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## Clara Pratte Announces Candidacy for Corporation Commission to Lower Energy Costs and Fight for Arizona Families



**FLAGSTAFF, ARIZ.** — Clara Pratte — a nationally recognized tribal advocate, energy expert, small business owner and proud member of the Navajo Nation — today announced her candidacy for the Arizona Corporation Commission.

Pratte is running to put Arizona families first by lowering utility bills, strengthening consumer protections and investing in reliable, water-saving, common-sense energy solutions that secure our future.

The Arizona Corporation Commission regulates the state's public utilities and has direct authority over the electricity, water and gas rates that millions of Arizonans pay each month.

The Republican-only commission since 2023 has been a virtual rubber stamp for any rate increase — squeezing Arizona seniors and families out of \$1 billion in additional charges even as utility companies raked in record-breaking profits.

The current commissioners have failed to serve the public when so many are struggling with the high cost of living.

"It's time for new leadership," Pratte said. "Arizona families shouldn't have to choose between keeping the lights on and putting food on the table. As commissioner, I'll work every day to lower costs and hold utilities accountable to the people they serve, not corporate profits."

Pratte's personal experience includes growing up in the small town of Lupton, Ariz., on the Navajo Nation, where vital resources were not, and still are not, universally accessible.

"Growing up without running water or electricity gives me a personal understanding of the importance of affordable and reliable utilities," she said. "I've been a lifelong advocate for

small businesses, tribal communities and common-sense energy solutions. Now I'm running to lower costs, protect consumers and grow economic opportunities for all across our state."



Pratte's career spans more than 20 years of public service, entrepreneurship and innovative energy development.

She has worked under three U.S. presidents and four Navajo Nation presidents, including as Director of the Office of Native American Affairs at the U.S. Small Business Administration, Trade Analyst at the U.S. Department of Commerce, Chair of the Navajo Community Development Financial Institution and Co-Founder of Navajo Power, a public-benefit corporation that develops large-scale energy projects on tribal lands. She also is Owner of Strongbow Strategies, which has helped to bring broadband internet to rural Arizona, develop a Navajo-based wool mill to create jobs and preserve traditional Diné practices and launch the Tseebii Sisters Coffee Company in her hometown of Lupton.

Pratte has been named a Native Business Magazine Disruptor of the Year (2020), Pritzker Emerging Environmental Genius (2020), Top 50 Business Leader in Indian Country (2019), Terrance L. Bracy Distinguished Alum of the Year (2012), 40 Under 40 in Indian Country (2010), Tim Wapato Public Advocate of the Year (2009), Udall Foundation Congressional Fellow and Presidential Management Fellow.

Her campaign has three priorities:

- Lowering Arizona family's bills through fairer utility rates and stronger oversight of utility companies
- Investing in energy projects that create good-paying jobs while ensuring affordable, reliable power
- Restoring transparency and accountability to the Corporation Commission to put consumers first

“We have the ability to produce cheap, efficient energy right now without creating more pollution, but Arizona has been slow to seize that opportunity,” Pratte said. “If we act now, we can lower costs, create jobs and position our state as a national leader. If we don’t, Arizona faces a growing crisis.”

Pratte, a Democrat, lives in Flagstaff with her husband and two sons. She is running as a Clean Elections candidate to ensure her campaign is powered by grassroots support free from corporate influence.

*For more information, visit [www.ClaraforAZ.com](http://www.ClaraforAZ.com) or follow @ClaraforAZ on [X](#), [Bluesky](#), [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#).*

### **About Clara Pratte**

Clara Pratte is a nationally recognized energy leader, entrepreneur and Arizona-born member of the Navajo Nation. She has dedicated her career to public service, small business growth and affordable, reliable energy development. With deep experience in federal, Tribal and private sectors, Clara brings the expertise and independence needed to fight for Arizona families and build an affordable, sustainable energy future.

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