

Summary Remarks
The Honorable Ben Shelly
President
Joint Senate-House Indian Affairs Committee
Wednesday, September 25, 2013

Navajo-Gallup Water Delivery Project. We invited President Obama to come tour the project, and our broadband

We dedicated a 4 tier Data Center in Shiprock, ready and open for business. We are moving toward Cloud Storage, Data Archive and Disaster Recovery

Our Broadband Project is complete. They are testing the Middle Mile. In Eastern Navajo, there is a challenge due to the complex land status. But we will work to provide more coverage

Verizon Wireless is building new TelCom Towers in Eastern Navajo, including a main site at Chaco, which will feed 4G/LTE service to the entire Navajo Nation. Verizon Wireless worked with us for two years to update all their sites

Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad is working with us to create a railroad spur in Thoreau for

import and export. We want to build a rail to the four corners for coal, oil, and agriculture

We returned from Alabama where we toured an Integrated Gasification Combine Cycle plant. It burns both coal and natural gas, fluctuating when prices vary. The best point is it's pollution free. The pollutants are removed, and the CO₂ is either used for Enhanced Oil Recovery or Storage. Southern Company is selling their CO₂. The CO₂ is 99.7 percent clean, and is of food grade quality. Remarkable technology that is available today, we can use here on the Navajo Nation.

Paragon Resource Ranch Solar Project study. The Navajo Nation and the BIA has approved a site study of 10,000 acres of land for development of a 4 gigawatt solar development project in Paragon Resource Ranch.

The Shush be Toh industrial site at Iyanbito chapter is approved and underway for development of a 40 megawatt solar farm. It is the first one on the Navajo Nation, with more to come, and the second one in all of Indian country.

Yesterday we celebrated the opening of a Solar Panel Manufacturing/Assembly plant in Fort Defiance, Arizona. Solar panels will be shipped world-wide, Navajo made, with the first shipment to Singapore. This Navajo company is involved with discussions with the U.S. Department of the Interior, and the U.S. Department of Defense for orders.

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