

Clean Energy Candidate Education Contact

Senator Analise Ortiz | October 3, 2026 | Evening meeting

On the evening of October 3, 2026, I met with Senator Analise Ortiz for a candidate education session about clean energy and its role in Arizona's energy future. Senator Ortiz expressed strong support for clean energy development and emphasized that electricity affordability is a central concern for the Maryvale residents she represents. The conversation also covered constituent concerns about data centers and her thoughts about legislative priorities following the election.

Senator Ortiz said her constituents are primarily concerned about how much electricity costs, rather than where it comes from. For families in her district, affordability is the practical issue driving the conversation about energy. Her comments underscored the importance of explaining clean energy's role in terms that connect directly to household budgets and the everyday pressures residents face.

She was fully supportive of clean energy's place in Arizona's future and expressed a willingness to do whatever she can during the upcoming legislative session to prevent the Legislature from harming clean energy development. Her stated priority was to protect the ability of clean energy projects to move forward.

Data centers were another important topic. Senator Ortiz reported that residents have connected the growth of data centers with their increasing electric bills. Interestingly, she said she hears even more concern about data centers' water use than about their electricity costs. That distinction is useful for future education efforts: residents are thinking about both the cost of meeting new energy demand and the implications of development for Arizona's water resources.

Senator Ortiz was optimistic about Democrats' prospects for winning both the Arizona House and Senate. She described a concern about what would come next if that happened: how Democrats would govern effectively and choose legislation that matters to ordinary Arizonans. Her focus was on making sure the House and Senate pursue meaningful bills that respond to the concerns people bring to their elected representatives.

As a member of Senate leadership, she also provided some context about planning for the next session. She said there had not yet been discussions about committee assignments or who would serve on particular committees. At the time of our meeting, members were focused on helping one another with their campaigns. Her comments about a possible Democratic majority were therefore an expression of optimism and priorities, rather than a description of settled organizational plans.

The contact demonstrated strong alignment on protecting clean energy development, with affordability serving as the clearest connection to her constituents' needs. It also highlighted the value of addressing data center electricity costs and water concerns together in future discussions. A useful follow-up would be to provide concise information connecting clean energy development with affordable electricity and explaining options for ensuring that new data center demand does not place additional costs on existing customers.