



The Navajo Nation
Office of the President and Vice President

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**Vice President Lizer highlights renewable energy initiatives during
the White House Tribal Leader Roundtable on Energy in Indian Country**



PHOTO: U.S. Vice President Mike Pence during the White House Tribal Leader Roundtable on Energy in Indian Country in the Ceremonial Room of the White House in Washington D.C. on Sept. 25, 2019.

WASHINGTON — Navajo Nation Vice President Myron Lizer was among several tribal leaders that took part in a high-level discussion focused on energy policy at the White House Tribal Leader Roundtable on Energy in Indian Country, facilitated by U.S. Vice President Mike Pence and U.S. Secretary of the Interior David Bernhardt. The roundtable was held in the Indian Treaty Room of the White House in Washington D.C. on Wednesday.

The roundtable was held in conjunction with the 2019 National Tribal Energy Summit, hosted by the U.S. Department of Energy - Office of Indian Energy in collaboration with the National Conference of State Legislators, where Vice President Lizer had the opportunity to engage with members of congress, state representatives and senators, energy industry leaders, and more to provide information and garner support for the Navajo Nation's renewable energy initiatives.

In his remarks, Vice President Lizer highlighted the Navajo Nation’s new direction in energy development, which prioritizes renewable energy sources such as wind and solar energy development. This new direction was formalized in April when President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Lizer issued the “Navajo Háyoókááł (Sunrise) Proclamation,” which states that the Navajo Nation will pursue and prioritize renewable energy development for the long-term benefit of the Navajo people.

“The Nez-Lizer Administration is working with many entities and states to put forth viable options for energy development and to take bigger strides in becoming the energy leader in all of Indian Country,” said Vice President Lizer.

He also informed the White House officials of the creation of the Háyoókááł Work Group to focus on energy initiatives. The work group is comprised of officials from the Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources, Department of Justice, Environmental Protection Agency, Division of Economic Development, Division of Community Development, and the Navajo Nation Washington Office.

The Nez-Lizer Administration continues to assess and move forward with several initiatives including the Paragon Bisti Ranch solar development project, which proposes to use approximately 660-acres of land in the community of Huerfano, N.M., to produce solar energy. Last week the Navajo Nation also celebrated the completion of the Kayenta Solar II facility, which produces over 55 megawatts of solar power – enough to electrify as many as 36,000 homes on the Navajo Nation.

“We’re working hard to make our Nation an industry leader in renewable energy, while creating revenues, jobs, and developing our communities,” said President Nez.

During the roundtable discussion, U.S. Vice President Pence briefly spoke about the important role that tribes play in the overall energy market across the country and also offered the administration’s support for tribal energy development. Department of the Interior’s Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs Tara Mac Lean Sweeney and Office of Indian Energy Director Kevin R. Frost were also part of the roundtable discussion.

The Nez-Lizer Administration thanks all of the federal officials and tribal leaders for participating in Wednesday’s roundtable discussion to help advance renewable energy development in Indian Country and the Navajo Nation.



PHOTO: Navajo Nation Vice President Myron Lizer in Washington D.C. on Sept. 25, 2019.

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