

Yá'át'ééh, Mr. Chairman and members of the Economic and Development committee. I am from the community of To'Koi, New Mexico, located 7 miles west of Shiprock. I am of the Zia Pueblo People Clan, born New?Mexican. My maternal grandfather is Salt People Clan, and my paternal grandfather is Mexican. I am the Dine' Energy Organizer for Naeva, and I work on the Navajo Nation here in New Mexico. I would like to first notify everyone here that Naeva has recently rebranded our organization and we're formally NAVA Education Project. Naeva is a Native American-led Non-Profit that for over a decade has worked and continues to work on creating economic prosperity, protecting sacred sites and natural landmarks, and expanding the franchise for Native American Working Families through grassroots community organizing.

I have served on the States Climate Equity working group, most recently the New Mexico Climate Change Technical Advisory Group. I currently serve as New Mexico Indian Affairs Department Community Representative on the Energy Transition Act Community Advisory Committee (ETAC). Naeva has worked and continues to work to ensure the New Mexico's Energy Transition Act (ETA) helps impacted communities on Navajo Nation. New Mexico Indian Affairs Department (IAD) Cabinet Secretary Lynn Trujillo appointed me to the 16-member ETA Committee (ETAC). The first State meeting was in October of 2019 and the second took place virtually on December 17, 2020. I will later go further in detail on these but want to give you a perspective of some of the existing conditions here.

In the ETA the definition of an "affected community" is a community within 100 mile radius of San Juan Generating Station. There are 29 Navajo Nation Chapter Houses that are in this radius zone. Many of these Chapter Houses' have Land Use Planning Committees should be considered as part of the overall economic development plan. Each chapter goes through a process to build these plans, and the community helps to prioritize these projects. It is important to recognize that there is good work already underway and that the State should be working together with the Navajo Nation to create a plan for economic development.

We need to make sure that the emerging programs from Diné College, Navajo Technical University and other tribal colleges have the ability to increase their capacity to train Navajo students in industries that support economic development, diverse and clean-energy economies.

It is critical that we ensure that New Mexico's Energy Transition Act (ETA) prioritizes impacted communities on the Navajo Nation

Conclusion:

We need to continue building unity and cohesion amongst various jurisdictions as we diversify the New Mexico Economy that includes tribes in an equitable manner.

Below is some information about the Energy Transition Act Community Advisory Committee:

In October, 2020 a Request for Ideas proposal was made available by the ETAC conveners with soft deadline being Oct. 31st, 2020, and a hard deadline Dec. 13th, 2020. At stake is community funding with

estimates at \$20 million that would be available through three state agencies. New Mexico Workforce Solutions at \$12M, NM Economic Development at \$6M, and NM IAD with \$2M.

On Dec. 14th Naeva organized an ETA Tribal Prep Meeting. The purpose of this was to help presenters prepare for the Dec. 17th meeting and allow community members to better understand each ETAC proposal. Currently there are 9 proposals from the Navajo Nation and of those, 8 that have submitted proposals to the ETAC.

On January 18th, NAVA Education Project collaborated with Navajo Nation Council Delegate Amber Kahnazbah Crotty to organize a virtual meeting to update members of the 24th Navajo Nation Council of the Energy Transition Act Community Advisory Committee. Invited were all three ETA Advisory Committee conveners. Mr. Jason Sandel and Rep. Tom Taylor participated on this Zoom call. Attached below is the link where you can hear the meeting in its entirety. Since it does show personal cell phone numbers, we will still need to edit the video should it be shared.

March 22, 2019- President Nez "Clean energy is the future of our nation."

<https://www.governor.state.nm.us/2019/03/22/governor-signs-landmark-energy-legislation-establishing-new-mexico-as-a-national-leader-in-renewable-transition-efforts/>

Sept 30, 2019- President Nez <https://www.nmlegis.gov/minutes/IACminSep30.19.pdf>

Oct 1st, 2019- IAD/NMDWS ETA Presentation: Discussed the implementation of the ETA "the first meeting will focus on policy specifics, the second meeting will focus on community input and the third meeting will outline specific projects to fund."

[https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/IAC%20093019%20Item%206%20Update%20on%20the%20Energy%20Transition%20Act%20\(A\).pdf](https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/IAC%20093019%20Item%206%20Update%20on%20the%20Energy%20Transition%20Act%20(A).pdf)

Oct 29, 2019 – First ETAC meeting at SJC

Sept 22, 2020 – NM Conveners Virtual Town Hall and RFI info process

https://www.dws.state.nm.us/Portals/0/ETAC-RFI_09_2020.pdf

Dec 14, 2020 – Naeva, DC, TNA hosted a Tribal Prep Meeting

Dec 17, 2020 - RFI presentations aka ETA Second Meeting?

Jan 18, 2021- Naeva, DC, TNA hosted ETA Update to Navajo Nation Council

Jan 10, 2022- NM state Supreme Court ruled unanimously upholding finance order from Public Regulation Commission regarding financing of closure of San Juan Generating Station

2022- NMIAD state-tribal collaboration

NAVAJO CHAPTERS WITHIN 100 MILE BOUNDARY

- Crystal
- Mexican Springs
- Lake Valley
- Nageezi
- Huerfano
- White Rock
- Naschitti
- Tiis Tsoh Sikaad
(Burnham)
- Counselor
- Beclabito
- Toadlena/Two Grey Hills
- Gadii'ahi/To'Koi (Cudeii)
- San Juan
- Tse Anaozt'ii (Sanostee)
- Sheepsprings
- Tse Daa K'aan (Hogback)
- Nenahnezad
- Shiprock
- Upper Fruitland
- Newcomb
- Standing Rock
- Nahodishgish
- Crownpoint
- Pueblo Pintado
- White Horse Lake
- Bahast'lah (Twin Lakes)
- Coyote Canyon
- Tohatchi
- Becenti