



The Navajo Nation Council — Office of the Speaker

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Navajo Council to convene for work session, special session on Desert Rock Energy Project

Work session scheduled on Feb. 26, special session on Feb. 27

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. — The Honorable Speaker Lawrence T. Morgan has announced a work session for the 21st Navajo Nation Council at 9 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 26, and a special session on Feb. 27, at the Navajo Nation Council Chamber to discuss issues related to the proposed Desert Rock Energy Project.

The work session on Feb. 26 is being held to allow members from the Doodá Desert Rock advocacy group the opportunity to provide the Navajo Council information regarding some concerns related to the Desert Rock Energy Project.

Speaker Morgan explained, "It is my position that this work session is necessary to provide Navajo Nation Council members information on some concerns related to the Desert Rock Energy Project. It is my belief that Council must know the pros and cons of this legislation before casting their votes on this important matter."

The Council will consider Legislation No. 0721-08 during a special session on Feb. 27, this legislation is sponsored by George Arthur (T'iistoh Sikaad/San Juan/Nenanezad), Roy B. Dempsey (Oak Springs/St. Michaels) and Norman John II (Twin Lakes), it is legislation related to economic development, resources and intergovernmental relations to approve the Diné Power Authority's application to the Navajo Nation and the Bureau of Indian Affairs for rights-of-way to the Diné Power Authority for the Desert Rock Energy Project.

Opponents to the power plant contend that it will cause air pollution and contaminate the San Juan Basin while destroying thousands of acres of prime Navajo grazing lands. Supporters of the power plant argue that it will bring in much-needed revenues to the Navajo Nation coffers and will allow the Nation to become more independent, all while creating new jobs and income for Navajo people.

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