# Chippewa Cree Tribe of Rocky Boy, MT

Residential Solar installation | Trevor Standing Rock

## Location

- 122K Acres of plains, hills, and mountains (Bear Paws)
- 6400 members with roughly 3800 living within the reservation boundaries
  Blackfeet







### **Project Goals**

- Introduce Solar PV as a viable means of sustainable energy development on the Rocky Boy Reservation
- Kick-off our commitment to long term strategic energy plan



#### Chippewa Cree Tribe Deployment of Clean Energy Solar PV Project CHIPPEWA CREE/GRID ALTERNATIVES

#### **Project Summary**

Through the Chippewa Cree Tribe Deployment of Clean Energy Solar PV Projecr, the Chippewa Cree will partner with non-profit solar installer GRID Alternatives to introduce a scalable model of solar PV to its reservation. The installation of the six solar PV systems on the Rocky Boy's Indian Reservation, will help fulfill the Chippewa Cree's strategic goals of long term sustainable development of its energy resources.



#### **Key Personnel/Organizations**

-Chippewa Cree Energy Corporation -Stone Child College -Chippewa Cree Housing Authority -GRID Alternatives

#### **Budget and Timeline**

Federal funds: \$63,435 Cost-share: \$ 63,436 Total: \$126,871

#### **Key Milestones & Deliverables**

- Year 1:Install six 3.5 kW solar PV systems on three of the<br/>tribe's recently constructed duplexes.Year 2:Verify energy output and savings to use as justification
  - ear 2: Verify energy output and savings to use as justification for future renewable energy projects.

#### **Project Outcomes**

Install six 3.5 kW grid-tied residential solar PV systems—21kW total—on three of the tribe's recently built duplexes constructed from highly energy efficient SIPs panels. It is estimated the project will produce 26,541 kWh/year or 283,988 kBtus/year and offset 27.3% of the current aggregate electrical usage, from 972,272 kWh/year. 10 Job Trainees will gain up to 80 hours of hands on, real world job experience in the solar PV field.

Introducing Solar PV as a viable means of sustainable energy development on the Rocky Boy Reservation.

### Procedures

- Construction was in an area that had pre-existing Environmental Assessments and Cultural clearance
- Work with local utility company to be in compliance with their requirements.
- Ours was a net metering system
- Ran into difficulty with utility in the form of a 3K fee

### Description

- Installed six solar PV systems on income qualified residential units
- Houses also chosen based on existing energy efficiency
- Completed in October 16'

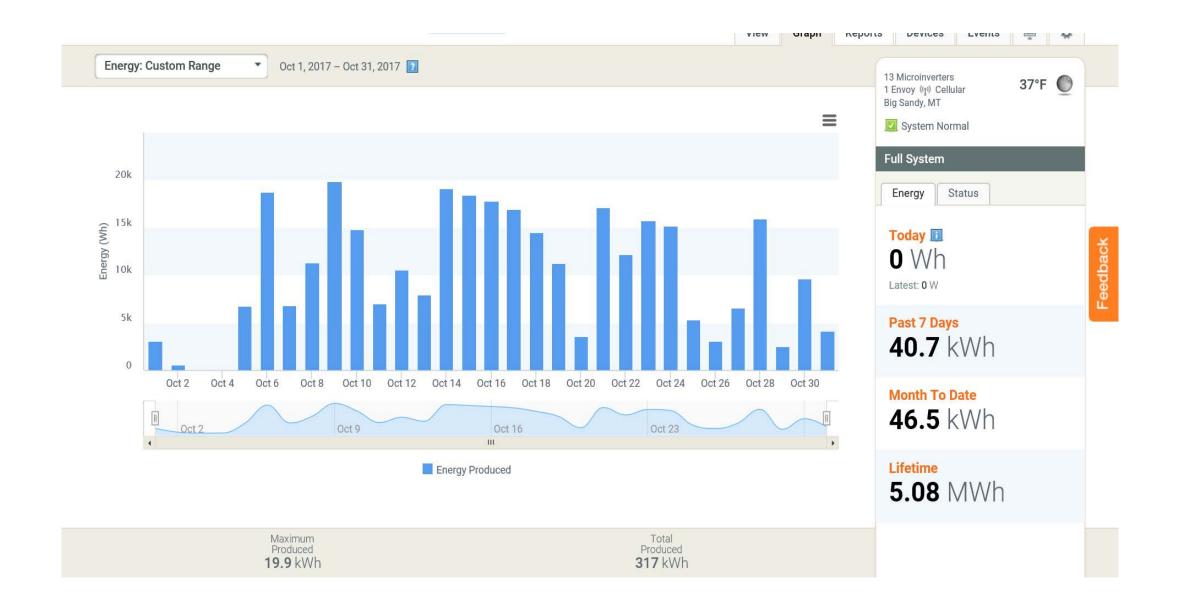
#### **Key Milestones & Deliverables**

Year 1:	Install six 3.5 kW solar PV systems on three of the tribe's recently constructed duplexes.
Year 2:	Verify energy output and savings to use as justification for future renewable energy projects.

### **Monitoring Results**

PV Watts Results for Box Elder, MT 4.402 *kWh/year October 323* kWh

Enphase Monitoring Approximately 5kWh/year October 317 kWh





### Key personnel/Organization

- Chippewa Cree Tribe
- Grid Alternatives
- Chippewa Cree Housing Authority
- Stone Child College











### 22 Tribal Members Trained

Cumulative 459 hours

7 Days of training provided totaling 50 hours

### Budget/Costs

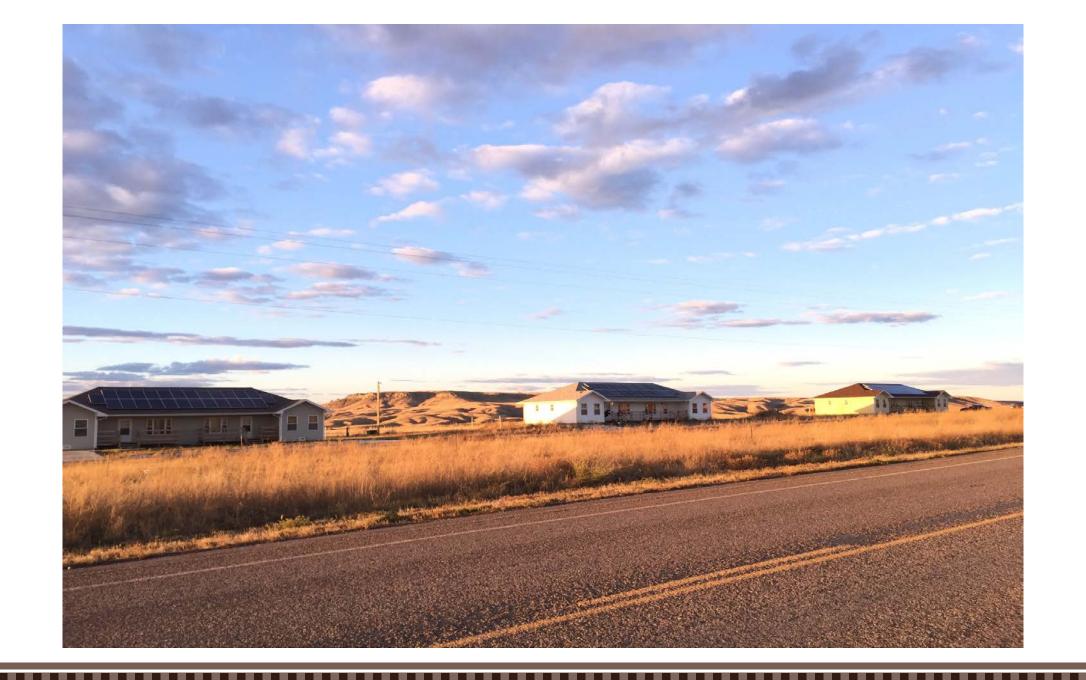
- \$126,872 total award amount
- 50% matching contribution for total of \$63,436
- Shared between Chippewa Cree Tribe and GRID Alternatives in form of equipment, in-kind, and cash contributions
- Tribe is looking at 8yr. ROI with a 25yr life of panels











### **Project Outcomes**

- Reduce utility bills for income qualified residents
- Currently paying around \$2K per year with an anticipated \$500 yearly savings
- Provided training for local community members
- Stimulated community interest in renewables