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Council opposes water rights settlement, S. 2109

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – The 22nd Navajo Nation Council convened today for a special session to consider two legislations on the subject of water rights settlement. The Naa’bik’iyati’ Committee also convened before the special session in order to recommend the agenda for council’s session.

Legislation No. 0230-12, sponsored by Speaker Johnny Naize, sought approval of the Navajo-Hopi Little Colorado River Water Rights Settlement. The council voted down the legislation with a vote of six (6) supporting and fifteen (15) opposing.

Legislation No. 0149-12, sponsored by Council Delegate Katherine Benally, opposes U.S. Senate Bill 2109 and H.R. 4067, which passed with fifteen (15) supporting and one (1) opposing. The legislation passed with amendments made during the June 15 Naa’bik’iyati’ Committee.

The Navajo Nation Council also passed a directive, with a vote of sixteen (16) supporting and zero (0) opposing, for the Speaker to appoint council delegates to a task force to continue working on water rights settlement on behalf of the nation.

A more detailed report of today’s council special session is forthcoming.

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