

Status and Updates

Welcome: “On behalf of Counselor Chapter and community, I wanted to welcome each and everyone of the Committee members to our community”.

STATUS: Oil & Gas development within Counselor Chapter community has slowed down. The IMPACTs are the same and still there. Roads, Health & Air are still bad. Oil & Gas industry, Navajo Nation, NM State and US governments have not done anything to address the IMPACT to assist the community. Oil & Gas Industry, NM State & US Government keep taking, taking, taking with NOTHING in return. They leave all the destructions behind.

ROADS: Little progress. Counselor Chapter as part of the Tri-Chapters have been meeting with BLM, NDOT, Sandoval County trying to resolve the Roads issues. BIA Road N474 is scheduled for construction from Apache Corner to the Cross-Roads in 2020.

BIA Road N46 is scheduled for construction from Counselor Store to Cross Roads (5.7 miles) in 2019.

Through much pushing & pulling. Senator Martin Heinrick Office and BLM: ENCANA Industry paid \$2 million to build up/ gravel the ATKINs Road (2.7 miles) south of Lybrook Plant on private land. Talks are progress for the Industry to continue road improvements to Cross-Roads.

AIR Quality: Air is still bad, odor and dust from truck traffic. Counselor Chapter community with assistance from our allies (outside groups: Serra Club, Wild Earth Guardians, DINE CARE) have been conducting air quality monitoring and testing, along with water at various well sites within the Counselor community.

Counselor Chapter was informed on May 4, 2017 that Hydrogen Sulfide was detected at a level of 7.6 ug/m³ in a sample collected from the boundary of a NM State Land Office parcel leased for oil development. The parcel is located at Highway 550 mile marker 100 north of the Lybrook School in Counselor, NM.

Counselor Chapter contacted Council Delegate Leonard Tsosie to request the oil company operating the well be inspected and the level of Hydrogen Sulfide reduced to a level the current US EPA reference concentration of 2ug/m³.

The parcel and well operation are located close to Lybrook School that has 116 children enrolled. The chapter requests an immediate inspection and emission reduction as exposure to elevated levels of Hydrogen Sulfide is dangerous and poses a health hazard to the children, teachers and residents. CD Tsosie did not follow through with Counselor chapter's request. Situation is still the same. Maybe the Committee can pass the information onto Land Commissioner Aubrey Dunn.

HEALTH: Currently, Counselor Chapter community and the Allies are conducting a Health Impact Assessment within Counselor community. HIA Committee will be submitting application to Navajo Nation Human Research Board requesting to conduct a full Health Assessment.