

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: _0170-25_

SPONSOR: Casey Allen Johnson

TITLE: An Action Relating to Resources and Development Committee; Approving the Painted Desert Powers Solar Site Lease for Painted Desert Power, LLC to Construct and Operate a Solar Energy and Battery Storage Project in the Coalmine Canyon Area (Coconino County, Arizona)

Date posted: July 01, 2025 at 8:19PM

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Office of Legislative Services
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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 6170-25

DATE: July 1, 2025

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACTION RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE; APPROVING THE PAINTED DESERT POWER SOLAR SITE LEASE FOR PAINTED DESERT POWER, LLC TO CONSTRUCT AND OPERATE A SOLAR ENERGY AND BATTERY STORAGE PROJECT IN THE COALMINE CANYON AREA (COCONINO COUNTY, ARIZONA)

PURPOSE: This purpose of this proposed resolution is to approve a lease between the Navajo Nation and Painted Desert Power, LLC for approximately 4,500 acres for a 750 megawatt solar energy and battery storage project located in the Coalmine Canyon area (Coconino County, Arizona).

FINAL AUTHORITY: Resources and Development Committee

VOTE REQUIRED: Simple Majority

This written summary does not address recommended amendments as may be provided by the standing committees. The Office of Legislative Counsel requests each Council Delegate to review each proposed resolution in detail.

OLC No. 25-304-1

5-DAY BILL HOLD PERIOD:
Website Posting Time/Date:
Posting End Date: 07-06-25
Eligible for Action: 07-07-25

PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION
25th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL -- Third Year, 2025

Introduced by:

Carney Allen Johnson 
(Prime Sponsor)

Tracking No. 0170-25

AN ACTION
RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE;
APPROVING THE PAINTED DESERT POWER SOLAR SITE LEASE FOR
PAINTED DESERT POWER, LLC TO CONSTRUCT AND OPERATE A SOLAR
ENERGY AND BATTERY STORAGE PROJECT IN THE COALMINE
CANYON AREA (COCONINO COUNTY, ARIZONA)

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

Pursuant to 2 N.N.C. Section §501 (B)(2), the Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council has the authority to grant final approval for all land withdrawals, non-mineral leases, permits, licenses, rights-of-way, surface easements and bonding requirements on Navajo Nation lands and unrestricted (fee) land. This authority shall include subleases, modifications, assignments, leasehold encumbrances, transfers, renewals, and terminations.

SECTION TWO. FINDINGS

A. Painted Desert Power, LLC seeks approval of a lease to construct, install, and develop a 750-megawatt (750MW) photovoltaic solar generating and battery storage project in the Coalmine Canyon Chapter of the Navajo Nation Reservation, approximately four

1 (4) miles east of the town of Cameron, Arizona. The lease is being entered into in
2 accordance with the Navajo Nation's General Leasing Regulations found at 16 N.N.C.
3 § 2301 *et seq.* The lease is attached as **Exhibit A**.

4 B. The lease covers 4,500 acres, more or less, as described in the survey map and legal
5 description of the leased premises attached as **Exhibit B**.

6 C. The lease states that Painted Desert Power, LLC is requesting a waiver of a
7 performance bond in accordance with 16 N.N.C. § 2335(B).

8 D. There are eighteen (18) grazing permittees within the proposed project area. The
9 corresponding Field Checklist and "Consent to Use Navajo Nation Lands" forms from
10 all eighteen permittees are herein attached as **Exhibit C**.

11 E. The General Land Development Department's Environmental Compliance
12 Determination is attached as **Exhibit D**. The Cultural Resources Compliance Form is
13 attached as **Exhibit E**. The Biological Resources Compliance Form is attached **Exhibit**
14 **F**.

15 F. A supporting resolution from the Coalmine Canyon Chapter is attached as **Exhibit G**.

16 G. The proposed lease and supporting documentation have been reviewed through
17 Executive Official Review Document Number 022001, which is attached as **Exhibit**
18 **H**.

19 H. The Navajo Nation understands that Painted Desert Power, LLC will also require a
20 right-of-way from the Navajo Nation for a transmission line of approximately four (4)
21 miles that will be associated with this solar and battery storage project. The right-of-
22 way will be a separate discussion between the Navajo Nation and Painted Desert
23 Power, LLC and will be subject to an approval process separate and apart from this
24 resolution.

25 26 **SECTION THREE. APPROVAL**

27 A. The Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council hereby
28 approves the lease, attached as **Exhibit A**. The location is more particularly described
29 on the survey map attached hereto as **Exhibit B**.

1 B. The Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council hereby
2 authorizes the President of the Navajo Nation to execute any and all documents
3 necessary to affect the intent and purpose of this resolution.
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