



Representative Ann Kirkpatrick  
Arizona's First Congressional District

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Rep. Kirkpatrick Announces Almost \$5 Million to Improve Electric Grid on Navajo Nation**

**FLAGSTAFF, AZ** – Representative Ann Kirkpatrick announced today that the Department of Energy will be making \$4,991,750 available to help enhance and modernize the electric grid on Navajo Nation. This much-needed investment in our critical infrastructure is being made possible through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

The grant is being allocated to the Navajo Tribal Utility Association (NTUA) to install a Smart Grid network and data management system, which will serve all of their 38,000 customers. The NTUA will also integrate the Smart Grid system as part of its distribution network, helping to more quickly identify any system outages so that folks can get the lights back on as soon as possible.

**“This is a major step towards a smarter, stronger, more efficient and more reliable electric system, and it will bring new opportunities to Diné communities,”** said Rep. Kirkpatrick.

**“The investment will help upgrade service and lower utility bills for thousands of families across the Nation, creating jobs and improving their quality of life.”**

Enhancing the grid is particularly important on Navajo Nation, where almost 40 percent of households do not have electricity. Rep. Kirkpatrick is continuing to work with NTUA and others to extend this service and ensure that the basic needs of the Diné people are met.

The funds are part of \$3.4 billion being distributed nationwide in the largest single Smart Grid modernization investment in U.S. history. They will be matched by private funding sources, for a total of over \$8 billion directed at developing our electric grid.

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