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

23rd NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL - Second Year, 2016

AN ACT

RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT AND NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES; ESTABLISHING THE NAVAJO NATION POSITION WITH REGARDS TO THE FORT WINGATE DEPOT ACTIVITY LAND DIVISION BETWEEN THE NAVAJO NATION AND THE ZUNI PUEBLO

WHEREAS:

- A. Pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 500(A), the Resources and Development Committee is hereby established as a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council.
- B. Pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §500(C)(1), the Resources and Development Committee shall exercise oversight authority over environment, environmental protection, cultural resources for the purpose to establish Navajo Nation policy with respect to the optimum utilization of all Navajo Nation resources and to protect the rights, interests, sacred sites and freedoms of the Navajo Nation and People to such resources, now and for future generations.
- C. Pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §§ 700(A), 701 (A)(4), the Navajo Nation established the Naabik'íyáti' Committee as a Navajo Nation Council standing committee and gave the Naabik'íyáti' Committee the power to coordinate all federal programs with other standing committees and branches of the Navajo Nation government to provide the most efficient delivery of services to the Navajo Nation.
- D. The Navajo Nation has a government-to-government relationship with the United States government.
- E. The Fort Wingate Military Depot was withdrawn from public domain lands by Executive Order 1870 to establish a military depot and in 1988, the United States Congress enacted the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act (P.L. 100-526, 102 Stat. 2623) which authorized the closure of certain military facilities.

- F. Previously, the Naabik'íyáti' Committee approved Resolution NABIAP-22-15 withholding support for any Fort Wingate land division unless certain issues were addressed. However, Navajo Nation leaders have recently met with Zuni leaders to further the discussion on the Fort Wingate land division, including a no gaming provision and an agreement on cultural and burial sites.
- G. Congressional legislation, H.R. 1028, has been introduced by Congressman Pearce (NM) and Congressman Young (AK) which proposes to implement the proposed negotiated property division for the Fort Wingate Depot Activity (FWDA) using an informally agreed to map regarding the property division between the Navajo Nation and the Zuni Pueblo with some lands remaining with the U.S. Department of Defense for remediation purposes.
- H. The agreed to map in H.R. 1028 contains several mapping errors which were items discussed by the Navajo Nation and Zuni Pueblo; with the Tribal leaders reaching agreement on several terms including, 1) use of the installation access road as a clear boundary, 2) Zuni's concern regarding access to the frontage road, and 3) correction of mapping errors. See Consensus Map attached as Exhibit A.
- I. The Eastern Navajo Land Commission supports the Naabik'íyáti' Committee's recent directive to the Navajo Nation Speaker to discuss the final terms of the FWDA land division with the Zuni Pueblo leadership and recommends ensuring that federal legislation include: 1) no gaming on FWDA lands, 2) federal funding for complete clean-up of the FWDA lands, 3) a directive to the U.S. Bureau of Land Management to conduct a legal survey of the FWDA lands at the expense of the federal government, 4) recognize the authority of both Tribes to negotiate with the Missile Defense Agency or any other entity that proposes an easement for rights-of-way or leasing of FWDA lands, 5) both Tribes have access to existing paved and gravel roads and rail lines, 6) assuring compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act and the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act to protect historic buildings, cultural properties, both Tribes are of the understanding that this will include burial sites for each Tribe on the FWDA lands, and 7) allow for Congress to authorize the U.S. Secretary of the Interior to approve any further exchanges or sale of the partitioned lands between the Tribes. See Resolution ENLCMA-01-16 attached as Exhibit В.

J. A Final Report, Diné Traditional Cultural Property Inventory at Fort Wingate Depot Activity, February 13, 2014, (Final Report) was prepared for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in which it states:

"FWDA as a whole is part of Diné Bikéyah (Navajoland) and is connected to and embedded in Diné sacred geographies. such, it is part of a Diné traditional cultural landscape and is recommended eligible for inclusion on the NRHP (National Register of Historic Places) as an historic district TCP (Traditional Cultural Property). Three component landscapes at FWDA that also function as contributing elements to this historic district were identified during the TCP Inventory and are additionally recommended eligible for inclusion on the NRHP, as are the known 187 hogans, 107 sweathouses, 203 corrals, 329 sites, livestock Anasazi and shrines/offering locations. Other contributing elements identified, inventoried, and evaluated for inclusion on the NRHP include culturally and religiously significant water features, historical hunting, agricultural, and hearding areas, mineral and plant gathering locations, burial sites, and offering material sites. Because of the historical and cultural significance and integrity of association the Diné have with FWDA lands, their natural and cultural features and resources, it is vital that all future actions and cleanup efforts take into account Diné values, understandings, and beliefs through regular and continual consultation during the FWDA cleanup process."

- K. The Navajo Nation's position is to protect all Navajo sacred, traditional, cultural, and burial sites on all lands in and surrounding the Navajo Nation and supports the shared access by the Navajo Nation and Zuni Pueblo to cultural and religious sites in the FWDA lands.
- L. The Fort Wingate Depot Activity (FDWA) "inventories revealed a prominent Navajo presence at FDWDA and resulted in the location of hundreds of associated Navajo resources. The Navajo Nation Archaeology Department completed an in-depth interview process with past and present residents of the FWDA and surrounding communities. In addition, HDR an environmental and cultural resources firm completed and additional study and documented hundreds of Navajo places and TCPs as well. See Resolution ENLCMA-01-16 attached as Exhibit B.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. The Navajo Nation hereby establishes its position with regard to the Fort Wingate Depot Activity lands and authorizes the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council and assigned legislative staff to continue discussion with the Zuni Pueblo leadership on the division of the Fort Wingate Depot Activity lands.
- B. The Navajo Nation supports the proposition that the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) negotiate a cultural resources management plan with Zuni's THPO, with both consulting with at least two elder advisors, to protect and manage Navajo cultural resources in a culturally appropriate manner as part of larger negotiations with Zuni.
- C. The Navajo Nation's position with regard to the Fort Wingate Depot Activity lands and the proposed H.R. 1028 bill include:
 - 1) Use of the installation access road as a clear boundary for both Tribes.
 - 2) Address Zuni's concern regarding access to the frontage road.
 - 3) Correction of mapping errors in the map attached to H.R. 1028. See Map, Exhibit A.
- D. The Navajo Nation does not support the amendment to H.R. 1028, section 3(a), regarding the easement, permit rights, and access to utility service providers.
- E. The Navajo Nation requests the original language in H.R. 1028 regarding environmental remediation sections be included. The original sections requested pertain to (b) Liability, (c) Treatment of Claims against Tribes, and (d) Effect of Environmental Certification.
- F. The Navajo Nation directs the Speaker and assigned legislative staff to consider additional terms in discussion with the Zuni leadership:
 - 1) No gaming on FWDA lands;
 - 2) Federal funding for complete clean-up of the FWDA lands.
 - 3) A directive to the U.S. Bureau of Land Management to conduct a legal survey of the FWDA lands at the expense of the federal government;
 - 4) Recognize the authority of both Tribes to negotiate with the Missile Defense Agency or any other entity that

- proposes an easement for rights-of-way or leasing of FWDA lands;
- 5) Both Tribes have access to existing paved and gravel roads and rail lines;
- compliance with the National Historic 6) Assuring Preservation Act and the Native American Graves Protection Repatriation Act to protect historic buildings, cultural properties that include cultural, religious and burial sites for each Tribe on the FWDA lands; and
- 7) Allow for Congress to authorize the U.S. Secretary of the Interior to approve any further exchanges or sale of the partitioned lands between the Tribes.

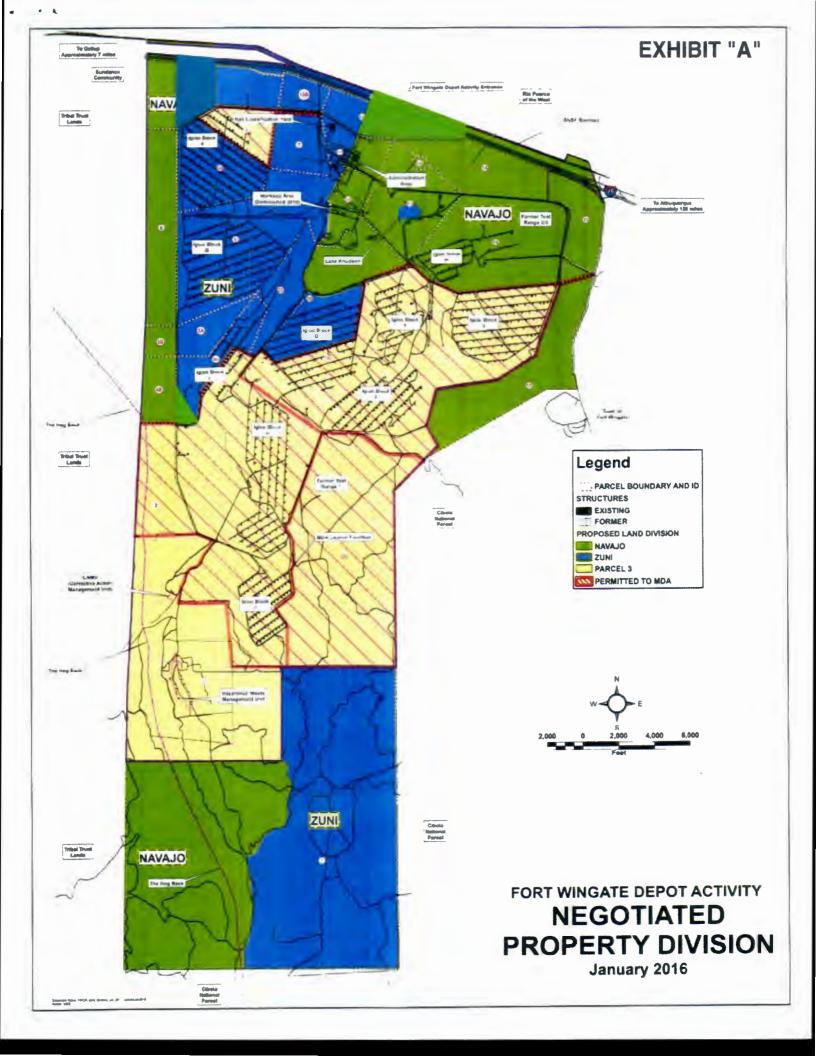
CERTIFICATION

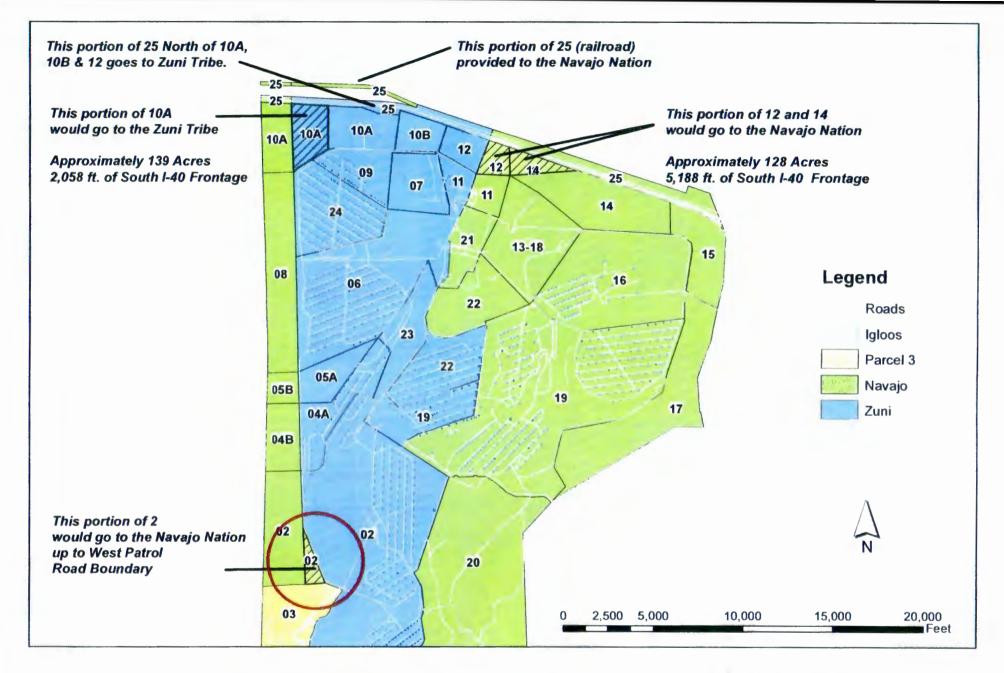
I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Naabik'íyáti' Committee of the 23rd Navajo Nation Council at a duly called meeting in Window Rock, Navajo Nation (Arizona), at which a quorum was present and that the same was passed by a vote of 07 in favor, 06 oppose, this 7th day of April, 2016.

Jonathan L. Hale, Pro Tem Chairperson

Naabik'íyáti' Committee

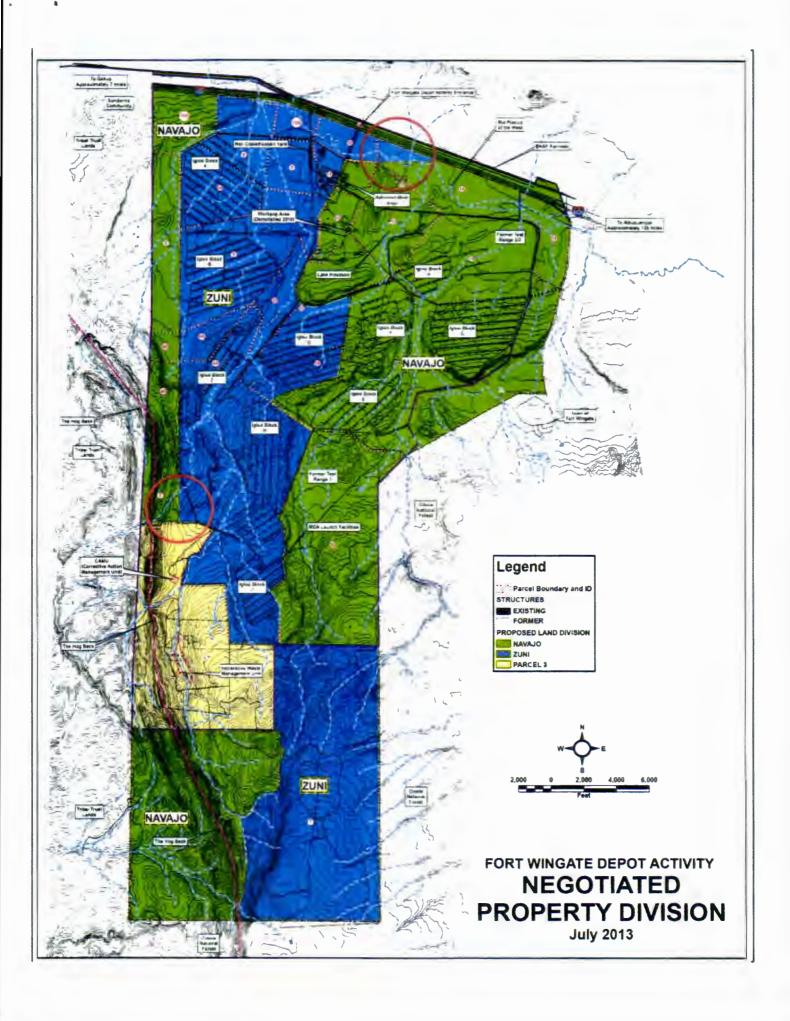
Motion: Honorable Davis Filfred Second: Honorable Seth Damon





Proposed 1-40 Frontage Parcel Exchange and Shared Access Road Boundaries

Navajo Nation receiving East Access Road Boundary and Zuni Tribe Receiving West Access Road Boundary



ENLCMA-01-16

RESOLUTION OF THE EASTERN NAVAJO LAND COMMISSION

Approving of and Providing Support to Naa'bik'i'yáti' Committee's Directive to the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council to Effectuate Progress with the Zuni Governor in Negotiating Final Adjustments to the Fort Wingate Army Depot Land Division

WHEREAS:

- 1) Pursuant to 2 NNC § 861 (B) (3), the Eastern Navajo Land Commission ("Commission") is established for the purpose of coordinating efforts of resolving land-related issues with Federal, State, County, and other local authorities and private interests throughout the Eastern Navajo Agency of the Navajo Nation; and
- 2) At the March 02, 2016 meeting, the Naa'bik'i'yáti' Committee gave a directive to the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council (as chairman of the Naa'bik'i'yáti' Committee) to engage in additional talks with the Zuni Governor in making final adjustments to the land division plan between the Navajo Nation and Zuni Pueblo of the Fort Wingate Army Depot lands; and
- 3) Congressman Stevan Pearce has been persistent in introducing bills to assure of the division of the military lands to both tribes. In the latest legislation, HR 1028, Congressman Pearce proposes to have the Missile Defense Agency (MDA) retain Parcels 2, 9, 19 and 20 as indicated in Exhibit "A" and the same will not, in the meantime, be partitioned to the two tribes; and
- 4) The U.S. Department of Defense has contracted ethnographic, archaeological, and cultural studies throughout the 21,123 acres of the depot land identifying locations of cultural property sites and occurrences. Both tribes were collaborators of these studies. The February 2013 "Dine' Traditional Cultural Property Inventory at Fort Wingate Depot Activity" report involved only Navajo--a separate similar study was conducted with the Pueblo of Zuni. The Navajo study inventoried 187 hogans, 107 sweathouses, 203 livestock corrals, 329 Anasazi sites, and six shrines/offering locations. Both the Navajo Archeology Department and the Pueblo of Zuni were involved in the 2004 "Assessment of Sacred Sites and Properties of Traditional Religious and Cultural Importance with the Open Burn/Open Detonation Area at Fort Wingate Depot Activity, New Mexico" study; and
- 5) During the course of the Navajo Speaker-Zuni Governor dialogue, an understanding was reached and agreed to that no gaming, i.e., Casino establishments, would be placed on either part of the lands partitioned to Navajo and Zuni; and
- 6) In addition, the Speaker and Governor met on occasions or conversed by telecomm regarding concerns of mapping errors contained in the July 08, 2013, negotiated map and other matters as: use of the installation access road as a clear boundary; Zuni concerns regarding adjacency to the frontage road, I-40, and the railroad. These matters of concern have been resolved as shown in the attached map (Exhibit "A") which the Commission acknowledges as an improvement over the July 08, 2013 map.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Eastern Navajo Land Commission hereby approves of and provides support to the Naa'bik'i'yáti' Committee's Directive to the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council to effectuate progress with the Zuni Governor in negotiating final adjustments to the Fort Wingate Army Depot land division; and

Further, the Commission recommends to the Naa'bik'i'yáti' Committee to ensure that the federal legislation include, but not be limited to: 1) no gaming on the partitioned lands; 2) federal funding for complete clean-up of the subject lands; 3) a directive to BLM to conduct a legal survey of the partitioned lands to the two tribes at the expense of the federal government; 4) recognize the authorities of both tribes to negotiate with the Missile Defense Agency or any other entity that proposes easements for Rights-of-Way or leasing of the partitioned lands; 5) both tribes have equal access to existing paved and graveled roads, and rail lines; and 6) assuring compliance with Nation Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and the Native American Graves Protections and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) to protect historic buildings, cultural properties that includes burial sites on both sides of the partitioned lands.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the forgoing resolution was duly considered by the Eastern Navajo Land Commission at a duly called meeting in Window Rock, AZ at which a quorum was present, and the same was passed by a vote of 4 in favor, 2 opposed, this 16th day of March 2016.

Leonard Tsosie, Chairperson

EASTERN NAVAJO LAND COMMISSION

Motion: Danny Simpson Second: Norman M. Begay

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET Tracking No. __OOG_-\@

DATE: March 29, 2016

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACT RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT AND NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES; ESTABLISHING THE NAVAJO NATION POSITION WITH REGARDS TO THE FORT WINGATE DEPOT ACTIVITY LAND DIVISION BETWEEN THE NAVAJO NATION AND THE ZUNI PUEBLO

PURPOSE: This resolution, if approved, will approve the Navajo Nation's position with regard to the Fort Wingate Depot Activity lands and the discussion with the Zuni Pueblo leadership on mapping errors in H.R. 1028 and other concerns of both Tribes.

This written summary does not address recommended amendments as may be provided by the standing committee. The Office of Legislative Counsel requests each committee member to review the proposed resolution in detail.

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| Website Posting Time | Date: 4:58pm 3/91/14 |
| Posting End Date: | 4/3/2004 |
| Eligible for Action: | 4/4/2016 |

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Resources & Development Committee

THENCE

PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION Naa'bik'íyáti' Committee 23RD NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL—SECOND YEAR, 2016

INTRODUCED BY

Primary Sponsor

TRACKING NO. 0097-14

AN ACT

RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT AND NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES; ESTABLISHING THE NAVAJO NATION POSITION WITH REGARDS TO THE FORT WINGATE DEPOT ACTIVITY LAND DIVISION BETWEEN THE NAVAJO NATION AND THE ZUNI PUEBLO

WHEREAS: 15

- A. Pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 500(A), the Resources and Development Committee is hereby established as a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council.
- B. Pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §500(C)(1), the Resources and Development Committee shall exercise oversight authority over environment, environmental protection, cultural resources for the purpose to establish Navajo Nation policy with respect to the optimum utilization of all Navajo Nation resources and to protect the rights, interests, sacred sites and freedoms of the Navajo Nation and People to such resources, now and for future generations.
- C. Pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §§ 700(A), 701 (A)(4), the Navajo Nation established the Naabik'íyáti' Committee as a Navajo Nation Council standing committee and gave the Naabik'íyáti' Committee the power to coordinate all federal programs with other standing committees and branches of the Navajo Nation government to provide the most efficient delivery of services to the Navajo Nation.
- D. The Navajo Nation has a government-to-government relationship with the United States government.

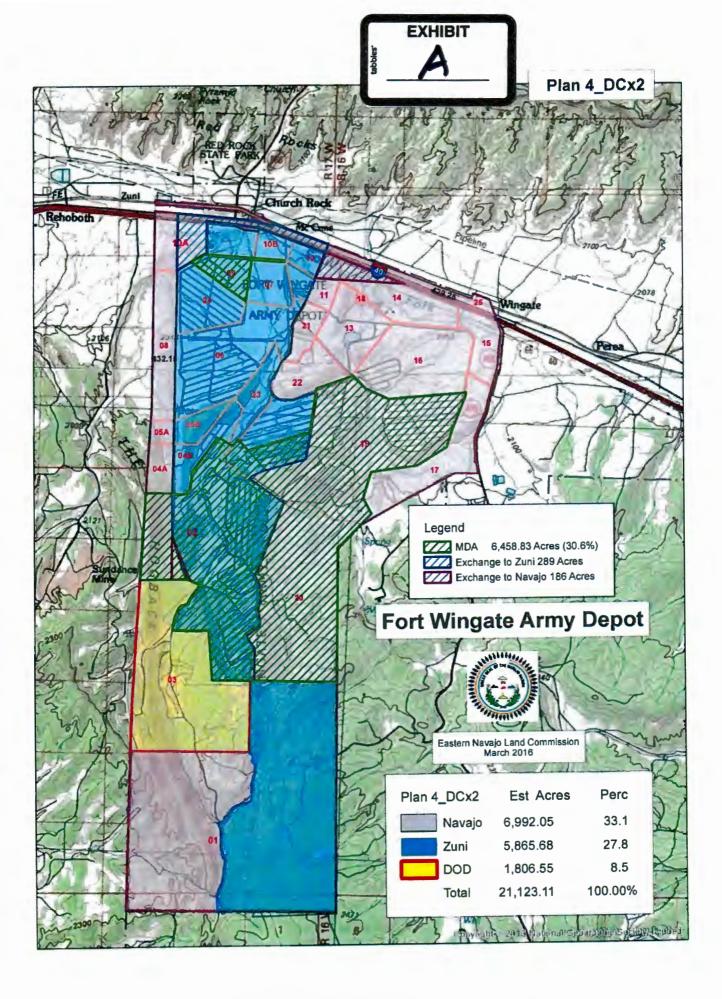
- E. The Fort Wingate Military Depot was withdrawn from public domain lands by Executive Order 1870 to establish a military depot and in 1988, the United States Congress enacted the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act (P.L. 100-526, 102 Stat. 2623) which authorized the closure of certain military facilities.
- F. Previously, the Naabik'íyáti' Committee approved Resolution NABIAP-22-15 withholding support for any Fort Wingate land division unless certain issues were addressed. However, Navajo Nation leaders have recently met with Zuni leaders to further the discussion on the Fort Wingate land division, including a no gaming provision and an agreement on cultural and burial sites.
- G. Congressional legislation, H.R. 1028, has been introduced by Congressman Pearce (NM) and Congressman Young (AK) which proposes to implement the proposed negotiated property division for the Fort Wingate Depot Activity (FWDA) using an informally agreed to map regarding the property division between the Navajo Nation and the Zuni Pueblo with some lands remaining with the U.S. Department of Defense for remediation purposes.
- H. The agreed to map in H.R. 1028 contains several mapping errors which were items discussed by the Navajo Nation and Zuni Pueblo; with the Tribal leaders reaching agreement on several terms including, 1) use of the installation access road as a clear boundary, 2) Zuni's concern regarding access to the frontage road, and 3) correction of mapping errors. *See* Consensus Map attached as Exhibit A.
- I. The Eastern Navajo Land Commission supports the Naabik'íyáti' Committee's recent directive to the Navajo Nation Speaker to discuss the final terms of the FWDA land division with the Zuni Pueblo leadership and recommends ensuring that federal legislation include: 1) no gaming on FWDA lands, 2) federal funding for complete cleanup of the FWDA lands, 3) a directive to the U.S. Bureau of Land Management to conduct a legal survey of the FWDA lands at the expense of the federal government, 4) recognize the authority of both Tribes to negotiate with the Missile Defense Agency or any other entity that proposes an easement for rights-of-way or leasing of FWDA lands, 5) both Tribes have access to existing paved and gravel roads and rail lines, 6) assuring compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act and the Native American Graves

Protection and Repatriation Act to protect historic buildings, cultural properties, both Tribes are of the understanding that this will include burial sites for each Tribe on the FWDA lands, and 7) allow for Congress to authorize the U.S. Secretary of the Interior to approve any further exchanges or sale of the partitioned lands between the Tribes. *See* Resolution ENLCMA-01-16.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. The Navajo Nation hereby establishes its position with regard to the Fort Wingate Depot Activity lands and authorizes the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council and assigned legislative staff to continue discussion with the Zuni Pueblo leadership on the division of the Fort Wingate Depot Activity lands.
- B. The Navajo Nation's position with regard to the Fort Wingate Depot Activity lands and the proposed H.R. 1028 bill include:
 - 1) Use of the installation access road as a clear boundary for both Tribes.
 - 2) Address Zuni's concern regarding access to the frontage road.
 - 3) Correction of mapping errors in the map attached to H.R. 1028. *See* Map, Exhibit A.
- C. The Navajo Nation directs the Speaker and assigned legislative staff to consider additional terms in discussion with the Zuni leadership:
 - 1) No gaming on FWDA lands.
 - 2) Federal funding for complete clean-up of the FWDA lands.
 - 3) A directive to the U.S. Bureau of Land Management to conduct a legal survey of the FWDA lands at the expense of the federal government.
 - 4) Recognize the authority of both Tribes to negotiate with the Missile Defense Agency or any other entity that proposes an easement for rights-of-way or leasing of FWDA lands.
 - 5) Both Tribes have access to existing paved and gravel roads and rail lines,
 - 6) Assuring compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act and the Native
 American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act to protect historic buildings, cultural
 properties that include burial sites for each Tribe on the FWDA lands, and

7) Allow for Congress to authorize the U.S. Secretary of the Interior to approve any further exchanges or sale of the partitioned lands between the Tribes.





Honorable LoRenzo Bates Speaker 23rd Navajo Nation Council

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Hon. LoRenzo C. Bates 23rd Navajo Nation Council

FROM:

Levon B. Henry, Chief Legislative Counsel

Office of Legislative Counsel

DATE:

March 29, 2016

SUBJECT:

AN ACT RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT AND

NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES; ESTABLISHING THE NAVAJO

NATION POSITION WITH REGARDS TO THE FORT WINGATE DEPOT ACTIVITY LAND DIVISION BETWEEN THE NAVAJO NATION AND

THE ZUNI PUEBLO

Pursuant to your request, attached is the above-referenced proposed resolution and associated legislative summary sheet. Based on existing law, the resolution as drafted is legally sufficient. However, as with all legislation, it is subject to review by the courts in the event of a challenge.

The Office of Legislative Council confirms the appropriate standing committee(s) reviews based on the standing committees powers outlined in 2 N.N.C. §§ 301, 401, 501, 601 and 701. Nevertheless, "the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council shall introduce [the proposed resolution] into the legislative process by assigning it to the respective oversight committee(s) of the Navajo Nation Council having authority over the matters for proper consideration." 2 N.N.C. § 164(A)(5).

Please review the proposed resolution to ensure it is drafted to your satisfaction. If this proposed resolution is acceptable to you, please sign it where it indicates "Prime Sponsor", and submit it to the Office of Legislative Services for the assignment of a tracking number and referral to the Speaker.

If the proposed resolution is unacceptable to you, or if you have further questions, please contact me at the Office of Legislative Counsel and advise me of changes you would like made to the proposed resolution. You may contact me at (928) 871-7166. Thank you.

THE NAVAJO NATION LEGISLATIVE BRANCH INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: _0097-16__ SPONSOR: LoRenzo C. Bates

TITLE: An Action Relating To Resources And Development And
NAABIKI'IYATI' Committees; Establishing The Navajo Nation Position With
Regards To The Fort Wingate Depot Activity Land Division Between The Navajo
Nation And The Zuni Pueblo

Date posted: March 29, 2016 at 4:58PM

Digital comments may be e-mailed to comments@navajo-nsn.gov

Written comments may be mailed to:

Executive Director
Office of Legislative Services
P.O. Box 3390
Window Rock, AZ 86515
(928) 871-7586

Comments may be made in the form of chapter resolutions, letters, position papers, etc. Please include your name, position title, address for written comments; a valid e-mail address is required. Anonymous comments will not be included in the Legislation packet.

Please note: This digital copy is being provided for the benefit of the Navajo Nation chapters and public use. Any political use is prohibited. All written comments received become the property of the Navajo Nation and will be forwarded to the assigned Navajo Nation Council standing committee(s) and/or the Navajo Nation Council for review. Any tampering with public records are punishable by Navajo Nation law pursuant to 17 N.N.C. §374 et. seq.

THE NAVAJO NATION LEGISLATIVE BRANCH INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW SUMMARY

LEGISLATION NO.: <u>0097-16</u>

SPONSOR: Honorable LoRenzo C. Bates

TITLE: An Action Relating To Resources And Development And Naabiki'iyati' Committees; Establishing The Navajo Nation Position With Regards To The Fort Wingate Depot Activity Land Division Between The Navajo Nation And The Zuni Pueblo.

Posted: March 29, 2016 at 4:58PM

5 DAY Comment Period Ended: April 3, 2016

Digital Comments received:

| Comments Supporting | None |
|------------------------|---|
| Comments Opposing (10) | Rite Capitan Lester Emerson, USMC veteran Sherman Woody Dorothy Harjo, Pinedale Chapter Kathy Anderson Chief Arvol Looking Horse; Bobby C. Billie; Leland Grass; Council Spiret Foundation Al Bennett Debbie Martinez Raedean Silversmith-Yazzie czuniel@yahoo.com |
| Inclusive Comments | None |

Executive Director
Office of Legislative Services

4 4 7016 - 9:18 4m Date/Time

Legislation No: 0097-16

Rita Capitan <rmcapitan@hotmail.com>

Wed 3/30/2016 9:48 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I oppose this Legislation No: 0097-16

We should not give any of the Ft. Wingate Land to Zuni. Rita Capitan

Legislation No. 0097-16

Lester Emerson < lemerson9988@yahoo.com>

Wed 3/30/2016 11:38 PM

To:comments < comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

How long before Navajo Nation Government begins to listen to the people?

Fort Wingate Army Depot Navajo Land Re-Use Plan for the Benefit of Navajo Veterans and Navajo Communities

The Fort Wingate Army Depot is Navajo Land! This historical Fort Wingate Army Depot Navajo Land belong to the Navajo. More specifically, it belonged to the surrounding and adjacent Navajo communities from time immemorial. Our Navajo warriors spilled their blood for this land. This land is not for negotiation nor is it for sale!

The Fort Wingate Army Depot Navajo lands have already been in discussion and planning by the

Navajo Veterans to building a holistic master plan to include, but not limited to, a Veterans National cemetery, a Veterans memorial church, a Veterans homeless shelter, and a Veterans hospital. Also included are a Veterans Center, and housing complex for Navajo veterans' from neighboring chapter communities

The contribution of Navajo veterans' service to the United States of America is significant and everlasting of how, when, and where they served. This tradition to serve and protect, and ultimately to sacrifice, in order for its people and Nation has an extended history, including the first Navajo scouts serving from the adjacent Fort Wingate (also formerly known as Fort Lyon). For their courageous and unselfish military service to the United States of America, a tangible acknowledgement of thanks to veterans is to re-use the former Fort Wingate Army Depot to be used for the benefit and support of the Navajo veterans. While the remaining portions will provide beneficial use for the surrounding and adjacent Navajo communities who have had historical and traditional ties to the land for their subsistence, livelihood, and religious practices.

This Fort Wingate Army Depot Land is Navajo Land! It has always been, and it will always be Navajo land.

Lester Emerson

USMC Veteran

Fort Wingate lands

Sherman Woody <todichiinii_woody@yahoo.com>

Thu 3/31/2016 11:03 AM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

PLEASE OPPOSE THIS LEGISLATION..." These lands are aboriginal lands of Navajo people.... our ancestors have been imprisoned, tortured, ensalved, MURDERED and BURIED on this land for their protest to continue LIVE Roam FREELY.... within the 4 sacred mountians.... Yes most Navajo people survived the Long Walk of 1868....and returned..... therefore enjoy the land in and around the 4 corners.

Since 1800s this was All Navajo Land..... true warrior's Cheif Maranio and Navajo Interpreter Jesus Arviso and their family's were mis-lead and forcefully removed.....and arrested, forced into the Long Walk....

THANK YOU Sherman Woody

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy Tab® S, an AT&T 4G LTE tablet

- comments Page 1 of 1

Dorothy Harjo <djharjo@outlook.com>

Thu 3/31/2016 12:09 PM

To:comments < comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

This letter is written to oppose Legislation No. 00097-16: Establishing the Navajo Nation Position with regards to the Ft. Wingate Land Division between the Navajo nation and Zuni Pueblo.

I and my extended family are greatly distressed at the continuing indifference of the Navajo Nation Council to stand with the Navajo people in defending the conveyance of Ft. Wingate property to our Navajo people. The land is an invaluable, prime piece of real estate, totally rich in natural resources with its whole array of ecological systems. By ignoring the land, its resources & its economic & sociological potential, our leaders are ignoring everything the Navajos hold sacred; what happened to ecological stewardship? Will you give mother earth & all her beauty away? We stand to lose all the benefits of this land as a Nation if we lose ownership. It would be déjà vu all over again, as it would be like the "Bennett Freeze", when our Nation gave the land over to the Hopi's. Our people suffered greatly from this and I have no doubt many displaced elders died of broken hearts. // Keeping the land for our people is Security, security for our young people & future generations who have yet to participate-in and enjoy our environmental beauty and its resources. This issue needs the support of the Navajo Nation Council and all Navajo Nation Chapters as a unified body, to stand firm with those Chapters bordering the Ft. Wingate property. Our population is rapidly expanding & our reservation is diminishing; if the Council does not unanimously support this, where will we put our future generations? Or our developments and Veteran's cemetery and other causes? // At this pivotal point when we are faced with the fate of our ancestral heritage, not to mention lands that the Navajos fought for, we cannot afford to let people of other races, other tribes, or hierarchical powers or entities exploit us, or our homelands. I strongly urge the Navajo Nation Council members, all 24 of them, to become united on this, and stand firm against being subjugated by people and governments who do not know half the story. Do not allow the appearance of being subservient to any tribal government, our own Executive leadership, or any Federal legislator(s) or agency to the extent that our Nation begins losing its sovereignty status, or its leadership and power among tribes. Most of all, do not lose the respect of our Dine, as has been demonstrated by the Navajo-Hopi land dispute. // I implore the Council to stand with the people on this; we are One as a Nation, fighting the outside world for what's rightfully ours.

Dorothy Harjo Constituent, Pinedale Chapter

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

Legislation 0097-16

Kathy Anderson <katzcrystal1nfo@gmail.com>

Thu 3/31/2016 7:20 PM

To:comments < comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I oppose this greatly.

Thanks
Kathy Anderson
katzcrystal1nfo@gmail.com

This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If you have received this email in error please notify the system manager. This message contains confidential information and is intended only for the individual named. If you are not the named addressee you should not disseminate, distribute or copy this e-mail. Please notify the sender immediately by e-mail if you have received this e-mail by mistake and delete this e-mail from your system. If you are not the intended recipient you are notified that disclosing, copying, distributing or taking any action in reliance on the contents of this information is strictly prohibited.

Legislation 0097-16...Ft. Wingate Land Division

Sacred Legacy <sacred4s@hotmail.com>

Fri 4/1/2016 9:00 AM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

1 attachment

Anasizi&Relatives-Council_Statement_Aboriginal_Indigenous_Ancient_Relative_and_Their_Belongings.pdf;

Do not ignore this. This goes with long ago relatives. Read the Attach. Dine' people are concern about the remains and Legislation 0097-16. Leonard Tsosie you need stop messing with our way of life and culture- leave as the way they are. NN have laws over them. Leland Grass.

Indigenous Elders and Medicine Peoples Council Formal Statement Aboriginal Indigenous Ancient Relative Human Being Remains and Their Belongings

This statement reflects the wisdom of the Spiritual People of the Earth, of the four directions, working in unity to promote peace, harmony and balance for the future of all living beings. We are from various Indigenous Nations, united under the Creator's Law and are spiritually related. This statement is written in black and white with a foreign language that is not our own and does not convey the full depth of our concerns.

The Creator gave us our way of life to live in harmony with the natural world. Our ancient ancestors instructed us to live by the Creator's Natural Law, which guides all Life. We have our own language and words to correctly identify who our ancient ancestors are to us and for the places we hold sacred. It is important that we understand and use the correct names in our original language because these words are connected to our spiritual foundation, given to us by the Creator to follow and uphold. Using foreign words such as human remains, associated and unassociated funerary objects, items of cultural patrimony, significant and unsignificant sites, federally recognized or unrecognized, unidentified remains, culturally unidentifiable, interested party, lineal descendant and all other terminology violates the sanctity of our way of life. These words cause division among Indigenous Peoples and separate them from their ancestors, their sacred places and their sacred holy way of life.

We have sacred teachings for our children that have been passed down generation-to-generation to keep them healthy and safe. From the home fire, it is our responsibility to instruct our children to understand what is right and what is wrong, and hold to these values in their lives. Our sacred history and teachings promote respect for our ancestors and their belongings. As children we are taught not to cause disharmony on holy grounds, to leave our ancestors and their belongings alone because they are a part of the Creator's Sacred Holy Cycle of Life. We are here today because our ancient ancestors made it possible to live with the positive and negative. When we disrupt, damage, desecrate and/or destroy the Creator's Sacred Holy Natural Cycle of Life, we affect all Creation and our future.

We, Aboriginal Indigenous Peoples, respect the sacredness of life on this land. The newcomers have not shown respect or understanding for our sacred way of life. It is this lack of understanding and respect that has led to the desecration and theft of our ancestor's human being remains, their sacred belongings and our sacred places. Our ancestors lived in a holy way, which is powerfully connected to the natural world. When the sanctity of their existence and the Creator's Sacred Holy Cycle of Life are violated there are consequences that go beyond human comprehension. These consequences are being experienced in the increased severity and frequency of natural disasters, resulting in catastrophic climate change. Violating the sacredness of life with destructive man-made ideas and developments continue to diminish and deteriorate the moral, ethical and social standards, which is being reflected in the health and conditions of peoples around the world.

Those seeking to steal and desecrate our ancestor's human being remains and their belongings for profit, trade, recreation, development, so-called formal education or any other reason are violating our way of life, the Creator's Sacred Holy Cycle of Life and the Creator's Natural Law.

No Government, company and/or individual shall be granted a right to dig or hunt our ancient ancestorial human being remains or their belongings. Governments, corporations and individuals must be held accountable and responsible for all activities and actions that it has allowed or undertaken that have damaged, destroyed and desecrated our ancestors, their belongings and the natural world that we rely upon for our survival. The right to reparation and redress are firmly embodied in international law, human rights treaties and declarative instruments. Man-made law, both domestic and international, require the free, prior and informed consent of any actions that may affect Indigenous Peoples and our ways of life. For instance, Article 10 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples states Indigenous Peoples shall not be forcibly removed from their lands or territories. This includes our ancestors and their belongings which are indivisible, and inseparable from one another and from our sacred way of life. They cannot be forcibly removed by any government, corporation or individual. Our ancestors and their belongings must not leave their original territory and must not be sold or traded overseas. Man-made laws must realign with the Creator's Natural Law to begin the healing process. When the sacred is treated as a commodity for sale and trade we all are diminished.

Time after time we have requested legitimate consultation and we have been met with representatives that have no authority to address our concerns. As a result the so-called consultation process is meaningless. Those seeking to attain our free, prior and informed consent must come with decision-makers to us, to meaningfully consult face-to-face. No governmental representative has the authority to come between, provide consent or assume control over the sacred responsibilities of the Indigenous Peoples. We have seen there are governments that are attempting to violate this sacred relationship by appointing themselves as designees of who is the appropriate spiritual or so-called religious representative. This way of thinking and corresponding way of being in the world violates who we are as Aboriginal Indigenous Peoples as it creates and perpetuates a system that works to aborgate our rights and delegitimize our way of life, our values, our traditional councils, our traditional authorities, our spiritual beliefs and our decision-making processes. The Creator designates not a government.

We speak about our ancient ancestors human being remains and their belongings but we want to be very clear and direct, we speak for all our ancient relations too. The ancient animals, birds, plants, insects, fish, and all the others that are being hunted and dug up, in the Earth, in the Oceans, in the Waters, in the Sky and all the other places, they also need protection and must remain undisturbed. The four legged and all the other beings are a part of the original sacred language, part of the Creator's sacred Creation. We are created and related with them to follow and live in harmony and balance. Violating their Sacred Holy Cycle of Life is a violation to all.

We do not betray or violate the teachings of the Creator, so it is difficult to find the right English words to convey our beliefs and understandings, because we simply just don't understand the newcomers and their desire to dig up graves and take things that don't belong to them. Whether they are doing it because of greed, mental illness, recreation or so-called study, whatever the case, it is wrong, reprehensible, shameful, disgraceful, dishonorable and these actions violate the Creator's Sacred Holy Cycle of Life. We understand these violations of the sacred open the door for the spirit of disharmony to transfer sickness, disease and illness that cannot be seen or understood by modern doctors and their machines. We are extremely concerned because the newcomers are now teaching our young people to dig up their ancestors and their belongings, in addition to the ancient plants, animals and all other beings within Creation. Our young people must understand these actions not only violate our way of life as Aboriginal Indigenous Peoples

but that these violations also carry consequences for the individual, their families our communities and our future.

It is our right and responsibility to uphold the Creator's Natural Law and work to protect the Creator's Sacred Holy Natural Cycle of Life. We are the sole authority on our way of life not the government. The government has no authority or right to make decisions that affect our way of life without our consent. Our way of life is passed down mouth-to-ear, generation-to-generation, not by the paper. To provide a future for all life we must heal ourselves, stop these destructive actions, and heal and maintain our sacred relationship with the Sacred Holy Cycle of Life, by respecting and honoring those who have gone before us, by leaving them undisturbed or returning them back with their belongings to their homelands.

It is apparent the Aboriginal Indigenous Peoples ancient wisdom, created from a deeply rooted sacred relationship with the natural world, is absent from global discussions and decisions, even though we have spiritual insight, wisdom and vision to offer the world. Again, we indigenous spiritual elders and medicine people of this land, respectfully request a formal face-to-face meeting with the President and Congressional leaders to offer help, to guide actions necessary to overcome the current threats to our shared future.

We ask all Nations and human beings around the world to work with us, the Caretakers of Mother Earth, to uphold the Creator's Natural Law as a foundation for all decision-making, from this point forward. We are sending a clear message to the people of the world, including all public and private institutions. Do not sell, trade, display or hold our ancestors and their belongings rather return them back to their original homelands so they may be at peace among all their relations!

Representatives of the Council

Chief awal froking Horac

Chief Arvol Looking Horse 19th Generation Keeper of the Sacred White Buffalo Calf Pipe Spiritual Leader The Great Sioux Nation Belly C, Billie

Bobby C. Billie Clan Leader and Spiritual Leader Council of the Original Miccosukee Simanolee Nation Aboriginal Peoples

Feland Skis.

Leland Grass, Dine' Traditionalist

-ADDITIONAL SIGNATURES TO FOLLOW-Contact Information: SPIRET Foundation spiretfoundation@gmail.com Attn: Shawn Mulford

Legislation 0097-16

al bennett <alfredbennett45@hotmail.com>

Fri 4/1/2016 10:08 AM

To:comments < comments@navajo-nsn.gov >;

Council Delegates,

This legislation may be good to sellouts, but it is not in the best interest of the Navajo Nation. We know deals have been made, but this goes against Legislations 0082-16 and 0095-16, which need to be passed. It is important that you do your research by reading the "FINAL REPORT DINE' TRADITIONAL CULTURAL PROPERTY INVENTORY AT FORT WINGATE DEPOT ACTIVITY". Also no matter what, the U.S. Army should leave altogether. Thank You

Alfred Bennett-Shiprock

Ft. Wingate

Debbie Martinez <debbiemartinez1197@yahoo.com>

Sat 4/2/2016 12:03 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Legislation 0097-16

Regarding the land between Navajo tribe and Zuni Tribeca - I oppose this legislation.

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Legislation 0097-16

rayesyazzie@hotmail.com

Sun 4/3/2016 8:47 PM

To:comments < comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

1 attachment

IMAG0025.jpg;

Dear Sponsor:

I am appalled and upset about this proposed legislation. I am speaking on behalf of my late Grandfather, Antonio Silversmith, and the men who all traveled together to Washington DC to advocate for the lands surrounding Churchrock and lyanbito to be returned back to our Navajo People. Because of their strong words, their request was heard and they were ensured that the lands would return back to them. But now, it is very disrespectful to see that you are proposing to ignore the stance they took then, the hard travel they made to meet with the congressional leaders and the tears of hearing that their words would be upheld. Understand as I have heard from my family that it was not only about the land but the value it carried. The land not only held the rights of our People but it also held our ancestors, those that never returned back home, our ancestors of the Long Walk. Because of the history we have, I cannot see why you as a Sponsor should allow another Pueblo to overtake what belongs to our People. And to hear that this agreement to give a portion of our land away is being based on Congress making a decision to allow the Nation to have the NELI lands returned back to the Nation? Where is the Navajo Nations Sovereignty? All lands should be returned without any type of "trade off". As a Leader for our People, you need to take the stance that Congress owes back these lands as a whole and not as a trade-off. I know my Grandfather and his colleagues were true leaders, they had their people in mind, I sure hope you don't make a mockery of them, their memory, their words and the work they did.

Sincerely, Raedean Silversmith-Yazzie PO Bo: Jamestown, NM 87347

Sent from Outlook Mobile

Ft Wingate land

czunie1 <czunie1@yahoo.com>

Wed 3/30/2016 9:54 AM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

It belongs to the Navajo tribe as the NN historic preservation has evidences. We oppose the legislation sponsored by mr. Bates.

Powered by Cricket Wireless.

THE NAVAJO NATION LEGISLATIVE BRANCH INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW SUMMARY

LEGISLATION NO.: 0097-16

SPONSOR: Honorable LoRenzo C. Bates

TITLE: An Action Relating To Resources And Development And Naabiki'iyati' Committees; Establishing The Navajo Nation Position With Regards To The Fort Wingate Depot Activity Land Division Between The Navajo Nation And The Zuni Pueblo.

Posted: March 29, 2016 at 4:58PM

5 DAY Comment Period Ended: April 3, 2016

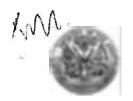
Digital Comments received:

| Comments Supporting | None |
|-------------------------|--|
| Comments Opposing (139) | 1. Thoreau Chapter Veterans Committee Petition 139 signatures. |
| Inclusive Comments | None |

Executive Director
Office of Legislative Services

6.711

Date/Time













THOREAU CHAPTER VETERANS COMMITTEE PO BOX 899 THOREAU, NEW MEXICO 87323 505-979-0796

PETITION

We the undersigned vigorously oppose Legislation No. 0097-16: Establishing The Navajo Nation Position With Regards To The Fort Wingate Land Division Between The Navajo Nation And Zuni Pueblo. This land and beyond have always belonged to the Navajo People until the United States Military might took over and removed our ancestors. Yet many of our Brave Navajo Men and Women served in the military fighting and dying for freedom in America and on Navajo Land. Our Navajo Men and Women have seen the horrors of battle against enemies of the United States serving in all branches of the Armed Forces and currently they continue to serve in foreign countries. Some are interned on foreign soil. Many Navajo names are inscribed on memorial walls because they made the ultimate sacrifice - they gave their lives for freedom. Two quotes by Navajo Code Talkers; "When I was inducted into the service, one of the commitments I made was that I was willing to die for my country - the U.S., the Navajo Nation, and my family. My (Native) language was my weapon." ** "I volunteered to serve my country." Navajo enlistees were sworn into the US Marine Corps as Navajo Code Talkers at Fort Wingate, New Mexico in the early 1940's. There are many Navajo graves on the Fort Wingate Land. Are several members of the 24 Navajo Nation Council going to ignore the sacrifices of our brave ancestors and Navajo Veterans to protect our homeland and give it to the Zuni Pueblos? It is beyond our comprehension to think they would pass such a disgraceful and despicable deed to their own people. We implore members of the 23th Navajo Nation Council to vote down this horrible Legislation No. 0097-16 and to protect lands that rightfully belongs to the Navajo People.

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THOREAU CHAPTER VETERANS COMMITTEE PO BOX 899 THOREAU, NEW MEXICO 87323 505-979-0796

PETITION

We the undersigned vigorously oppose Legislation No. 0097-16: Establishing The Navajo Nation Position With Regards To The Fort Wingate Land Division Between The Navajo Nation And Zuni Pueblo. This land and beyond have always belonged to the Navajo People until the United States Military might took over and removed our ancestors. Yet many of our Brave Navajo Men and Women served in the military fighting and dying for freedom in America and on Navajo Land. Our Navajo Men and Women have seen the horrors of battle against enemies of the United States serving in all branches of the Armed Forces and currently they continue to serve in foreign countries. Some are interned on foreign soil. Many Navajo names are inscribed on memorial walls because they made the ultimate sacrifice - they gave their lives for freedom. Two quotes by Navajo Code Talkers; "When I was inducted into the service, one of the commitments I made was that I was willing to die for my country - the U.S., the Navajo Nation, and my family. My (Native) language was my weapon." ** "I volunteered to serve my country." Navajo enlistees were sworn into the US Marine Corps as Navajo Code Talkers at Fort Wingate, New Mexico in the early 1940's. There are many Navajo graves on the Fort Wingate Land. Are several members of the 24 Navajo Nation Council going to ignore the sacrifices of our brave ancestors and Navajo Veterans to protect our homeland and give it to the Zuni Pueblos? It is beyond our comprehension to think they would pass such a disgraceful and despicable deed to their own people. We implore members of the 23nd Navajo Nation Council to vote down this horrible Legislation No. 0097-16 and to protect lands that rightfully belongs to the Navajo People.

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THOREAU CHAPTER VETERANS COMMITTEE PO BOX 899 THOREAU, NEW MEXICO 87323 505-979-0796

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THOREAU CHAPTER VETERANS COMMITTEE PO BOX 699 THOREAU, NEW MEXICO 67323 505-979-0796

PETITION

We the undersigned vigorously oppose Legislation No. 0097-16: Establishing The Navajo Nation Position With Regards To The Fort Wingate Land Division Between The Navajo Nation And Zuni Pueblo. This land and beyond have always belonged to the Navajo People until the United States Military might took over and removed our ancestors. Yet many of our Brave Navajo Men and Women served in the military fighting and dying for freedom in America and on Navajo Land. Our Navajo Men and Women have seen the horrors of battle against enemies of the United States serving in all branches of the Armed Forces and currently they continue to serve in foreign countries. Some are interned on foreign soil. Many Navajo names are inscribed on memorial walls because they made the ultimate sacrifice - they gave their lives for freedom. Two quotes by Navajo Code Talkers; "When I was inducted into the service, one of the commitments I made was that I was willing to die for my country - the U.S., the Navajo Nation, and my family. My (Native) language was my weapon." ** "I volunteered to serve my country." Navajo enlistees were sworn into the US Marine Corps as Navajo Code Talkers at Fort Wingate, New Mexico in the early 1940's. There are many Navajo graves on the Fort Wingate Land. Are several members of the 24 Navajo Nation Council going to ignore the sacrifices of our brave ancestors and Navajo Veterans to protect our homeland and give it to the Zuni Pueblos? It is beyond our comprehension to think they would pass such a disgraceful and despicable deed to their own people. We implore members of the 23nd Navajo Nation Council to vote down this horrible Legislation No. 0097-16 and to protect lands that rightfully belongs to the Navajo People.

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RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE 23rd NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

SECOND YEAR 2016

COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Speaker,

The RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE to whom has been assigned:

LEGISLATION # 0097-16: AN ACTION RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT, NAABIK'IYATI COMMITTEES; ESTABLISHING THE NAVAJO NATION POSITION WITH REGARDS TO THE FORT WINGATE DEPOT ACTIVITY LAND DIVISION BETWEEN THE NAVAJO NATION AND THE ZUNI PUEBLO. *Sponsor: Honorable Lorenzo C. Bates*

Has had it under consideration and report the same with a DO PASS and no amendments

And thereafter referred the matter to Nabi'Iyati Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Alton Ioe Shepherd Chairperson

Resources and Development Committee of the 23rd Navajo Nation Council

Date: April 5, 2016
Motion: Leonard Tsosie
Second: Leonard H. Pete
Vote: 4-0-1 (CNV)