FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FEBRUARY 21, 2017

ADRIANO TSINIGINE AND TOMMY ROCK APPOINTED TO THE DINÉ URANIUM REMEDIATION ADVISORY COMMISSION

WINDOW ROCK – Navajo Nation President Russell Begaye and Vice President Jonathan Nez appointed Adriano Tsinigine as the youth member and Tommy Rock as the At-Large Member for the Diné Uranium Remediation Advisory Commission.

“I am pleased to make these appointments to this important commission,” said President Begaye. “We look forward to seeing how the commission will ensure proper remediation of uranium sites on the Navajo Nation for future generations.”

According to Navajo Nation Code Title 2, the purpose of the Commission is to study and reach conclusions about the impacts of uranium mining and processing on the Navajo nation and to make recommendations to the President of Navajo Nation and to the Navajo Nation Council for policies, laws and regulations to address those impacts.

“Congratulations to Adriano Tsinigine and Tommy Rock for their recent appointment to the Dine’ Remediation Advisory Commission. Adriano is proving once again that our Navajo youth are leaders of today,” said Vice President Nez. “Tommy and I worked together during my tenure as a councilman and I can vouch for his work ethic.”

Vice President Nez went on to say that there is much work to be done on the Navajo Nation, especially with uranium contaminated water sources, uranium victims dying from cancer and other terminal diseases, and the more than 500 abandoned uranium mines that still require cleanup.

Tsinigine is a full-time student at San Juan College pursuing a degree for Secondary Education in the Navajo language. Tsinigine is a young environmental activist who is committed to ensuring protection of our natural resources for generations to come. Tsinigine is from Coppermine, Ariz.

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Rock is a doctoral candidate at Northern Arizona University. He intends on obtaining his doctorate in earth science and environmental sustainability with an emphasis in climate and landscape change. Rock has over 11 years of experience presenting and implementing policies related to abandoned uranium mines on the Navajo Nation. Rock is from Monument Valley, Utah.

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“I am excited to be appointed by the President and Vice President. This is my first appointed position. As a freshman in college, I am excited to get this position,” said Tsinigine.

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“I am excited for this position and look forward to contributing to the commission,” said Rock.

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