

4/20/2026

Mychal Yellowman
Office of Surface Mining Reclamation & Enforcement
Indian Lands & Washington Federal Programs Manager
MYellowman@osmre.gov
One Denver Federal Center, Building 41
Lakewood, CO 80225

Dear Mr. Yellowman:

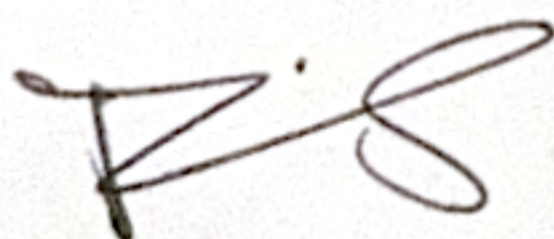
As a Delegate of the Navajo Nation Council and Member of the Navajo Nation Resources and Development Committee ("RDC"), I am writing to express my strong support for Navajo Transitional Energy Company, LLC ("NTEC") and its mining permit application for additional coal mining at the Navajo Mine (the "No Name Permit"). NTEC's continued operation of the Navajo Mine is essential to the economic stability and sovereignty of the Navajo Nation.

NTEC was formed in 2013 to facilitate the Navajo Nation's assertion of its inherent sovereignty as we develop our natural resources. As a Member of RDC, the Committee of the Navajo Nation Council responsible for overseeing such development, I can attest that NTEC has demonstrated a focus on its mission "to support, improve, and promote the economic, financial, tax, and revenue interests of the Navajo Nation through the development of the Nation's conventional, alternative, and renewable energy resources" NTEC's ongoing operation of the Navajo Mine is crucial to its ability to continue this mission.

The Navajo Mine is vital to the economic prosperity of the Nation. If the No Name Permit application is not approved and the Navajo Mine is forced to close, the Navajo Nation would face immense economic and community impacts. A closure would result in the loss of critical revenue to the Nation through royalties, taxes, and rent, as well as jeopardizing the continuation of the vital Community Heating Resource Program (CHRP), a program that donates coal to the many Navajo families across the Navajo Nation to heat their homes, as well as NTEC's other substantial contributions to Navajo communities.

For the continued prosperity and stability of the Navajo Nation, I strongly support NTEC's ongoing operation of the Navajo Mine and recommend approval of the No Name Permit.

Sincerely,



Rickie Nez,
25th Navajo Nation Council
Navajo Nation Resources & Development Committee Member
THE NAVAJO NATION

Cc: Marcello Calle, OSMRE (via email at mcalle@osmre.gov)
Roberta "Bobbi" Martinez Hernandez, OSMRE (via email at rmartinezhernandez@osmre.gov)