



Technical Assistance Opportunity for Alaska Native Entities: Strategic Technical Assistance Response Team (START) Initiative for Alaska Native Tribal Government Community Energy Planning

About the Office

The Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs (IE) is charged by Congress to direct, foster, coordinate, and implement energy planning and deployment, education, management, and programs that assist Tribes with energy development, capacity building, energy infrastructure, energy costs, and electrification of Indian lands and homes.

IE works within the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), across government agencies, and with Indian Tribes and organizations to promote Indian energy policies and initiatives. IE performs these functions within the scope of DOE's mission and consistently with the federal government's trust responsibility, tribal self-determination policy, and government-to-government relationship with Indian Tribes.

IE collaborates with Tribes to bring about the next generation of energy development in Indian Country. We provide reliable and accurate information to empower tribal leaders to make informed energy decisions. Through energy project funding, quality training, and technical assistance, we promote community economic development and job creation, foster tribal energy self-sufficiency and self-determination, and advance tribal visions for a sustainable energy future.

Strategic Technical Assistance Response Team (START) Initiative Technical Assistance for Alaska Native Tribal Government Communities

To achieve the mission and goals of the Office, IE has established the Alaska Strategic Technical Assistance Response Team (START) initiative to assist in the development of tribal energy planning for Alaska Native Entities. The Alaska START initiative includes a competitive technical assistance opportunity aimed at:

- Reducing the cost and price of energy for Alaska Native consumers and communities
- Increasing local capacity, energy efficiency, and conservation through training and public education
- Increasing renewable energy deployment and financing opportunities for communities and utilities.

The START initiative will be a comprehensive effort examining all energy-related issues in select Alaska Native villages, including diesel powerhouses, power distribution infrastructure, utility management, bulk fuel storage, energy efficiency and renewable energy projects, sewer and water energy demands, housing, and other Alaska Native tribal government community issues. Led by IE and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), the START will support activities of Alaska Native Entities that are focused on tribal government community-based energy planning, energy awareness and training programs, and identification and implementation of renewable energy and energy efficiency opportunities. Additionally, the START will leverage the expertise and resources of the Denali Commission, with whom IE is partnering to undertake this strategic technical assistance.



Technical assistance will include intensive data collection and analysis, an on-site workshop in the Alaska Native tribal government community that will address the above issues and provide technical support to selected projects, and ongoing work with the Alaska Native tribal government community to train local “energy champions and energy specialists” and implement energy and cost savings initiatives. To receive technical assistance, the Alaska Native tribal government community will be expected to provide necessary energy and cost data and commit to hosting and participating in the START program, including the on-site workshop, and ongoing pursuit of action items identified in any final reports and analysis.

Selection Criteria

DOE-IE plans to select up to 5 Alaska Native tribal government communities from the applicant pool to receive START technical assistance. The most likely successful applications will demonstrate:

- Magnitude of energy or cost savings across the Alaska Native tribal government community at completion of technical assistance
- Likelihood of implementation of roadmap activities developed through technical assistance. This will be evaluated by explanation within the application of previous efforts to implement energy efficiency and renewable energy, and the existence of an energy goal
- Commitment from Alaska Native tribal government leadership and community supporting START technical assistance.

Timeline for Selection and Technical Assistance

- **Application Deadline: January 15, 2012 (midnight Eastern Time)**
- Review Period: February 2012
- Date of Notification: March 2012
- Period of Technical Assistance: March-May 2012

Submittal of this application indicates tribal interest in receiving assistance from the START. A DOE and expert review team will identify finalists from the applications submitted. In January and February 2012, the finalists will work with the START leads to provide more information and develop detailed statements of work for technical assistance. In late February, the review team will select the successful applicants from the statements of work based on clarity of the need and likelihood that the investment of the START will assist in actual project development. Technical assistance is expected to be completed between March and May 2012.

How to Apply

Applications are being accepted until January 15, 2012 (midnight Eastern Time). Complete the information below and submit your application using the “Submit this Application” button at the end of this form. The application must be completed in its entirety in order to be considered.

If you have trouble, you can submit the completed PDF form separately to: IndianEnergy@hq.doe.gov.

Contact Us

Questions can be submitted to IndianEnergy@hq.doe.gov.



APPLICATION FORM

Technical Assistance Opportunity for Alaska Native Entities: Strategic Technical Assistance Response Team (START) Initiative for Alaska Native Tribal Government Community Energy Planning

Tribe: _____

Names of Representatives

Tribal Leader

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Tribal Staff Contacts

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

To be considered for the technical assistance, all questions must be answered thoroughly and succinctly in the space provided.

Part One: Community and Basic Energy Information

1. Population of Alaska Native tribal government community (PER 2010 CENSUS): _____
2. Name and ownership structure of electric utility serving your community (e.g., multi-village co-op, tribally owned, municipally owned, etc.): _____
3. Is your electric utility currently eligible to receive Power Cost Equalization (PCE)? Yes No
 - a. If so, is your electric utility currently receiving PCE? Yes No



4. Please list the most recent retail price for electricity (per kilowatt-hour) and diesel fuel or gasoline (per gallon): _____

Part Two: Alaska Native Tribal Government Community Energy Planning and Infrastructure

1. Has the community established an energy vision and/or plan*?
- Yes** – Please describe the energy vision or plan, including any specific goals, strategies, and/or projects listed in the vision or plan, and if it is documented in writing (if desired and available, feel free to electronically attach a previously written document that serves as the community energy vision and/or plan).

 - No** – If the tribal community or village is interested in creating an energy vision and/or plan, please describe what energy elements the community or village would like to address, what partners might be involved, and provide a rough timeline.

**An energy vision/plan or energy goal(s) may include: a target percentage of energy savings, a target percentage of renewable energy generation, a specific timeframe to reach a goal, or a broad statement on the value of energy to the community or village.*

2. Do you have your community's fuel use data and/or other baseline energy consumption information? If so, can you describe what information you have and would be able to provide to the technical assistance team?



8. Has the tribal community implemented or identified potential opportunities for renewable energy and/or energy efficiency projects?
- a. **Yes** - Please describe the project(s). Include relevant information such as: the type of renewable energy or efficiency technology, potential generation capacity or savings, and other details relevant to potential project development and financing.

 - b. **No** - Please describe what type of technical assistance would be most useful in identifying potential opportunities for renewable energy generation or energy efficiency and describe the level of support this activity would receive from tribal government community leadership.
9. What is the most immediate challenge facing the Alaska Native tribal government community regarding energy planning efforts or project implementation? What type(s) of technical assistance would provide an opportunity to address the challenge and move forward with energy planning and project development?
10. Please briefly describe the commitment from tribal leadership supporting the activities and assistance of the START and if the tribal community would support the activities and assistance of the START.