USDOE Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs/WAPA’s Monthly Tribal Energy Webinar Series
“Expanding Tribal Energy Development Through Partnerships”
TRIBES WORKING TOGETHER OVERVIEW

Glenn Steiger – NAVAJO TRIBAL UTILITY AUTHORITY
October 25, 2017
Agenda

- What Is The Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA)?
- How Can a Tribal Utility Gain Strength Through Affiliation?
- What Are The Available Affiliations?
- Why NTUA Has Joined Organizations?
- National Organizations
- Regional Organizations
- Statewide Organizations
- Other Possibilities?
- How About the Downside??
- Questions?
Navajo Tribal Utility Authority

Primary Multi-utility provider on the Navajo Nation

Electricity, Water, Natural Gas, Wastewater Treatment, Renewable Energy, and Communications
• Created in 1959

• A non-profit enterprise of the Navajo Nation

• Today – NTUA continues to address the multi-utility needs of the Navajo Nation

• Service Territory – 27,000 square miles across the Navajo Nation

• Seven District Offices – serve as a central point for business operations

• Extends – Electricity, Water, Wastewater Treatment, Natural Gas, Renewable Energy

• In recent years added: Communications – Internet, Cell Phone, and Data Storage Services
Navajo Nation – Southwest USA

- 186,500 Citizens
- Territory larger than West Virginia
- Unemployment rate of 48.5% - (9 times current U.S. average)
- 38% of Navajo people live below poverty line
- Avg per capita income of $10,695 vs U.S. avg of $48,377
Organizational Structure

Customers

Navajo Nation Council

Natural Resources & Development Committee

NTUA Management Board

Navajo Tribal Utility Authority
How Can a Tribal Utility Gain Strength Through Affiliation?

Power Supply
  ◦ Power Pooling
  ◦ Power Purchase Agreements
  ◦ New Generation
  ◦ Renewables
  ◦ Ancillary Services
  ◦ Contract Development/Negotiation
  ◦ Shared Risk
How Can a Tribal Utility Gain Strength Through Affiliation?

Transmission
- Planning
- Allocation
- Development
- RTO Involvement
- Balancing Authority Issues
- Contract Development/Negotiation
- Flow Analysis
How Can a Tribal Utility Gain Strength Through Affiliation?

Influence
◦ Legislative
◦ Regulatory
◦ Technical
◦ Financial
◦ Environmental
◦ New Technologies
How Can a Tribal Utility Gain Strength Through Affiliation?

Additional Services
- Group Purchasing
- Group Inventory
- Energy Services
  - Energy Efficiency
  - Demand Response
  - Distributed Generation
- Centralized Technical Assistance
- IT
- AMI/Smart Grid
How Can a Tribal Utility Gain Strength Through Affiliation?

Training
- Technical
- Operational

Education
- Organizational
- Political
- Emerging Trends
- New Technologies
How Can a Tribal Utility Gain Strength Through Affiliation?

Access To Financial Markets/Assistance
Funding Opportunities
Access to Pension/401K Programs
Scholarship Programs
Subsidies
What Are The Available Affiliations?

- National Industry Associations
- Regional Organizations/Compliance Groups
- Statewide Associations
- Joint Action Agencies
- Generation and Transmission Organizations
- Tribal Organizations
- Application Associations/Collaboratives
Why NTUA Has Joined Organizations?

Information Exchange

Provide National Exposure to Tribal Energy Issues Specific to NTUA

Education/Training

Power Supply

Transmission Involvement

Financial Assistance

Regulatory Influence

Networking – Information Exchange!!
National Organizations

American Public Power Association (APPA)
- Available to All Tribal Utilities
- Over 1200 Members
- Hometown Connections/Purchasing Benefits

National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA)
- Available to Most Tribal Utilities
- Over 900 Members
- Touchstone Energy/Marketing Assistance
Regional Organizations

Reliability Councils – eg., WECC
Regional Transmission Organizations – RTO
Transmission Planning Organizations/Assns.
Energy Markets
Hydro-Electric Distributor Associations
Scheduling Associations
Statewide Organizations

Public Power Joint Action Agencies - JAAs
Cooperative Generation and Transmission Groups – G&Ts
Municipal Utility Associations
Inter Tribal Councils
Irrigation District Associations
Other Possibilities

Aggregation
- Community Choice
- Multi-Tribal
- Community Solar

Purchasing Coops

Training Institutes
How About the Downside?

Cost
Compromise
Unified Leg/Regulatory Positions
Shared Risk (it’s a downside, too!)

**Overall, the Benefits Far Outweigh the Downside Risks!**
Questions?

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