



SAN JUAN COUNTY COMMISSION

Silvia Stubbs	Chair
Lori Maughan	Vice-Chair
Jamie Harvey	Commissioner
Mack McDonald	Administrator

April 23, 2025

Honorable Deidre M. Henderson

Lieutenant Governor
Utah State Capitol
P.O. Box 142220
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-2220

Dear Lieutenant Governor Henderson,

On behalf of my constituents in San Juan County, I write to ask for your support for the State of Utah's Home Energy Rebates program, a Federal Department of Energy grant created to deliver household energy cost savings. In January of 2025, the State's Office of Energy Development successfully secured the \$101 million funding for the program from the Department of Energy.

As a champion for Utah's Native American population, you are well aware of the unique challenges our communities, like those I represent on the San Juan County Commission, face on a daily basis. Specifically, homeowners on the Utah portion of the Navajo Nation pay the highest household energy costs in the State of Utah. According to the Department of Energy's Low-income Energy Affordability Data (LEAD) Tool, Utah's average energy cost burden is 2%, and the average energy household cost is \$1,685. By comparison, the average household energy cost in Monument Valley, Utah, on the Navajo Nation, is 9%, and the actual energy cost is \$3,431 per household. Across the portion of the Navajo Nation that overlaps with the State of Utah, households face a higher energy cost burden than the vast majority of Utahns.

In April of 2024, my constituents were pleased to have the opportunity to convey the importance of the State's Home Energy Rebates program as a tool to reduce our household energy costs directly to a staff member of the Office of Energy Development. After the community engagement event, in June of 2024, the Office agreed to set aside \$8,095,340 of the State's Federal Home Energy Rebates allocation for homeowners on Tribal lands within Utah—a tremendous step to address our energy needs.

Today, we ask for your support to ensure the State's Home Energy Rebates program is deliberately and expeditiously implemented as energy costs continue to rise, forcing more Utah Navajo residents to make sacrifices to afford our basic needs.

We respectfully request your assistance in coordinating an opportunity to meet with Director Lesofski of the State's Office of Energy Development and additional State stakeholders. It is our hope to convey the urgency of this program and share details about the unique needs of the Utah portion of the Navajo Nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Harvey', written in a cursive style.

Commissioner Jamie Harvey
San Juan County Commission