

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: _0033-22_

SPONSOR: Rickie Nez

TITLE: An Act Relating to the Resources and Development, and Naabik'iyáti' Committees; Supporting the Arcadian Infracom Partnership with the Navajo Nation to Construct and Operate a Broadband Fiberoptic Communications Network Across the Navajo Nation

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LEGISLATION SUMMARY

TrackingNo. 0033-22

Date: February 2, 2022

**Re: AN ACT RELATING TO THE RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT,
AND NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES; SUPPORTING THE
ARCADIAN INFRACOM PARTNERSHIP WITH THE NAVAJO
NATION TO CONSTRUCT AND OPERATE A BROADBAND
FIBEROPTIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK ACROSS THE
NAVAJO NATION**

Purpose: to express the Navajo Nation's support for the Arcadian Infracom partnership with the Navajo Nation whereby the company will construct/install a 2800-mile broadband fiberoptic communications network across the Navajo Nation.

OLC No. 21-113-1

5-DAY BILL HOLD PERIOD: Johnson
Website Posting Time/Date: _____
Posting End Date: 02-22-22
Eligible for Action: 02-23-22

1 PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION
2 24TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL - Fourth Year, 2022

3 Introduced by:

4 
5 _____
6 Rick Nez

7 Primary Sponsor

8 Tracking No. 0033-22

9 AN ACT

10 RELATING TO THE RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT, AND NAABIK'ÍYÁTI'
11 COMMITTEES; SUPPORTING THE ARCADIAN INFRACOM PARTNERSHIP
12 WITH THE NAVAJO NATION TO CONSTRUCT AND OPERATE A BROADBAND
13 FIBEROPTIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK ACROSS THE NAVAJO NATION
14

15 BE IT ENACTED:

16 SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- 17
- 18 A. The Resources and Development Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation
19 Council with the responsibility to oversee matters involving rights-of-way and
20 communications and utilities, among other duties. 2 N.N.C. §500(C).
21
- 22 B. The Naabik'iyáti' Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council,
23 empowered to coordinate all federal, county, and state programs with other standing
24 committees and branches of the Navajo Nation government to provide the most efficient
25 delivery of services to the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. §701(A)(4).

26 SECTION TWO. FINDINGS

- 27 A. On August 28, 2020, the Resources and Development Committee approved Resolution No.
28 RDCAU-32-20, dated August 28, 2020, which approved a right-of-way grant and
29 appurtenant leases to Arcadian Infracom, a fiberoptic communications company. The right-
30 of-way and leases cover certain Navajo Nation lands within Arizona, Utah, and New Mexico.

1 RDCAU-32-20 is attached hereto as **EXHIBIT A** (exhibits omitted).

2 B. Arcadian Infracom has partnered with the Navajo Nation to construct/install 2,800 miles of
3 fiberoptic communication lines across the Navajo Nation and surrounding states (“AI
4 Project”). See Navajo Nation President and Vice-President letter to Utah, Colorado, Arizona
5 and New Mexico Governors, dated September 23, 2022, attached hereto as **EXHIBIT B**; see
6 also Navajo Nation President and Vice-President letter to Arizona Governor Doug Ducey,
7 dated March 10, 2021, attached hereto as **EXHIBIT C**.

8 C. The AI Project will enhance and improve the Navajo Nation’s overall bandwidth capacity,
9 enabling the Nation to support data-intensive applications such as high-quality video
10 conferencing; primary, secondary, and college students’ ability to attend classes online;
11 telemedicine healthcare services; and employees who need to work remotely because of
12 COVID-19-related workplace shutdowns.

13 D. The AI Project will create new jobs for Navajo members, provide cash and services to the
14 Navajo Nation by sharing Project revenues and services as compensation for use of Navajo
15 Nation lands, generate new tax revenues through the construction and operation of
16 infrastructure built on the Navajo Nation, and assist the Navajo Nation in providing high
17 speed internet to Navajo communities. A detailed explanation of the AI Project, and the
18 benefits it will provide to the Navajo Nation, is attached hereto as **EXHIBIT D**.

19 **SECTION THREE. APPROVAL**

20 The Navajo Nation hereby expresses its full support of the Arcadian Infracom partnership with
21 the Navajo Nation and the implementation of the AI Project across Navajo Nation lands.
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23 **SECTION FOUR. EFFECTIVE DATE**

24 The provisions of this Act shall become effective in accordance with 2 N.N.C. §221(C).
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