Listening Session on Tribal Electricity Access and Reliability

Polling Questions

Section 1: Generation, transmission, and distribution assets available
Description: Generation, transmission, and distribution assets available to households residing in Tribal communities or on Indian land.

1. Does your tribe own any portion of the electrical infrastructure in your respective community? (Select all that apply)
   a. Poles and Distribution Lines
   b. Generation Resources, conventional and/or renewable
   c. Substations
   d. No, the tribe does not own any portion

2. How many distinct non-tribal utilities serve your tribal community(s)?
   a. One
   b. Two
   c. Three
   d. Four
   e. Other/comment

3. Is there existing infrastructure in your community that could be extended to electrify homes that are unelectrified?
   a. Yes
   b. No
   c. Don’t know

Section 2: Price of Electricity
Description: Retail and wholesale prices of electricity available to households residing in Tribal communities or on Indian land

1. Do you consider the cost of electricity to be high for households in your community?
   a. Yes
   b. No
   c. Don’t know

2. What is the cost of electricity for households (residential) residing in your community?
   a. Less than 14 cents/kWh
   b. 14 to 20 cents/kWh
   c. 20 to 40 cents/kWh
   d. Above 40 cents/kWh
   e. If the exact cost is known, enter in the chat box
Section 3: Workforce
Description: Participation of Tribal members in the electric utility workforce, including the workforce for construction and maintenance of renewable energy resources and distributed energy resources

1. Are their tribal members in your community that are directly a part of the energy job sector?
   a. Yes
   b. No
   c. If an estimate of total tribal member’s in the energy job sector is known, please specify in text box.

2. Is training and/or education needed to develop capacity for jobs in the energy sector?
   a. Yes
   b. No
   c. Maybe

3. What training and/or education is needed to support these types of jobs for tribal members? (Select all that apply)
   a. Renewable Energy
   b. Conventional Energy
   c. Operations and Maintenance
   d. Weatherization and/or Energy Efficiency
   e. Other (please clarify in the chat box)

Section 4: Electricity Access
Description: The percentage of households residing in Tribal communities or on Indian land that do not have access to electricity

1. Are any households in your community not connected to the centralized grid or not connected to a community-scale microgrid?
   a. Yes
   b. No
   c. Don't know

2. How many households in your community are not connected to the grid? (Provide an estimate in the chat box if known)
   a. 0
   b. 1 - 50
   c. 50 - 100
   d. 100+
   e. If an estimate is known, enter in chatbox or if unknown simply type unknown
4. What barriers exist to providing electric service to unelectrified homes in your community? (Select all that apply)
   a. Financial
   b. Workforce
   c. Infrastructure
   d. Planning
   e. Other (please clarify in chat box) or if access to electricity is not an issue then type N/A in the chatbox

5. How many electricity outages do you have in your community per month?
   a. None
   b. Occasional outages
   c. Regular electricity outages occur each month
   d. Electricity outages occur often every month

6. How long do the electricity outages typically last?
   a. Seconds
   b. Minutes
   c. Hours
   d. Days
   e. Not applicable

7. If outages do occur, what are the causes of those electricity outages?
   a. Fires
   b. Storms
   c. Inadequate infrastructure
   d. End of the line or utility directed outages
   e. Other (please clarify in chat box)

Section 5: Distributed Energy Potential
Description: The potential of distributed energy resources to provide electricity to households residing in Tribal communities or on Indian land

1. Have you quantified the potential for wind, solar, hydro, biomass or other distributed resources on your tribal lands?
   a. Yes
   b. No
   c. Don’t know
2. What types, if any, of electricity generation do you currently have in your community? (Select all that apply)
   a. Renewable energy (e.g. solar, wind, biomass, hydro)
   b. Conventional energy (e.g. coal, oil, gas)
   c. None

3. Does your community have a preference for renewable energy or conventional energy or a mix of both?
   a. Renewable energy (e.g. solar, wind, biomass, hydro)
   b. Conventional energy (e.g. coal, oil, gas)
   c. Mix of both

**Section 6: Tribally-Owned Utility Potential**
**Description:** The potential for tribally-owned electric utilities or electric utility assets to participate in or benefit from regional electricity markets

1. Does your community want its own tribal utility?
   a. Yes
   b. No
   c. Maybe

2. Do you have agreements in place with a non-tribal utility(s) (e.g. right-of-way, interconnection agreement, WAPA allocation)?
   a. Yes
   b. No
   c. Don’t know
**Roundtable Topics for Discussion**

1. Does your community have a Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) electricity allocation?
   a. Yes
   b. No
   c. Don’t know

2. When are right-of-way leases for electricity transmission or distribution set to expire?
   a. 1 year or less
   b. 2-5 years
   c. 5-10 years
   d. 10+ years
   e. Don’t know

3. Does the tribe or tribal members within your community receive outside assistance to pay electricity bills?
   a. Yes
   b. No
   c. Don’t know

4. If you receive assistance to pay for electricity bills, what type of assistance? (Select all that apply)
   a. Bill payment assistance
   b. Energy efficiency and/or weatherization
   c. On-bill financing for efficiency upgrades
   d. Other (please clarify in chat box)
   e. NA

5. Will new housing and/or building construction be:
   a. Connected to the electrical grid
   b. Connected to a local microgrid
   c. Other (please clarify in chat box)
   d. Will not be connected to the electric grid or local micro-grid

6. Are there any programs or policies that exist in your community that support the deployment of renewable energy (e.g., net-metering, education programs, rebates)?
   a. Yes
   b. No
   c. Don’t know

7. If programs or policies exist, what types of programs and/or policies exist locally that support the deployment of renewable energy technologies? (Select all that apply)
   a. Net-metering
b. Financial such as rebates or tax credits
c. Third-party ownership
d. Local codes
e. Education and/or training
f. Other (please clarify in chat box)

8. Do you have plans to develop a tribal utility to provide electricity to your community?
   a. Yes
   b. No
   c. Maybe with more information

9. Are there households in your community that are not connected to the electric grid but have their own electricity sources (e.g., solar electric, wind or other distributed resource such as diesel generators)?
   a. Yes
   b. No
   c. Don't know

10. How many individual households use diesel generators as their primary source of electricity?
    a. 0
    b. 1-20
    c. 21-50
    d. 51-100
    e. 100+
    f. Don’t know
    g. If exact or estimated numbers are known, please enter into the chat box

11. Does your community have a strategic energy plan in place?
    a. Yes
    b. No
    c. In-Process
    d. Don’t know