



23RD NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

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Navajo Nation to pursue more viable options for NGS

WINDOW ROCK – On Thursday, Speaker LoRenzo Bates (Nenahnezad, Newcomb, San Juan, Tiis Tsoh Sikaad, Tse'Daa'Kaan, Upper Fruitland) announced that the Navajo Nation would move beyond negotiations with Avenue Capital and Middle River Power over the ownership and operation of the Navajo Generating Station, and pursue other opportunities.

“The Navajo Nation is poised to pursue other viable options to allow for the continuation of the Navajo Generating Station beyond 2019,” said Speaker Bates.

The current two-year agreement allows for NGS to operate until the end of 2019.

“Today, there are many new technologies that are becoming more and more feasible options, and there is no shortage of interest in NGS by such developers,” Speaker Bates added. “We’ve had many potential buyers and developers approach the Nation.”

He also noted that President Russell Begaye is in agreement with the new approach and they look forward to meeting and considering new options.

“The Navajo Generating Station is a highly rated power plant that has the potential for many more years of operation. The plant has been maintained at a very high level and meets industry standards for emission. Coal is one of the most dependable sources of power and because of which, NGS is an attractive power plant for companies that want to expand their power sources to be supplied to the entire southwest,” said President Begaye.

He added that the Nation looks forward to working with companies that are expressing interest.

“I appreciate the support of the federal government to help maintain NGS. NGS has a big impact, not only to the Navajo Nation and Hopi Tribe, but also to schools, social programs and services provided to cities like Page and counties across the Four Corners,” President Begaye stated.

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