



PRESS RELEASE

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Director of OBAE and Elected Officials Tour Santo Domingo Pueblo

Tour emphasized recent broadband advancements of the Pueblo

Yesterday, Senators Martin Heinrich and Ben Ray Luján, Congresswoman Leger-Fernández, and OBAE Director Kelly Schlegel took a tour of Santo Domingo Pueblo, guided by Tribal Governor Tenorio Sr. and Lt. Governor Crespin. The focus of the tour was to highlight recent advancements in broadband infrastructure within the pueblo.

The tour commenced with a visit to a new broadband tower, which was constructed amidst the pandemic to facilitate internet connectivity for all 700 homes in the pueblo. This tower has played a crucial role in enabling remote work opportunities and facilitating access to telehealth services for local families. With the assistance of NTIA funding, the pueblo has plans to construct five additional towers akin to this one, thereby expanding internet access for pueblo members and neighboring communities.

Another notable highlight of the tour was the demonstration of split fiber cable construction, exemplifying how the pueblo is training its own members to lay and splice fiber. Within the Trading Post, the pueblo has leveraged 3D printing technology to create prototype models of solar panels and antennas, intended for utilization in a forthcoming solar array field.

The final stop on the tour showcased the solar field, which will provide power for a future 5,000 square foot Internet Technology Administration building to be constructed by Santo Domingo Pueblo. This innovative building will be entirely powered by the solar field and will house a server room containing a data center and internet training center. These facilities will not only serve as valuable resources for the pueblo but also contribute to revenue generation.

Kelly Schlegel, Director of the Office of Broadband Access and Expansion commented, "The White House recognizes the importance of connecting our pueblos, nations, and tribes to broadband, and they have allocated significant funding to support these efforts. We recognize the commitment of the federal government to bridging the digital divide in tribal communities."

The tour of Santo Domingo Pueblo exemplified the strides being made to enhance broadband connectivity and empower the pueblo's residents with crucial digital resources. It underscored the

collective dedication to creating equitable opportunities and ensuring that all communities can thrive in the digital age.



OBAE Director Kelly Schlegel addresses the panel at Santo Domingo Pueblo