

Public Comments Concerning Navajo Generating Station
Window Rock, Arizona
Naakai Hall

Navajo English Translation

May 19, 2017
11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Tape 1

1. Good Morning, My name is Juanita Tallis, **Starts off in the English language...** kódóó saad hólónígíí, jó' alch'i' saad a dahii' nííł nahalin, akoo nitł'izh indaa' nil dóó 'éí' ádaat'éégóó nahaltxin yíká nida ha láál dóó nitł'izh da nida honíłgo' ákoshíí 'akoo niheeh nahaltxin dóó yá'át'ééhgo hazáa dooleel. Ákót'áo nihił hazáó' át'é, kóó' t'óó'áhá yóíí baa dáádiikai dóó hataałii Dine' é doo' t'óó'ahayóíí da silíí' ako nihi sodizin dadiits'a' góóshíí yá'át'ééh dooleel kóódi t'áa díishjì dooleel. Ahéhee'.

It seems as though we are using words to bring each other down, sacred offering are made upon (earth) to summon the rain, so we can enjoy the moisture too. Most places are sacred because of rituals being done upon those places. We've lost a lot of our ceremonies, including the decrease of our medicine or medicine men. We should pray for a good outcome from this day forward. Thank you.

2. Nathan Gray: **English...** Dinék'ehjóó yaa dahalne'go ...t'ááhó'ájíit'éego daa nííleh áádóó Bilagáanaa k'ehjigo' éíí ła'náána..haash yidt'áo' t'ááhwí hó Diné' bik'ihjì' nínááz dooyis?

This is a teaching in our Diné lifeway...It up to you to bring about your destiny parallel to the western society. Why would you turn against your own people?

Doolá dó' dooda da (ni) chéíí dóó másání doo hazhó'ó nah neezt'á nééh. T'áa hó'ájít'éego naanish bikéé' dash dii wodgo t'áa hoghan dóó, éíí bee hadziil doo daaníl leh. Sháá níiya'? ła' shíí doo' ákót'áo yaa nitsí daa kees da...Jó kwé'é shighan dishní, shichéíí dó' Cactus Valley... aoo'... yádaal ti'í...naanish bik'éé' .

Oh my goodness, oh my goodness, your grandparents didn't teach you properly. You can take off from your house to seek out a job to strengthen and stabilize yourself. Isn't that right? Some of might not think of it that way...I said, "I live right here" my maternal grandfather also...Cactus Valley... yes...talk...go after jobs...

3. Herb Yazzie: Yá'át'ééh koo' álah nii dlínígíí kwá'ásiní yá'át'ééh nihi díí niid dooleel. Naaki go yéego shi' dił áago baa hades dziih. Áłtsé hígíí koo 1969 ha'nóoh

ch'et'á, íídáá' yihaaháá' ch'et'á. T'áh Níwodáá'...Diné bił kée hash t'ínígíí txi' hooníigo hahool zhiizh éí k'ad ashdladiin náá hahgóó dahwéel zhíish.

Greeting to all of you assemble here, greet you all. I will comment on two major concerns of mine. First 1969 is mentioned here, that year was specified. Further back, people within my community started suffering, fifty years and it still continues on.

Txi' hooníigo dísh nínígíí 'éí koo baa hwii nít'ínígíí ha'agéed bits'áa dóo da ní tsaaz ígíí hoho diil t'ih lá hats'íis yiho diil t'ih lá. Áko lá'ída niha'átchíní bida hodiit'i' ákot'áo' lá'í bikée' ádahas dij' éí bits'áadóo ni daal nish nt'ée' lá' jó'akó, áadóo ashda diin dóo ní woshji' nááhái niho'oo dloh go yoo chx'íd díí bee nihi ch'í' ha'iisdzi' ééh t'ahdii da'íníish, dóo záahgi' ho'oodloh dooleel, doo záahgi' ho Dine'é ákólí dooleel. Wáashindóónii nooh łínii Federal government, Navajo Nation government, tsídá nihí nihaah silá ...**English language.**

The suffering I stated are topics of our discussion here, related to the mining activities, airborne emissions of different types of Pollutants will affect your health. Many of our children are affected now and some have passed on, working in these mines. Fifty years and more years of fraudulent-deceitful engagement of companies are still operating here. How long of this fraudulent-deceitful treatment can we bear, how long will our people be treated like this! You the Government, federal and Navajo Nation, it's in your responsibility....

4. Darrell Tso: Yá'át'ééh kodóó' éí yáá nihich'í' ádééhodes zijł, Naakai Diné'é Tó' aheadłínii nishłó, lók'áá Diné'é 'éí báshish chíín, Naash t'ézhí Tábaahí da ni dlínígíí' éí dashi chéi dóo Tł'ízi lání éí dashinalí. Díí niléíí Nahat'á Dziil áádi kée hasht'ih, t'áá'áyisíí naashá dēē' éí niléíí Tónaneesdizi dēē' ęi ch'ishí kee'.

Greeting, I want to introduce myself to you, I'm Mexican People Waters Joining Together clan, Born for Reed People, Edge Water Zuni are my maternal grandfather and Manygoats are my paternal grandfather. I live in Nahat'á Dziil however, I'm originally from Tuba City, AZ.

Díídí baa yá deilti'ígíí, áłtsé' aláájí díí áájí nidałnishígíí Peabody di nidał nishígíí, ahéhee' láah dei yínól níishgo kóní zahgóó nihi nahji' Diné nii dlínígíí Béeso yáál lá'igo nihich'í' kólí, lá'ída kodóó táá' naaz nilí bił naha záa dēē' béeso bich'í' ko daalígo hastoi sáanii da' éí' áájí chidayohí. Ááádóo Veteran da áájí' chida'oolí, ts'ída t'óó' ahayóíí góó chidáózijid dóo bee da'íníish éí' ákot'áo' t'éí t'áá bée hózíni yee'. Háádēēsh yáál nínáádi dii'áál dooda hodoo'niidgo.

This subject that we are discussing, firstly, those of you that work for Peabody, thank you, that you're working this long, we benefit because of you. We Navajos receive royalties that pays for many programs, like Elderly and the Veterans Programs who used this money to provide services. It is very clear a lot of people benefits. Where are we going to get funds like this, when we say "NO"?

Ádin, nahjį Mojavejį dooda ha'nóó dá' deelkaal. Solar panels lá'í nidoo'nįł naanish hádínóó chał ha'nóóh hash yídt'áo hazá, ádin. Éíí tł'óódéé' Bilagáanaa nihi keshjéé' díí nááts'íílid nihi náztí' béesh tsist'odii binázáztí' bée' áts'ah honíyéé' nihi' di'nóóh bee nanihi'dinéést'áá' yééh ni' k'ad kóó' ana'í nihihéshjéé'.

Not source! There were good plans for Mojave before it closed down. Build a solar panels farm to add jobs, there's nothing that replaced it, we have not seen the plans. The outside communities (white people) are prepare to take the opportunity to seize what's ours, though we are a sovereign nation there are people who are prepared to take advantage of the Nation.

Nihéé' adínóó'ííł dóó ha'át'íishíí niha'álchíní yích'į' ninéí' doo'nįł ha'nínígíí k'ad ákót'é lá'í' ákóó da'ííłta' yééh t'ó' azajijeeh áájí ni nooh hada haastsííd díí k'ad Grand Canyon Trust wólyé ts'ídá lá'ígo t'ó nah nihi nįł tł'ah nihi Dine'é t'ó yích'į' na'ííleehgo t'ó nihich'į' yíłáh t'ó nihíni' ííł t'áá'ázáadgóó' nihil halne'ii áyósinií nihi tah hóló dííshjįdi, Éíí kwe'é nanihi nįłtł'ahgo' át'é.

Elders in the past said, "your own children will (get educational knowledge) come back and come against you in the future", that's the scenario right here and out there every day, our young educated people get sucked into the main stream society I observe. An example, the Grand Canyon Trust, an controversial issue blocking plans for development and water plans and our people receive pay to do the dirty work of the (Grand Canyon Trust) wants done. There are deceitful and fraudulent activities going on today. That's a real problem.

Éíí' áhót'áo' éíí baa'ákó nisingo has tsííd ákohoo díí' íłta' áldó'ó, áádéé' nánisdzáago t'áh nít'éé' áko daaní, shoo héí kót'áo daasts'í niha nanilnish doo shi' doo'niid dooda héí shi' éí doo biníyé' ííłta' da díísh shi Diné'é haa da yídt'áo bich'ááh yáshti' dooleel biníyé báš sézjį doo biníyé' ííłta' dishní doo'éí nihi zah déesh wołda dóó doo' éí niháyáshti' deshleeł doo éí nihinaalte' desh leelgóó' éí biníyé' ásh tįda hó dííniíd.

Be aware of these types of issues. I went on to receive higher schooling, I return to the Navajo I was approached to work a company, I said, no I didn't go to school to work for anybody, My job is to be an activist to protect my people and stand up for them, that is why I went to school. I'm not going to get sucked in to your work, to represent you, I'm not going to be enslave by you, I stated.

Áko goh ákwe'é baa'ákó nohsin shik'éí noh línígíí dóó 'áádéé' shinálí President, Russell Begay, áhéhee' láá kwe'é nihís tsín dáadóó nihítsín ts'áá' díí lá'ída nik'éí nílínígíí na'ada'iiz nįł nihi naat'ánii diileel niha sínízjį doo niha yánłti' dooleel éíí daaniigo 'éíí dadah nines dá, ákóhoo' éí bik'ehgo nahdéé' t'óó'ahayóíí tł'óódéé' environmentalist shįí nich'į' dahi jaah, béeso daats'í nich'į' kódeíł.

Be aware of things like this, my relatives and paternal Grandfather President Russell Begay, thank you for being here and listerning to our comments. Many of our relatives here voted for you to lead us, to speak (do) on our behalf and placed you in that position. Based upon this you probably receive environmentalist from outside our boundary whom want to "buy" you to agree with them on certain issues.

Éíí dooda éíí' dooda jó háálá' éíí doo ná'áda' ííz nil da. Kójí nidaalnishígíí dóó béeso bee'íílnígíí' éíí bá siizí, éíí béneil nih nisoó baa nítéskees, Díí' éiyá kodóó kóníł tsohgo baa nítés kees dóó' áádóó' t'áá'aaníí t'óó'ahayóíí shik'éíí 'áájí kée hat'í' áldó'ó t'áá'aaníí binaanish das díł dóó éídó' hait'áoda bénéil niih dooleel díí' át'éhígíí' éí bee'alts'éikah díídi Kisánii dó' éíidah bíł alts'éikah, áádéé' kéyah baa saad hólóogo biniinaa nahat'á bee 'alts'éikah, kodi nihi nahat'a' alhih ní doo' dáál díí'niigo' áájí' nihá ninitl'ah silíí'.

No! NO! don't ever do that, they did not vote for you. You represent and stand with the workers from whom you receive royalties, that's who will remember the accomplishment they've share with you. These are my thoughts, it is true I have many relatives that work up there whose jobs are impacted we need to remember and resolve their situation too. Sure we are divided because of these issues, there are certain things we don't agree on with the Hopi Tribe as well but we need to stand together on this issue, let's not be the problem.

Ndi kódóó' éí t'áála'í tsiidzı haadanıdzajı' náánálwoł dooleel haanízahjı' shik'éíí náádeılńısh dooleel haanízahjı' da áádéé' béeso nínáa dahiıdláa dooleel. Áádóó kodóó' áájı' da há'át'íılá binınáa da hodiit'aal ha'a'íılá bee béeso bee' ánáa néıl ııd dooleel, díıla' yá'át'ééh díıla' baanitsıda diikós díıla' bee' ánáada' díıl níıl éíí' át'éhígíí shıı baayádeılti' dooleel doo 'éíí kwe'é nihá ni hoonıti' da dooleel da t'áa náásgóó nihıł hoolzhish doo kot'áo nisooh nítéskees. Áádóó' ahéhee' aadéé' ni haa nooyáhígíí' áldó'ó kót'áo' éíí nihich'ı' haasdzıı' dooleel.

Let's take a unified stand to resolve this complex problem to ask for the companies to continue operation for a few more years to continue to receive the royalties up to closure. From there forth we need to figure out what we need to do to resolve associated issues in order to financially provide services. These are my thoughts and express them to you. Thank you.

5. **Nathaniel Brown: Start out in the English Language.** T'áa lá'ıgo t'ahdıi nihe' iina' ádeılı, k'ééda'diılééh dóó nihııı' áádi nidaakai dóó t'ahdıi baa'adahwııyá dóó' éíıyáa bıı' heikaah da, Dii éı tó' ha'nínígıı' éı shı' diıl áh, éıı' éıı hazhó'ó kodóó naalkah dóó bik'ı' ádéést'ıı' áádóó díı ch'ıl nanise' nılńıgıı dó' nihida'diıláh. éııshıı hazhó'ó baa'áháyá' éıı kot'áo néshı, áadi atah tádiikai 'áadi nıléıgıı ch'ıl nıdanise' k'ééda' dııye', reclamation deıl nínígıı' áadi bitah tádiikai nızhónıgo' áájı yaa'adahalyáa lá.

Many of us still carry on life like that, we plant gardens our livestock graze out there and we still take care of them, we are not losing that kind of lifestyle. I very concerned about water we need more studies, monitor the water data. The vegetation is another concern, conservation efforts need to be applied, I see it this way. We took a tour up there, the reclamation project reclaiming the vegetation, they (company) are doing a good job reclaiming the land.

Ániid nıléıı Hozdohdi naashao nıléıı San Carlos góó shıł oolwoł nt'ée' coopermine léı' bighaagóosh shıł ch'ı'ılwod nt'ée' éı yéego da hóochxó' doo k'ééda'dıılee da lá.

áadi shíí' éi t'áa'aání' anáhoót'i'. Tó dabiké daak'eh ts'íis yéé' ndi' ádin, ákó nihi
koji nihił hazání bił alhaah neshíigo' éí nizhóónóo nihaa' áyaa lá. Nihi koji'
binaanish ádeíl íi ní háashíí néeláa' alk'ih da dést'íí'

Recently I traveled to Phoenix, then on to the San Carlos as I drove through the area,
I noted an abandoned copper mine showing poor reclamation of the site, the
responsible party let this happen, large area of barren soil wasting away. I think
compared to this copper mine site our reclamation is far better with many oversight
from all the personnel.

Back to the English language. Éí' áájíhígíí t'áa' álahjì' bina'íidíilkid díí naanishígíí.
Back to the English language. Díí' álchíní nilínígíí haalá nítsohgo díí amá dóo azhé'é
nilínígíí ła' naanish yikéé' dah diiyáo lá hait'áo bighandi' anáhoot'i' doo **Back to the
English language.** Nihahastoi dóo sánii kóo nihił honohłónígíí' ahéhee' ...kóo
danihíisínółts'áa' hazhó'ó shíí há'át'íishíí nihi' díłáhígíí kwe'é bee hadoohdzih dóo
nihi didiits'ííł. Ahéhee'.

We consistently ask the company questions about it efforts. The matter around
relocation of working parents, if they should lose their jobs and have to move away, is
closely addressed concerning the home situation. Thank you to the elders who are
among us, listening to our comments, you are welcome to address your concerns here
as well and we'll listen to you. Thank you.

6. **Marie Shepard:** Yá'át'ééh, shé' éí Marie Shepard yinisyé, Ta'neezahnii nishłoo,
Tséníjikiní báhish chíín, Tséníjikiní t'áa' éi náa dashichéí, dóo Tł'ízilání' éí
dashináli, kótáo' asdzání nishłí. Bee'ak'id baa' áhoodzáni déé' naashá. **Spoke a little
bit in English.** Baa hodeshnihígíí 'éí díí bik'ih dí nishí'í'ígíí' éí hasht'ééhál néhígíí
bik'ih dínishíí' Reclamation wolyéhígíí Bilagáanaa k'ehjí.

Greeting my name is Marie Shepard, (clans), I'm from Ganado, AZ. (English), I want
to talk to you about the work that I oversee, reclaiming of the land that was mined. It
is called Reclamation in the English language.

Áádóó' na'al kaahígíí dó' bik'ih díshíí' áájì' dó' shi naanish áshí. Díí hash t'ééhál
néhígíí' t'áa' hoyóíi bik'i' ádéést'íí' kwe'é yaahoolne'égi' át'áo Mr. Brown. Ákoo
bik'esti'ígíí' t'óó'aha yóíigo doo' éjì t'ó bóhólní'góó' áda'íilí da, ako níléíí łeezh
níná dzíidígíí' áádóó hahal zhish. Áłtsé' éí łeejin háa géed ígíí áłtsé áádóó bikéédóó'
éí háada hodiil bin áádóó' éí łeezh bik'ih nínádei zi' áadoo łeezh bik'ih níná' dei
dzídí' éjì naalkah łeezhígíí. Ákohoo' éí bik'ehgo' áda'íilí. Áádóó bikéédóó' éí
k'éé'díl yééh.

I oversee the monitoring (studies). To oversee the Reclamation Department is a huge
responsibility as was mentioned by Mr. Brown. There are layer of regulations and
laws to comply with. We don't carry out what we want to do. The first step is
covering soils back over the mined areas. Well, first is the coal is mined out of the
ground then we refill the deep holes left after mining. Then the soils are put back to
cover the mined spoils, after we cover the spoils we perform evaluate it (to ensure
compliance). After that we reseed the area.

Doo' éíí t'ó b'ohólnííhgo k'ée'díl yééh da' ałdó' t'áá Diné' ákwe'é kééh dahat'íníí dóó bił áłhíí kaigóóshíí' éíí baanidasít'íid go k'ée' dadidoolééłígíí' éíí baahwíínít'íih éíí binahjì' ákót'áo' é'íilí. Áádóó ch'óyáázh dóó' éíí' ádaat'éhígíí dó' k'ée' da diilyé, ákoo t'áá hayóíí bina'anishgo' át'é.

I'll state again we have to follow all regulation and laws to perform the reseedling proper methods for re-vegetation measures. For example, meeting with people who live surrounding the mine are informed about the re-seeding project. Trees and shrubs are re-establish too, and that's a big undertaking.

Díí kwe'é Steven dó' yaa hoolne', trees da k'ée' dadiilyé'go kót'áo' baa neikai. Áádóó na'alcaahígíí' dó' ádeilí monitoring yilnínígíí' éí Bilagáanaa' ákót'áo' yózhí, Níłch'í naalkahígíí' éí dó' ádeilí dóó tó naalkahígíí' dó' ádeilí dóó nanise'ígíí' dó' nideelkaah. Áádóó 'ákwe'é naaldloosh naaghéí kwe'é dzééh dóó bił danináda hakaáhígíí' dóó nídadi kaháhígíí' 'éí dó' nideilkaah áko t'óó'ahayóíí kot'áo' bik'i' adéést'íí' go' át'é. Éíí nihíł bééhózin doo nisóóh kódóó biniyé baa hashne'.

As Steven talked about the re-planting of tree, we have to replant all types of vegetation. We also perform the monitoring aspect. We monitor the air, water, and vegetation. We observe and monitor the animals i.e. deer, elks that come back to the reclaimed areas, as well as their migration patterns. As I've said this is a huge oversee (to ensure compliance). I want you to know and understand how mines are reclaimed what it entails.

Doo' éíí t'ó b'ohólnííhgóó da'ííníigééd da dóó doo t'ó b'ohólnííhgóó' áda'ííłíida. T'áá' bik'est'i'ígí' át'áo' áda'íilí. Permit wolyéhígí' át'áo' áda'íilí, éíí t'ó nihíł bééhózin doo nisóóh nihíł áshjáán áshlééh. Łah da doo hózhó yaa dahalne'go biniinaa hazhó'ó nihíł bééhózin doo nisoo baa hashne'. Áádóó t'áá nihíł nihi Diné'é t'éíí' ákwé'é deiylníísh, Naabeehó dóó ashíiké ła' ániid ni nááda' ista'go nihá náá dadeshnish éíí bee shí baa shíł hózhó kót'áo' nízáád góó' bií' nishishnish coalmining wolyé hígíí binahjì' shíł bééhózin. Thank you for listening to us.

We have to follow rules, regulations, laws, methods, application to reclaim a mine site. There is also a (Mining) Permit that provide guidelines of the whole mine. This is general information for you. We a majority of Navajos who work there, recently received some young men hired to work with us. I'm happy about it and I've work with mining many years so I know what goes on. Thank you for listening.

Tape 2

1. **Anna Frazier: English** T'áá' al'k'idáá' bee nihich'í' yádaati' nt'éé, nílélíí hait'áo' da Diné b'ah da dahojíł ahgo ha'át'áo' da be'ina' jil chxoooh go náásgóó doo nihá yá'át'ééh da...Navajos t'áá'nihi' ádeit'óh t'áá'nihi' ádeit'óh t'éiyá hazhó'ó háádiikaah ...this is not the end of the world, t'áá'áko hoot'íih nílélíí...éíí shíí biniinaa koo náhísoot'áh ła' nihi naanish h'ee ne' nihits'áá' ádoo diil da noh singo, jó' éíí éiyá náhoo dleelii' át'é...years and years ago..bá'át'e' hóló...

We are taught in the past about forcing someone to move from their homestead is morally wrong; you upset everything in their lives. This is not good. We Navajos have to deliberately take it upon ourselves to re-establish our community, we can achieve it. This is not the end of the world, things are still here, and we're here trying to solve this situation. Our jobs are going away, yes, however it is replaceable. ...it's hazardous.

2. **Alyssa James:** Spoke in Navajo to greet and gave traditional introduction.
3. **Shannon James:** Spoke in Navajo to greet and gave traditional introduction.

End