

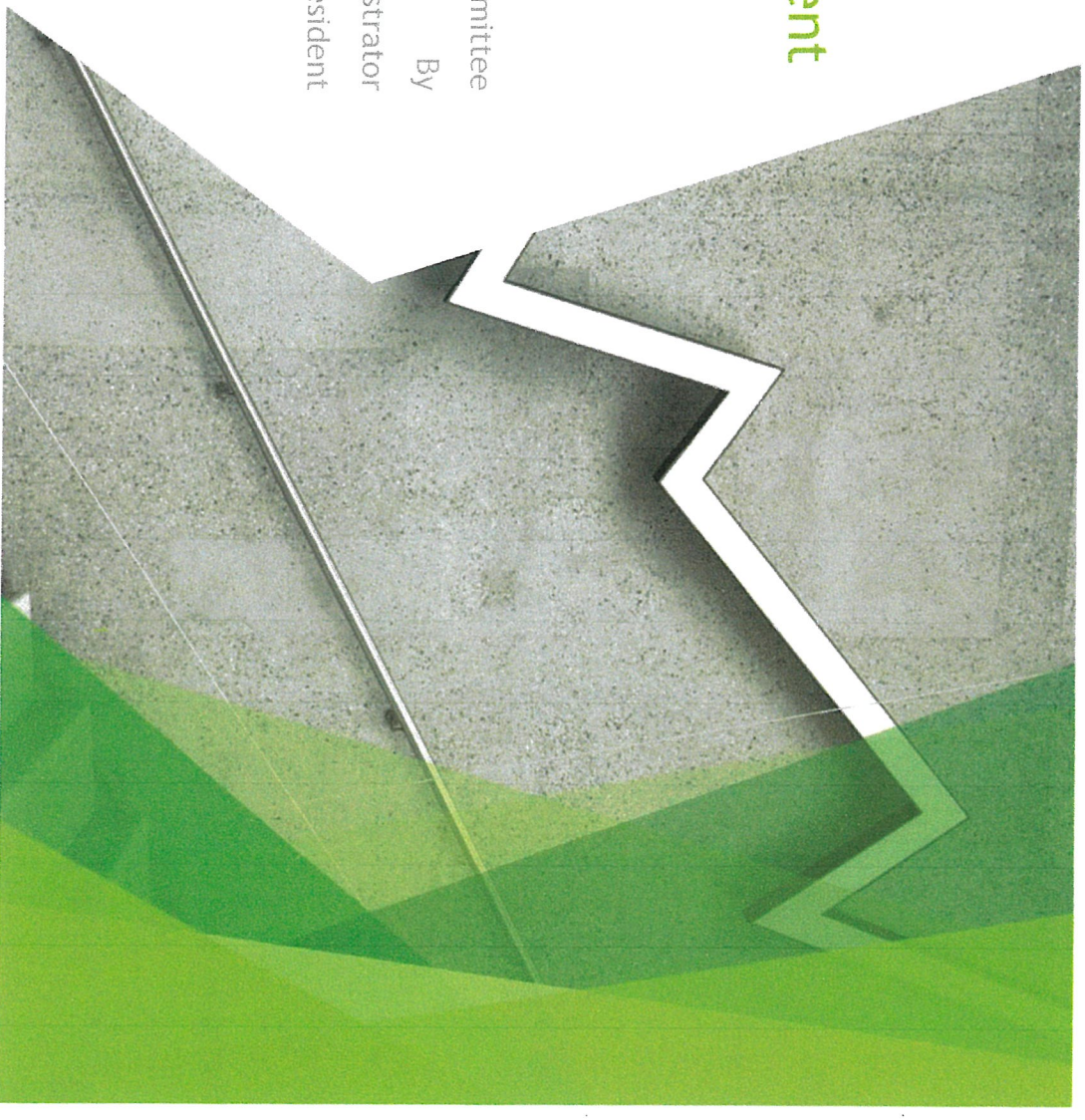
# Infrastructure Development and Partnerships Keys to a Pathway to Economic Vitality

Presented to the NM Indian Affairs Committee

By

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Office of the President and Vice President



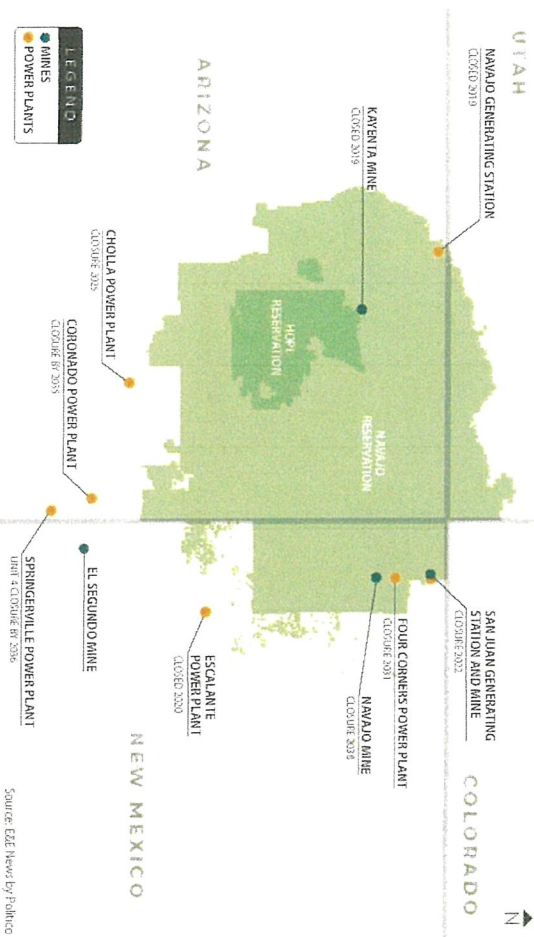
# Presentation Content





# Challenges

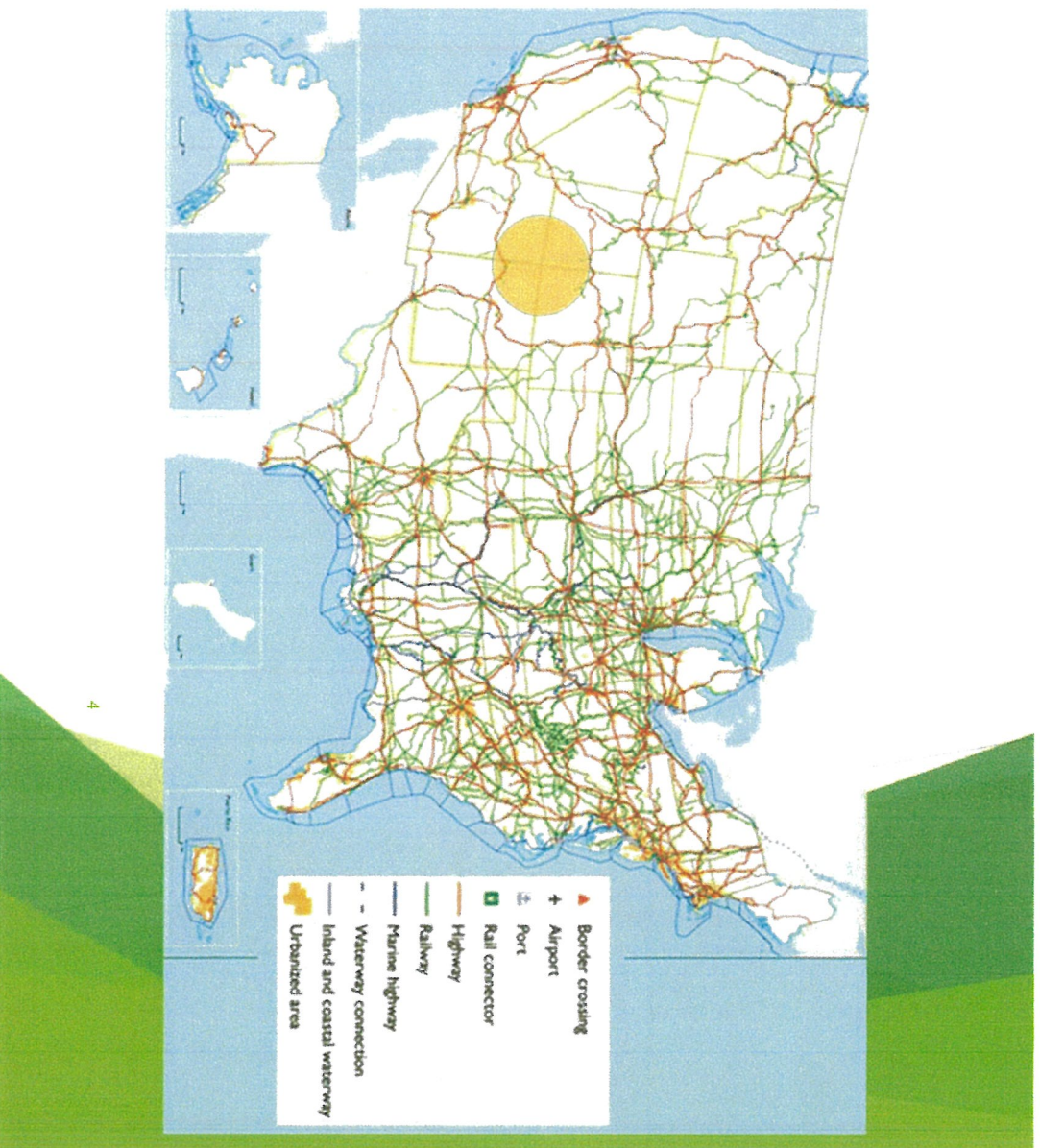
- ▶ Transition of the Energy Sector within the Navajo Nation resulting in loss jobs and skilled labor.
- ▶ Rural region, lack of infrastructure, rebuilding capacity within the Navajo government, housing
- ▶ Need to address infrastructure needs
  - ▶ Roads / Transportation
  - ▶ Broadband
  - ▶ Water
  - ▶ Electricity
  - ▶ Broadband
- ▶ Economic Diversity



- Plant and Mine Closures Impacting the Navajo Nation**
- MoHAVE Power Plant - Black Mesa Mine (2005)
  - Pittsburgh & Midway Mine (2020)
  - Navajo Generating Station - Kayenta Mine (2019)
  - Escalante Power Plant - Lee Ranch Mine (2020)
  - San Juan Power Plant - San Juan Mine (2022)

## Additional Challenges

- The Four Corners region is the largest Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) in the nation with no freight rail
- There is no interstate in the region shown in the circle and there is no international commercial air.
- Internet capabilities are very limited in this region.





- ▶ Strategic direction
  - ▶ Economy, Education, Environment, Government Efficiency and Effectiveness, Health, Infrastructure, Natural Resources, Public Safety, Social Services
  - ▶ Executive Branch ---> Divisions ---> Dept. and Programs
- ▶ Reviewing the roles of the Tribal enterprises
- ▶ Focus on Economic Diversity
  - ▶ Energy
  - ▶ Industrial Development / Manufacturing
  - ▶ Tourism
  - ▶ Agriculture
- ▶ Partnerships
- ▶ Tribal participation in economic based projects
  - ▶ Workforce Development
  - ▶ Job Creation
  - ▶ Maintain a Navajo “middle class”



# Infrastructure

- ▶ Transportation
  - ▶ Road construction and renovation
    - ▶ 491 and 550 expanded to 4-lane highways
    - ▶ 264, 64, and 371 need repair
  - ▶ Railroad connection between San Juan County and I-40 rail corridor
- ▶ Water
  - ▶ Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project (water along 491 and 550) - USBR
- ▶ Electricity
  - ▶ Light up Navajo - NTUA
- ▶ Broadband
  - ▶ Coordinating with NM and BIA through the NNTRC & Navajo Broadband Office
  - ▶ Federal funding available (coordination of project development)
    - ▶ E-rate, NTIA, IRA, ARPA, Rural Addressing
- ▶ Housing
  - ▶ 1000 Home Initiative
  - ▶ Bathroom Additions

# Target Areas

## Energy Development

- Energy Vetting Team looking at projects
- US DOE support
- Open to developing and utilizing alternative energy sources: solar, geothermal, hydrogen, pump storage

## Manufacturing

- Raytheon

## Agriculture

- NAPI
- Navajo beef in New Lands region of the Navajo Nation (AZ)

## Tourism

- Goldings Holdings purchase (AZ north of Monument Valley)

## Small Business Development

- Waive Business site lease payments for 36 months
- Build out broadband capabilities to support location neutral, education, workforce development, etc.



# Next Steps

## Continue

- Continue to develop a positive partnership with the State of New Mexico
- Support Joint Memorial sponsored by Representative Rod Montoya for the 4C Railroad project
  - Continue to support Navajo Broadband Office and the NN Telecommunication Regulatory Commission's partnering efforts

## Identify

Identify ways to improve the government-to-government relationship with the State

## Establish

- Establish effective partnerships with surrounding counties
- Road renovation and construction projects
  - Callup's effort to develop an Inland Port
  - San Juan County's effort to enhance Behavioral Health support