U.S. DEPARTMENT of ENERGY | Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs

Technical Assistance for Tribes and Tribal Entities

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Indian Energy offers 12 types of no-cost technical assistance to federally recognized Indian tribes and tribal entities, including Alaska Native regional and Village corporations, to support the advancement of energy projects.



Tribal representatives at a planning session. *Photo from DOE.*

Energy Planning acts as the foundation for developing resilient energy systems. Support is designed to help understand resources, identify energy options, and create a viable roadmap for the successful completion of a project.

Energy Efficiency Assessments assist with quantifying current energy usage, potential efficiency solutions, and cost savings. Types of support include building efficiency assessments and process efficiencies.

Resource Assessments review which energy resources are available and viable to provide affordable, abundant, and reliable energy to meet your tribe's goals and needs.

Energy Project Planning provides expert guidance and analysis to address specific barriers that you may face during energy project development. Types of support offered include modeling and analysis, third-party independent reviews, economic analysis, technology options assessments, and other assessments.

Energy Governance Support can help you navigate through governance questions relevant to project development. Types of support include energy code development and utility formation assessments.

Enabling a Sustainable Competitive Business Environment provides support in enhancing the legal environment for energy sector commerce. This includes assistance to advance high-value energy projects, evaluating proposals, modernizing or developing energy frameworks, and capacity building.

Expanded Topics

Data Center Development provides support for early-stage energy considerations in data center projects.

High-Performing Tribal Buildings assists with building energy modeling, building audit guidance, and how to fund or finance building improvements.

Tribal Utility Support provides support and analysis for tribal utilities that may include power quality, ratemaking, interconnections, and general operations issues.

Geothermal Energy provides early-stage assessment of geothermal opportunities for direct heating/cooling and electricity generation.

Nuclear Energy explores small modular reactors (SMRs), understanding requirements for integrating nuclear power into utility systems.

Combined Heat and Power (CHP) supports pre-feasibility studies for facilities with large heating/cooling loads (e.g., data centers, casinos, community centers).

Are you eligible to receive technical assistance?

- [ ] Are you a federally recognized Indian tribe, including Alaska Native regional and Village corporation, or are you a tribal entity, such as a tribal energy development organization, intertribal organization, or other organized tribal group? Technical assistance to enhance the legal environment is only available to tribes.

- [ ] Is your request related to at least one of the 12 types of technical assistance offered by the Office of Indian Energy? If you are uncertain which category best fits your request, you are still encouraged to apply.

If you're eligible, follow these steps.

1. Read and determine the type of technical assistance you'd like to request.
2. Submit an email request to ie-commerce-ta@hq.doe.gov for legal technical assistance or to ie-ta@hq.doe.gov for all other types. See the technical assistance page for more details: energy.gov/indianenergy/request-technical-assistance.
3. An Office of Indian Energy representative will contact you to schedule a call to discuss your request and agree on the type and scope of the technical assistance to be provided.
4. Provide any supplemental information requested.
5. Participate in a briefing with DOE on the results of the technical assistance.
6. Receive a tangible product or specific deliverable as agreed to under #3 above.
7. Provide feedback regarding the technical assistance received.

To learn more, visit the Office of Indian Energy's technical assistance page: energy.gov/indianenergy/technical-assistance.

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For more information, visit: **energy.gov/indianenergy**

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