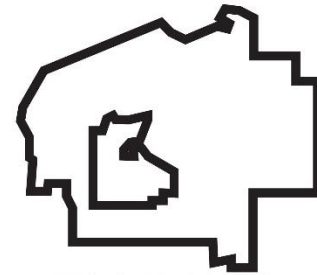


Light Up the Navajo Nation

About the Effort

The Navajo Nation is the largest Native American territory in the United States with an estimated population of 300,000. Among the 55,000 homes located on the 27,000 square mile reservation, about 15,000 do not have electricity. They make up 75% of all unelectrified households in the United States.



#LightUpNavajo

Not having access to electricity has many repercussions for Navajo families. One of the harshest being lack of access to running water. Families in the Navajo Nation drive 1-1.5 hours once or twice a week to reach watering points where they can fill 250-gallon plastic tanks with water for cooking, cleaning, and drinking. No electricity has also deprived families of reliable lighting and modern-day appliances such as refrigerators, toasters, and microwaves.

To expedite electrification projects in the Navajo Nation, the American Public Power Association in partnership with the Navajo Tribal Authority (NTUA) has launched the Light Up Navajo initiative. Starting in the spring of 2019, volunteer crews from public power utilities across the country will be building electric lines for 15 projects that will connect over a hundred new customers to the grid. The hope is that the pilot effort will serve as a successful model for future electrification projects.

What Will Be Needed

NTUA's mission is to improve the quality of life for Navajo families. Volunteers will be working with NTUA Crews to help build electric lines to serve homes for the first time. In 2019 NTUA anticipates connecting the homes of Navajo families to the electrical grid in the communities of Shonto, Navajo Mountain, Houck, Kaibeto, Inscription House, Greasewood, Coppermine, Tuba City, and others.

Preliminary Project Needs:

- Willingness to serve families in need
- Volunteer utilities able to cover their own insurance
- Experienced teams of lineworkers
- Volunteers able to commit at least 1 week of service
- Donated construction materials (poles, wires, etc)
- Temporary use of bucket trucks

Key Project Dates

- April 6 - May 18, 2019: Project implementation period

More details about the electrification effort will be forthcoming as the project continues to develop.



Powering Strong Communities

