



The Navajo Nation  
Office of the President and Vice President

CONTACTS:

Jared Touchin, Communications Director  
(928) 274-4275

Crystalyne Curley, Sr. Public Information Officer  
(928) 274-2758

[nnopvp.communications@gmail.com](mailto:nnopvp.communications@gmail.com)

---

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

June 11, 2019

**Nez-Lizer thank NTUA and utility companies for  
bringing electricity to more than 230 Navajo families**

**WINDOW ROCK** – Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer extend their appreciation to the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority and the 26 utilities companies from around the country, who made the “Light Up Navajo” initiative a success by bringing electricity to more than 230 Navajo families on the Navajo Nation.

On Tuesday, NTUA and the 26 utility companies gathered for a reception to celebrate the success of the pilot project. President Nez and Vice President Lizer were unable to attend the reception due to prior engagements, but offered their gratitude to the participants and volunteers.

“By working together and creating successful partnerships, great accomplishments can happen and make a positive difference in our communities. This initiative is a big step forward for our people and our Nation. The Nez-Lizer Administration is truly thankful to NTUA, the 26 utility companies, and the many volunteers for their hard work,” said President Nez.

NTUA partnered with the American Public Power Association, to begin electrifying Navajo households. Volunteer crews from 26 public power utilities spent six-weeks building powerlines and connecting homes to the electric grid in various Navajo communities.

According to NTUA General Manager Walter H. Haase, the initiative hopes to serve as a successful model for continued efforts to turn on the lights for all Navajo homes. The latest statistics indicate that 32-percent of Navajo homes lack electricity, 31-percent lack plumbing, 28-percent lack kitchen facilities, 38-percent lack water services, 86-percent lack natural gas services, and 60-percent lack landline telephone services, Haase added.

The Nez-Lizer Administration also thanks the American Public Power Association for providing grant funding for the project study, education, and other resources for the initiative.

“More great opportunities are forthcoming for the Navajo people. The Nez-Lizer Administration is working with NTUA to address electricity and water infrastructure needs in our communities to promote economic and community development,” added Vice President Lizer.

###

For the latest news from the Office of the President and Vice President,  
please visit <http://www.opvp.navajo-nsn.gov/> or find us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.