



U.S. DOE OFFICE OF INDIAN ENERGY

# INDIAN ENERGY BEAT



News on Actions to Accelerate Energy Development in Indian Country

FALL 2012

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# DOE Office of Indian Energy Provides Tribes with Hands-On Support to Advance Tribal Energy Projects



*START team members conducted a wind site assessment on the Campo Indian Reservation in San Diego County, California, in September. From left to right: Bob Springer of NREL, Laura Quaha of the Campo Kumeyaay Nation, Melissa Estes with the Campo Environmental Protection Agency, and Robi Robichaud from NREL. Photo by Alex Dane, NREL/PIX 22724*

The DOE Office of Indian Energy (DOE-IE) is taking a hands-on approach to advancing next-generation energy development in Indian Country, providing on-site strategic technical assistance for Tribes on renewable energy project deployment.

Through an application process, DOE-IE selected 11 Tribes in Alaska and the contiguous United States to receive tailored technical assistance through the Strategic Technical Assistance Response Team (START) Program. The Office is working with DOE national laboratories and other partners to offer various Tribes unbiased technical expertise on potential energy projects, as well as help with installing renewable energy systems, facilitating strategic partnerships and discussions, and implementing solutions to energy and environmental challenges.

### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE: ON THE GROUND

#### At Tohono O’odham Nation

In August, the DOE Office of Indian Energy technical team attended the Tohono O’odham Nation Tribal Council meeting to discuss the Tribe’s renewable energy projects, provide technical assistance, and answer questions regarding projects under consideration on the reservation. The presentations are part of a series of educational courses DOE-IE

is developing to provide a framework for tribal renewable energy project development and financing. The meeting gave the more than 25 tribal council members, staff, and tribal members an opportunity to ask questions about renewable energy job creation, technology options, policy actions, funding opportunities, and preferred business structures for Tribes. Phil Hobbs of the Tohono O’odham Planning Department also summarized potential renewable energy projects for the Tribe during the meeting. In a closed-door session the next day, the council voted to move forward on two projects.

CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE

## DOE OFFICE OF INDIAN ENERGY PROVIDES TRIBES WITH HANDS-ON SUPPORT (CONTINUED)

### At the Oklahoma Indian Gaming Association Conference

DOE-IE Deputy Director Pilar Thomas and representatives from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) attended the Oklahoma Indian Gaming Association conference August 13–15, to demonstrate DOE and NREL resources for Tribes, ranging from project technical assistance to in-depth research and background information. DOE-IE held a break-out panel session on green casino construction and energy efficiency improvements, and spoke with conference participants, including casino operators, tribal leaders, and building design firms, at their booth.

### START

As part of their tailored technical assistance packages, several START Tribes participated in community strategic energy planning workshops in September and October, including the Passamaquoddy Tribe of Indian Township in Maine, the Hualapai Tribe in California, and Forest County Potawatomi Community in Wisconsin. An energy planning workshop is planned for the Pascua Yaqui Tribe in Arizona in November. Next steps for the START projects include market context analysis reports and research, data collection, and scenario analysis studies for individual renewable energy projects.

### START Alaska

The START Alaska team has also been busy providing customized, on-site technical assistance for the selected projects, including assisting with reinstatement into the State of Alaska's Power Cost Equalization (PCE) program, which helps offset the state's high energy costs and provides more accurate data on energy load to determine and better manage village energy; coordinating community strategic energy planning workshops; delivering a template for a strategic energy plan that can be used for START as well as other energy projects; providing utility management training; and assisting with grant applications. While on-site, the team has also made technical adjustments to ensure existing renewable energy hardware is working properly.



NREL's Levi Kilcher advises Skyler Copsey at the Youth Energy Training during the Kake Culture Camp in Kake, Alaska. Photo from Connie Fredenberg, Marsh Creek/PIX 22725

Learn more about START on the DOE-IE website at [www.energy.gov/indianenergy/resources/start-program](http://www.energy.gov/indianenergy/resources/start-program). If you have questions about DOE-IE's technical assistance services, email us at [indianenergy@hq.doe.gov](mailto:indianenergy@hq.doe.gov).



## MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR TRACEY LEBEAU

Dear Friends,

Since the last issue of our newsletter, our Office has expanded its efforts to accelerate energy development in Indian Country through a variety of wide-reaching initiatives.

I was thrilled to make the final START Program selections in June, and since then, we've been ramping up our efforts to provide the selected Tribes with customized technical assistance to support their energy projects and initiatives.

During our on-site visits in Alaska, we are not only supporting community members to outline plans for moving forward, but we also helped tribal youth build small electromagnetic motors and did some on-the-spot troubleshooting, including relocating a met tower to a location better suited for wind and closer to a transmission line, and reinstating power cost equalization to help offset the high cost of energy for Alaska Native Villages.

In the lower 48 states, the START team delivered requested strategic energy planning workshops to the Passamaquoddy Nation in northern Maine, as well as the Hualapai Nation in northern Arizona, to help those communities prepare for key renewable energy project decisions and upcoming START technical support. The START team has also been active working closely with the Campo Band of Kumeyaay, providing technical support to decision makers there.

Speaking of renewable development, we have been working on our first project to identify tribal renewable resources and available transmission for cost-effective solar and wind energy generation as a source of tribal revenue and job creation. The results of our detailed analysis are summarized in the Sharing Knowledge section of this issue.

We've also been busy planning our next Tribal Leader Energy Forum, to be held in late November in California in conjunction with the annual Tribal/EPA Conference. We've begun targeted analysis of potential energy development partnerships between Tribes and the military based on location and available resources. The forum will present an opportunity to open a dialogue with Indian Country on energy infrastructure and interagency efforts related to military bases. Stay tuned for more information on this event.

Finally, I'm pleased to welcome new members to the Indian Country Energy and Infrastructure Working Group, which assists in surveys, analysis, and recommendations related to our Office's program and policy initiatives. Our new members are Scott Russell from Crow Nation (MT), Richard Peterson from Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (CCTHITA), and Susan Weber from Ho-Chunk Nation (WI). In this issue you'll read about both the efforts and the opportunities to fulfill the mission these new members have committed to supporting.

***"We have been working on our first project to identify tribal renewable resources and available transmission for cost-effective solar and wind energy generation as a source of tribal revenue and job creation."***

— Tracey A. LeBeau, Director  
DOE Office of Indian Energy

—Tracey A. LeBeau



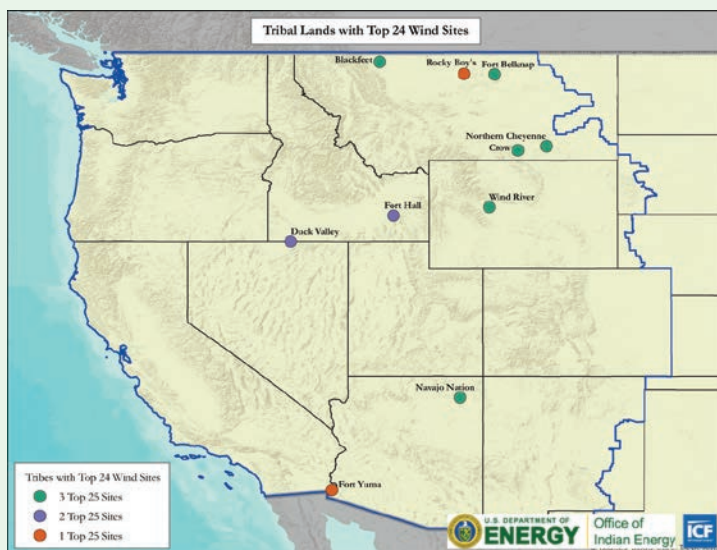
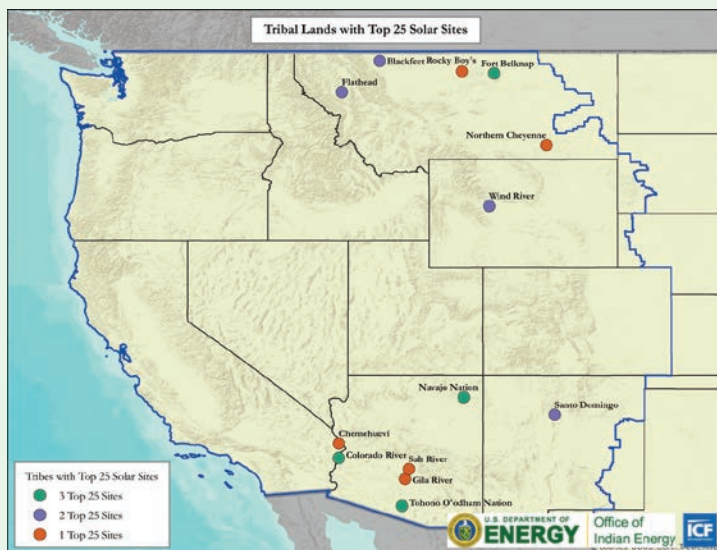
## SHARING KNOWLEDGE

# DOE Office of Indian Energy Commissions Regional Transmission and Renewable Energy Analysis

The DOE Office of Indian Energy, in collaboration with the Office of Electricity Delivery, commissioned ICF International to work with both technical offices to identify sites in Indian Country that may have potential for cost-effective renewable energy generation in relation to transmission facilities located on Indian lands. ICF used geospatial modeling to identify sites on tribal lands that are optimal for solar or wind generation and have favorable available access to a range of transmission facilities. ICF then calculated an indicative cost for a connection from each site to a substation and identified the sites where this cost was the lowest. Finally, ICF used power flow modeling to determine the lowest-cost sites, which could technically inject 20 MW (wind and solar) or 100 MW (solar) without expensive transmission upgrades. The study revealed that:

- There are 192 potential wind sites on 10 reservations; the majority are on Blackfeet, Fort Belknap, and Crow lands
- The 24 most cost-effective sites for **wind** energy development are concentrated on 10 reservations, and the 25 most cost-effective sites for **solar** energy development are concentrated on 14 reservations.

When available, the complete report will be posted on the DOE-IE website at [www.energy.gov/indianenergy](http://www.energy.gov/indianenergy).



## OPENING DOORS

### SEMINOLE TRIBE TO HOST GRANT PROPOSAL WRITING WORKSHOP

Writing effective grant proposals is key to securing the funding Tribes need to get planned energy projects off the ground. Yet many tribal leaders and administrators are unsure about how to approach the task. Recognizing this, the Seminole Tribe of Florida Native Learning Center is hosting a three-day workshop led by experienced Native American grant writers. The workshop, which will be in Orlando, Florida, December 3–5, is free to Native Americans and those working in Indian Country. For more info and to register, visit [www.nativelearningcenter.com/indiancountrygrantworkshop](http://www.nativelearningcenter.com/indiancountrygrantworkshop).

### CROW NATION STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN ALGAE BIOMASS RESEARCH PROJECT

Thanks in part to DOE funding and technical support, student interns from the Crow Tribe in Montana had the opportunity to participate in an algae biomass research project that could help prepare them for cleantech jobs and pave the way for their Tribe to produce clean, renewable energy.

The Cultivation and Characterization of Oil Producing Algae Internship placed students in a laboratory alongside established researchers to study local algae samples and evaluate their possible use in energy applications. The project focused on an integrated coal-to-liquid (ICTL) technology developed by Accelergy, which reforms local Montana bituminous coal and indigenous biomass feeds, including algae, into a liquid that is economical to transport and use as fuel.



Amanda Not Afraid (front) and Elaine Stone work on cultivating and characterizing oil-producing algae. Since graduating from the DOE-sponsored internship program, Amanda has enrolled in pre-medicine at Little Big Horn College. Photo from DOE

During last summer's program, students collected algae at two different pond sites outside of the Crow reservation, built bioreactors to grow the algae, harvested the algae, and then freeze-dried their samples to check for oil quantities that could be useful to the ICTL technology.

Acceptance into the two programs is competitive. Of the 70 applicants in 2011, 45 were chosen and 38 graduated. The students who successfully completed the internship program are now in the workforce or attending one of the sponsoring institutions.

## BUILDING BRIDGES

### ICEIWG QUARTERLY MEETING HELD IN PORTLAND

The Indian Country Energy and Infrastructure Working Group (ICEIWG) held its quarterly meeting on September 21 at the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) offices in Portland, Oregon. The meeting began with a three-hour internal administrative discussion among ICEIWG members, all of whom are elected tribal leaders with an active interest in strategic energy planning and projects in their respective communities.

Facilitated by co-chair Vice Chairman Ronald Suppah of the Confederated Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, this closed morning session focused on working group accomplishments, pending action items, and tribal leadership within the working group moving forward.

The open meeting in the afternoon included intertribal energy program updates from National Congress of American Indians, Affiliated Tribes of the Northwest Indians and Center for Northwest Energy Tribes; DOE program updates presented by DOE-IE Director Tracey LeBeau and Deputy Director Pilar Thomas; and presentations from BPA on tribal energy efficiency, utility systems training, new transmission projects, and the energy market environment and opportunities. The meeting ended with an exploratory discussion on potential federal interagency collaboration on energy infrastructure policy and programs and a follow-up discussion on tax policy.

“The Indian Country Energy and Infrastructure Working Group’s membership is excited to see DOE’s support for inviting in new members,

broadening a strategic alliance, and developing a strong foundation for Tribes across the nation to explore and move toward developing our own energy resources,” Chairman Suppah said. “DOE continues to impress me with their willingness to support this effort.”

### DOE-IE SPONSORS TWO SANDIA STUDENT INTERNS

Since 2002, Sandia National Laboratories’ Tribal Internship Program has provided Native American college students with hands-on work experience in the energy industry. Over the past decade, Sandia has worked with 27 student interns representing 16 different federally recognized Tribes and 12 different college majors.

All of the students selected to participate in the program are Native American; have a strong, articulated interest in Indian renewable energy; have achieved an undergraduate GPA above 3.2; and are pursuing an upperclassman or graduate school technical major. This year, DOE-IE sponsored two upper classmen technical college interns selected to work at Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, New Mexico: Nikki Tulley and Jessica Rodriguez.

Tulley, who is from the Navajo Nation and is working on a bachelor’s degree in environmental science at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, said she applied for the internship to gain experience working with tribal nations on renewable energy applications. She ended her summer internship with research that she plans to continue through her last semester of study.

Hailing from the Pueblo of Laguna, Rodriguez is working on a bachelor’s degree in environmental science at Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kansas. “I feel that being in the field and hearing tribal members relate to their land can



*Pictured from left to right on Agua Caliente tribal land: Tribal Energy Program intern Colleen Cooley, Student Intern Program Supervisor Sandra Begay-Campbell of Sandia National Laboratories, Tribal Energy Program Intern Chelsea Chee, DOE-IE intern Nikki Tulley, Tribal Energy Program intern Nora Cata, and DOE-IE intern Jessica Rodriguez. Photo from Sandra Begay-Campbell, Sandia National Laboratories*

provide insight as to how the Department of Energy can help [Tribes] extract the energy needed while preserving cultural sensitivity,” Rodriguez said.

Part of a team of five Native students who participated in the 12-week summer internship program, Tulley and Rodriguez worked closely with their technical mentor, Sandia’s DOE-IE program lead, Sandra Begay-Campbell. Throughout their summer experience, DOE-IE supported their interest in Indian energy development, enabling them to gain field experience by attending energy seminars; visiting Indian renewable energy projects during field trips where they met with tribal representatives; and experiencing Sandia’s technical assistance interactions firsthand.

The interns’ summer research will culminate with written reports on Indian renewable energy topics they selected with guidance from Begay-Campbell and DOE-IE Deputy Director Pilar Thomas. Tulley’s paper is titled *Adapting Renewable Energy Systems for a Changing Climate in Remote Tribal Communities – Navajo Nation, AZ*. Rodriguez’s paper is titled *How the Sale of Tribal Renewable Energies to the U.S. Military Can Benefit All: Case Study of Pueblo of Isleta*.

To learn more about the internship program, visit [energy.sandia.gov/?page\\_id=332](http://energy.sandia.gov/?page_id=332). Past reports, along with Tulley’s paper, once available, can be found in the DOE-IE Energy Resource Library at [www.energy.gov/indianenergy/resources/energy-resource-library](http://www.energy.gov/indianenergy/resources/energy-resource-library).

### TRIBAL ENERGY TRANSMISSION WEBINARS

If you missed any of the live tribal energy transmission webinars—presented by DOE-IE, the DOE Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) Tribal Energy Program, the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA), and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Green Power Partnership Program—you can access the recorded webinars at [www.energy.gov/indianenergy/resources/education-and-training](http://www.energy.gov/indianenergy/resources/education-and-training).



*The ICEIWG met for the seventh time in just over a year in September. Photo from Brooke Oleen, National Conference of State Legislatures*



## LEADING THE CHARGE: WOMEN IN POWER

# ANDREA ALEXANDER

# KATHY MAYO

# TARA HESS-MCGEOWN

Change doesn't happen on its own. It's led by dedicated and passionate people who are committed to empowering Indian Country to energize future generations. Leading the Charge is a regular feature spotlighting the movers and shakers in energy development on tribal lands.

For this issue, we spoke with three key energy supporters whose efforts in championing Indian energy development are amplified because of their intertribal affiliations.

All three women agree that energy development is key to a brighter future for Tribes but that many barriers must be overcome before its full potential can be realized.

Alexander, who serves as the energy and telecommunications co-chair for ATNI, said, "Energy development can lead to economic independence and sovereignty. It can strengthen our economic independence and supports our values and goals of self-determination."

Hess-McGeown said energy development not only will enable tribal community members to "gain affordable power, but [also] ... generate jobs and help achieve the national goal of clean energy and independence." As an environmental specialist for the Washoe Tribe and the acting manager of the Nevada Intertribal Energy Consortium, a subcommittee of ITCN, she stressed the need for intertribal collaboration to push things forward.

As the chief administration officer for TCC, Mayo believes the biggest challenges Tribes face are the lack of infrastructure and the capital costs needed to get energy projects off the ground. With a background in both energy and planning, Mayo said momentum will begin at the local level with energy champions generating community support and educating tribal



Andrea Alexander/Makah Tribe in Neah Bay (Washington)/Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI)



Kathy Mayo/Eagle Village in Upper Yukon (Alaska)/Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC)



Tara Hess-McGeown/Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California/Intertribal Council of Nevada (ITCN)

leaders and members about the opportunities that exist and how to go about deploying new technologies such as solar, wind, and biomass.

Alexander agreed, adding, "There is so much opportunity and so much to learn."

Though they each cited federal policy barriers, lack of infrastructure, and funding limitations as challenges that continue to impede wide-scale progress of energy projects in Indian Country, all three women pointed to specific projects and collaborations that show Tribes are making headway on the energy front.

In Nevada alone, which has been identified as one of the southwestern states with high potential for development of renewable energy projects, especially on tribal lands, Hess-McGeown cited:

- The Moapa Band of Paiutes' utility-scale solar project
- Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe's geothermal research project
- Potential opportunities for the Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe to work with the U.S. Department of the Navy with supplying renewable energy to the base.

She said she also has supported several energy projects for the Washoe Tribe, including performing energy audits on tribal administration and community buildings.

Alexander is involved with the Center for Northwest Energy Tribes, also called C-NET, a collaborative policy-focused program based at Portland State University's Institute for Tribal Government. The

center's mission is to assist and support Tribes in Washington, Oregon, Montana, Idaho, and Alaska in navigating the unique energy systems of a region built on federal hydropower dams, mining, and nuclear energy. She said her work involves trying to stabilize various energy programs and organizations so Tribes can identify long-term solutions and funding resources in addition to leveraging funding.

Alaska Native communities face unique challenges related to the high cost of fuel, fuel bulk storage, and fuel delivery issues in remote areas, Mayo said. "Some villagers pay upwards of 75% of their income for fuel," she said, making energy an overriding issue in her region. Mayo said a strong effort toward educating Tribes about conservation and energy efficiency is a good place to start. And because of limited resources, Mayo also emphasized the value of long-term planning, intertribal collaboration, and being strategic in how funding is used.

"We need smart development," she said. "If we can get out in front of it, we will be able to take advantage of the new technologies and put them into practice."

Alexander said it's a matter of Tribes taking a "proactive" stance rather than being reactive.

"I think these are exciting and dynamic times," Mayo said. "I see our communities are increasingly ready and prepared to meet these challenges by tapping into intertribal organizations for resources and to leverage support."

***"I think these are exciting and dynamic times. I see our communities are increasingly ready and prepared to meet these challenges by tapping into intertribal organizations for resources and to leverage support."***

— Kathy Mayo,  
Eagle Village in Upper Yukon (Alaska)  
Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC)

## WINNING THE FUTURE

# Oneida Seven Generations WTE Project

The tribally chartered, tribally owned Oneida Seven Generations Corporation (OSGC) was created to promote and enhance business and economic development for the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin. "Seven Generations" refers to the widely held Native American belief that what is said and done today will affect the next seven generations. With that in mind, OSGC's business philosophy maintains an eye on the future with a focus on sustainable growth for both the tribal economy and that of the surrounding community. As part of its mission to diversify long-term income streams, OSGC has explored renewable energy projects, such as solar, wind, and biomass.



*William Cornelius, President of Oneida Seven Generations Corporation's Board of Directors*

"We wanted to look at something smaller scale," said William Cornelius, President of OSGC's Board of Directors. "We needed a project that made financial sense." In other words, the corporation sought a renewable energy project with relatively low risk

and good potential to turn a profit, some of which would go back to the Oneida Tribe's general fund.

When an assessment of the Tribe's natural renewable resource potential and subsequent cost/benefits analysis revealed that solar, wind, and biomass projects didn't pencil out, OSGC began exploring the idea of turning waste into energy.

**Challenge:** The Oneida Nation is situated in and around the city of Green Bay, Wisconsin, which requires a significant amount of intergovernmental collaboration on various projects, issues, and interests. One such interest is a waste transfer station located on tribal land but controlled by Brown

County. Between the county and other municipalities, the amount of waste coming into the transfer station can exceed 600–750 tons a day. Weighing and shipping the waste is inefficient and costly for the various entities that use the transfer station, Cornelius said, adding that for the Tribe, having such a facility on its land is not ideal.

**Solution:** Seeing an opportunity to not only mitigate the amount of waste coming into the reservation but also produce energy, create jobs, and generate revenue, OSGC proposed a waste-to-energy (WTE) facility. OSGC considered a variety of technologies for converting solid waste into energy, rejecting the idea of simply burning the waste to create energy, which raised environmental concerns. Through research and engineering studies, OSGC ultimately settled on pyrolysis, in which solid waste is melted in an oxygen-starved chamber to produce a clean synthetic gas, which is then converted to electricity.

The facility, to be located in Green Bay, will employ about 30 people, including garbage sorters who will initially remove recyclable materials (estimated at about 20%) before the solid waste is further sorted and refined until it is consolidated into the roughly the 1 square inch of material needed for the gasification process.

"We learned a lot—technology-wise, permitting-wise, and financial-wise," Cornelius said. The Tribe did not have the funds in the budget to implement the project, so OSGC researched, applied for, and received funding from many sources, including state grants and federal monies, and a loan guarantee to make the project financially feasible. It even negotiated a power purchase agreement to sell the energy to Wisconsin Public Service. Backers were creative in securing the \$30 million in financing needed to build the facility and even formed a taxable entity to take advantage of tax credits to help fund the project.

"We had to be smart with the money we had,"

*"This has been a challenging process. But we have found a solution that mitigates waste that otherwise would go through tribal land and into landfills. Environmentally and financially, this project makes sense."*

— William Cornelius, President of Oneida Seven Generations Corporation's Board of Directors

Cornelius said of the financing. In addition to clearing the financial hurdles, OSGC also had to educate tribal members, nearby communities, and potential backers about the gasification process and assure them the technology was safe and clean. With local support, the project was able to move forward.

Leveraging its positive working relationship with the City of Green Bay, OSGC worked with city leadership to find the best location for the 80,000-square-foot WTE facility. Sited next to a coal-fired plant, it will be adjacent to major transportation routes as well as electric transmission lines.

The project currently is on track for equipment to be purchased this fall and to begin the building's construction. The Oneida Seven Generations WTE facility is expected to be up and running in May or June 2013.

"This has been a challenging process," Cornelius said. "But we have found a solution that mitigates waste that otherwise would go through tribal land and into landfills. Environmentally and financially, this project makes sense."

#### **Benefits:**

- The Oneida Seven Generations facility will mitigate the amount of solid waste deposited on tribal lands and then transferred to landfills by 90%.
- The facility can be scaled to convert up to 200 tons of municipal solid waste per day.
- The plant will produce approximately 5 megawatts of power hourly that will then be sold to Wisconsin Public Service.
- The WTE plant will create about 30 new jobs, including garbage sorters, shift and plant managers, and engineers. Hiring preference will be given to tribal members.
- The investment will produce revenue, which the corporation will use to explore other economic interests as well as contribute to the Tribe's general fund.

DOE has provided funding and technical assistance to the Oneida Tribe for energy efficiency development and deployment and an Oneida Nation Energy Optimization Model Development Project.



*The proposed Oneida Seven Generations Corporation waste-to-energy facility is expected to be up and running in May or June 2013.*

# INDIAN COUNTRY ENERGY ROUNDUP

## Forums and Conferences

DOE works with Tribes to build energy capacity through education and training. Below is a recap of recent forums and conferences that DOE-IE has sponsored and/or participated in. Learn more and download presentations at [www.energy.gov/indianenergy/resources/education-and-training](http://www.energy.gov/indianenergy/resources/education-and-training).

### FORUMS

#### Oklahoma Tribal Leaders Forum: Key Renewable Energy Opportunities for Oklahoma Tribes

Sponsored by DOE-IE, this strategic energy development and investment forum gave Oklahoma tribal leaders the opportunity to receive the latest updates on DOE's energy development efforts in Indian Country. The Forum, which took place in Oklahoma City on August 13, provided a venue for tribal leaders

to discuss challenges and best practices in renewable energy development, including project development and finance, Oklahoma land ownership issues, energy markets, and strategic energy planning. Tribal leaders also had the opportunity for direct discourse with one another during a roundtable discussion in which they shared ideas on how to capitalize on Oklahoma's renewable energy resources.

### CONFERENCES

#### OIGA Conference and Tradeshow

The Oklahoma Indian Gaming Association (OIGA) held its 17th Annual Conference and Tradeshow at the Cox Convention Center in Oklahoma City, August 13–15. The event drew more than 2,500 industry professionals from around the country, including tribal leaders; casino operators, managers, marketers, and employees; and gaming regulators and vendors, to network and discuss best practices. Attendees interested in reducing fossil fuel-based energy use and costs through energy efficient building and design practices had an opportunity to attend a "Going Green" breakout session sponsored by DOE-IE, which also had a booth at the event.

#### ATNI 59th Annual Fall Convention

The 59th Annual Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) Fall Convention took place September 23–27 at Wildhorse Resort Casino in Pendleton, Oregon. The three-day event provided a forum for the exchange of information on matters of mutual concern among ATNI member Tribes and their constituencies, including housing, legislation, natural resources and land management, energy development, and more. DOE-IE Director Tracey LeBeau, along with Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) Deputy Administrator Bill Drummond, spoke about energy issues at the event.

#### 2012 Alaska Federation of Natives Conference

More than 4,000 elected delegates from Native Villages throughout Alaska gathered at the Dena'ina Convention Center in Anchorage October 18–20 for the annual Alaska Federation of Natives Convention. In

an effort to further support and encourage accelerated clean energy resource development in Alaska Native Villages, on October 16–17, DOE-IE and the DOE Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy's (EERE's) Tribal Energy Program presented a preconference workshop entitled "Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency for Alaska Native Community Development." The workshop, which was designed to help tribal leaders and staff understand the range of energy efficiency and renewable energy opportunities that exist in their remote communities, also covered project development and financing for clean energy projects.

#### RETECH 2012 Conference & Exhibition

The Renewable Energy Technology Conference (RETECH) is the only event dedicated to delivering coverage on every discipline of renewable energy technology and is attended by more than 3,000 government, utility, finance, and technology professionals. As a Gold sponsor at RETECH, DOE-IE hosted a workshop on "Tribal Renewable Energy Solutions and Partnerships: Collaborating through the Headwinds of Change," attended by tribal and industry renewable energy leaders. The Office also held a networking session for tribal leaders to speak one-on-one with renewable energy companies already working in Indian Country and those seeking collaborative partnerships with Tribes and tribal corporations. In addition, attendees learned about the work of DOE-IE, as well as the DOE Office of Electricity Delivery & Energy Reliability, during the tradeshow at the DOE-IE booth.

## ON THE HORIZON

#### NOV. 13–16

DOE Energy in Indian Country Conference and Annual Tribal Energy Program Review  
Denver, CO

#### NOV. 15–16

RES Oklahoma  
Oklahoma City, OK

#### NOV. 27–29

Tribal Environmental Protection Agency Conference  
San Francisco, CA

#### NOV. DATE TBD

DOE-IE Tribal Leader Energy Forum  
San Francisco, CA

#### DEC. 3–5

Seminole Tribe of Florida Native Learning Center Grant Researching and Proposal Writing in Indian Country Workshop  
Orlando, FL

#### DEC. 10–12

Intertribal Transportation Association 18th Annual Conference & Meeting  
Las Vegas, NV

#### MARCH 4–7, 2013

2013 NCAI Executive Council Winter Session  
Washington, DC

#### MARCH 11–12, 2013

RES2013  
Las Vegas, Nevada

#### MARCH 24–27, 2013

Indian Gaming 2013  
Phoenix, AZ

## SUBMISSION IDEAS?

*Indian Energy Beat* is a publication of the DOE Office of Indian Energy that highlights opportunities and actions to accelerate energy development in Indian Country. If you have suggestions for feature stories, interviews, or news relevant to Indian energy, please submit your ideas to [indianenergy@hq.doe.gov](mailto:indianenergy@hq.doe.gov).

## LEARN MORE

For more information on DOE-IE's efforts to accelerate next-generation energy development in Indian Country and build a 21st century tribal energy economy, visit:

[www.energy.gov/indianenergy](http://www.energy.gov/indianenergy)

or email:

[indianenergy@hq.doe.gov](mailto:indianenergy@hq.doe.gov)



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Tracey LeBeau photo by DOE Graphics Department

Leading the Charge photos from Andrea Alexander,  
Kathy Mayo, and Tara Hess-McGeown

Winning the Future photo from William Cornelius