



THE NAVAJO NATION

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT & VICE PRESIDENT

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Navajo Vice President Ben Shelly welcomes Oglala Sioux delegation during fact-finding mission to Navajo Nation on energy initiatives

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – Navajo Nation Vice President Ben Shelly hosted Oglala Sioux Tribal President John Yellow Bird Steele during a July 2-3 visit concerning Navajo energy and economic development initiatives.

“The Oglala Sioux Tribe wanted to learn about our energy initiatives, especially renewable energy such as wind, geo thermal, and solar,” Vice President Shelly said today. “Energy initiatives are serious economic development avenues tribes are taking across the country to better the lives of their people.”

He said President Yellow Bird Steele and the Oglala Sioux delegation should be commended for thinking forward and working to bring opportunity to the Oglala Sioux people.

The Oglala Sioux delegation included tribal leaders Vice President William Brewer and Council Representatives Chuck Jacobs, Ron Duke and Phillip Good Crow.

Organized by the Diné Power Authority and OPVP Chief of Staff Patrick Sandoval, the tour included visits to energy initiative sites in the Eastern and Western Navajo Agency areas, as well as a stop at the Antelope Point Marina to hear about Navajo Nation economic development ventures.

The Oglala Sioux delegation also visited the Navajo Nation Council’s Office of the Speaker, Navajo Tribal Utility Authority headquarters and a Window Rock-area residence powered by solar and wind-generated systems.

“The visiting leadership from the Oglala Sioux Tribe was impressed with how the Navajo Nation uses its resources for tribal economic development,” said DPA General Manager Steven C. Begay. “The leaders listened to presentations from DPA, Citizens Energy, NTUA, the Shonto Chapter, and the Narbona Growth Fund Group to learn about the key components and development of a balanced tribal energy portfolio.”

The Oglala Sioux Tribe is a member of the Council of Energy Resources Tribes, an organization founded by the Navajo Nation which supports member tribes in their energy development initiatives.

Like many CERT member tribes, the Navajo Nation holds reserves of coal, oil, and natural gas, as well as renewable energy resources.

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