

NTUA enters agreement to light up Utah community

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BLANDING, Utah – The Navajo Tribal Utility Authority has entered into an agreement with the Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems and the City of Blanding to provide electrical service to homes in the Westwater Village, a small Navajo Nation community that currently lacks electricity.

The project will consist of an electric line extension from the city's distribution system to an interconnection point on the Navajo Nation where NTUA will extend its distribution line to the individual Navajo homes. NTUA will purchase power from the Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems, according to a news release.

The City of Blanding

will also be responsible for ongoing maintenance and operation of this line extension as a new part of its existing distribution system.

The news release says the Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems has been participating in the Light Up Navajo projects and will encourage its 49 members to assist NTUA with line extensions to the individual homes. In 2019, the association members volunteered to send electric line crews to the Navajo Nation to help connect homes to the electric grid. They also signed up for the 2020 LUN project before the COVID-19 pandemic crossed into Navajo Nation boundaries and forced a cancellation.