RESOLUTION OF THE  
NAABIK'ÍYATI' COMMITTEE OF THE  
NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

23<sup>RD</sup> Navajo Nation Council -- Second Year, 2016

AN ACTION

RELATING TO NAABIK'ÍYATI' COMMITTEE; ESTABLISHING AN ENERGY TASK  
FORCE

BE IT ENACTED:

Section One. Findings

- A. The Navajo Nation Council established the Naabik'íyáti' as a Navajo Nation standing committee and empowered the committee to "[t]o coordinate all...state programs with other standing committees and branches of the Navajo Nation government to provide the most effective delivery of services to the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. §§ 700(A) and 701(A) (4) (2012).
- B. The Navajo Nation Council passed CO-50-13, *Approving the Navajo Nation Energy Policy of 2013*, on October 22, 2013, and the Navajo Nation President signed the legislation into law on October 24, 2013.
- C. The Navajo Nation Energy Policy of 2013 states that [T]he Navajo Nation; to protect the energy natural resources and assets of the Nation; to ensure such resources and assets are used for the benefit of the Diné; to create a self-sustaining economic future for the Diné on their lands; to ensure sovereign control by the Nation over the extraction and flow of resources from the Nation's lands; to supply Navajo communities with the benefits afforded by energy development through total resources sovereignty, hereby establishes the Navajo Nation Energy Policy of 2013. See Navajo Nation Energy Policy of 2013, Preamble.
- D. The 2013 Energy Policy sets forth principles relating to the exploration, development, sustainable management and use of energy resources on the Navajo Nation. The energy resources and assets of the Nation addressed by the 2013 Energy Policy include fuel resources, mines, generation facilities, transmission and distribution infrastructure

and pipelines. The energy uses addressed by the 2013 Energy Policy include, but are not limited to, residential, commercial, industrial and governmental uses, including heating, cooling, mechanical, industrial process and transportation uses. See Navajo Nation Energy Policy of 2013, Section 2. Scope and Review.

- E. With the Navajo Nation Energy Policy of 2013 as a foundation a strategic plan to guide and direct the Navajo Nation on energy development is vital along with an evaluation of current trends in energy development as it relates to the resources of the Navajo Nation.
- F. The Navajo Nation finds it in the best interest of its' energy development to establish a Task Force to address the strategic plan and evaluation.

## **Section Two. Energy Task Force Establishment**

- A. The Navajo Nation establishes the Energy Task Force to:
  - 1. Collaborate with the Navajo Nation officials, employees, and agents, to coordinate a strategic plan and to develop the Navajo Energy Office; and
  - 2. Collaborate with Navajo Nation officials, employees, and agents, to evaluate and act on current energy development plans and projects as it relates to Navajo Nation resources; and,
  - 3. Report quarterly to the Naabik'íyáti' Committee on the Energy Task Force's activities; and
  - 4. Transfer information and recommendations to the Naabik'íyáti' Committee, and appropriate Navajo Nation Council standing committees.
- B. The Energy Task Force may consist of principles from each of the invited organizations:
  - 1. Office of the President and Vice-President designee,
  - 2. Navajo Nation Speaker,
  - 3. Office of the Speaker designee
  - 4. Navajo Nation EPA Director
  - 5. Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources Director
  - 6. Navajo Nation Division of Economic Development Director

7. Resource & Development Committee member appointee
8. Representative from NTEC
9. Representative from NAPI
10. Representative from NTUA
11. One Representative each from NGS and Four Corners
12. Representative from NNOG

C. The Energy Task Force shall have a co-chair, each from the Office of the President and the Office of the Speaker.

D. The Energy Task Force shall establish a regular meeting day(s) of the month.

E. The Energy Task Force shall present a written report to the Naabik'íyáti' Committee on a quarterly basis.

### **Section Three. Sub-committee Term**

The Energy Task Force shall exist until the Navajo Energy Office is operational and shall report on the progress to the Naabik'íyáti' Committee.

### **Section Four. Directives**

A. The Chiefs of Staff from the Office of the President and the Office of the Speaker shall assign one staff assistant to assist the Energy Task Force.

B. The Legislative Services' Executive Director shall assign two Office of Legislative Services staffers to assist the Energy Task Force.

C. The President and the Speaker shall determine a Task Force budget and identify the funds.

D. The Navajo Department of Justice shall assign an attorney from the Department's Natural Resources Unit.

**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Naabik'íyáti' Committee of the 23rd Navajo Nation Council at a duly called meeting in Window Rock, Navajo Nation (Arizona), at which a quorum was present and that the same was passed by a vote of 11 in favor and 01 oppose, this 11<sup>th</sup> Day of February, 2016.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "LoRenzo Bates", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Honorable LoRenzo Bates, Chairperson  
Naabik'íyáti' Committee

Motion: Walter Phelps

Second: Norman M. Begay

**NAVAJO NATION**

RCS# 289

Naa'bik'iyati Committee

2/11/2016

02:15:32 PM

Amd# to Amd#

Legislation NO. 0012-16

**PASSED**

MOT Phelps

Establishing an Energy Task

SEC Begay, NM

Force

(As amended)

**Yea : 11**

**Nay : 1**

**Not Voting : 12**

**Yea : 11**

Bates

Bennett

Filfred

Slim

Begay, K

Chee

Phelps

Witherspoon

Begay, NM

Daniels

Shepherd

**Nay : 1**

BeGaye, N

**Not Voting : 12**

Begay, M

Damon

Perry

Tso

Brown

Hale

Pete

Tsosie

Crotty

Jack

Smith

Yazzie