



Department of Energy
OIE Virtual Program Review
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Presented by Natalie Hanson



Nuvista Kwethluk Energy Storage



Department of Energy Office of Indian Energy

Energy Infrastructure Deployment on Tribal Lands

Tribal Energy Development Organization (TEDO) Partners:

Nuvista Light & Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Kwethluk, Incorporated

Organized Village of Kwethluk

Period of Performance: 10/01/2019 through 9/30/2023

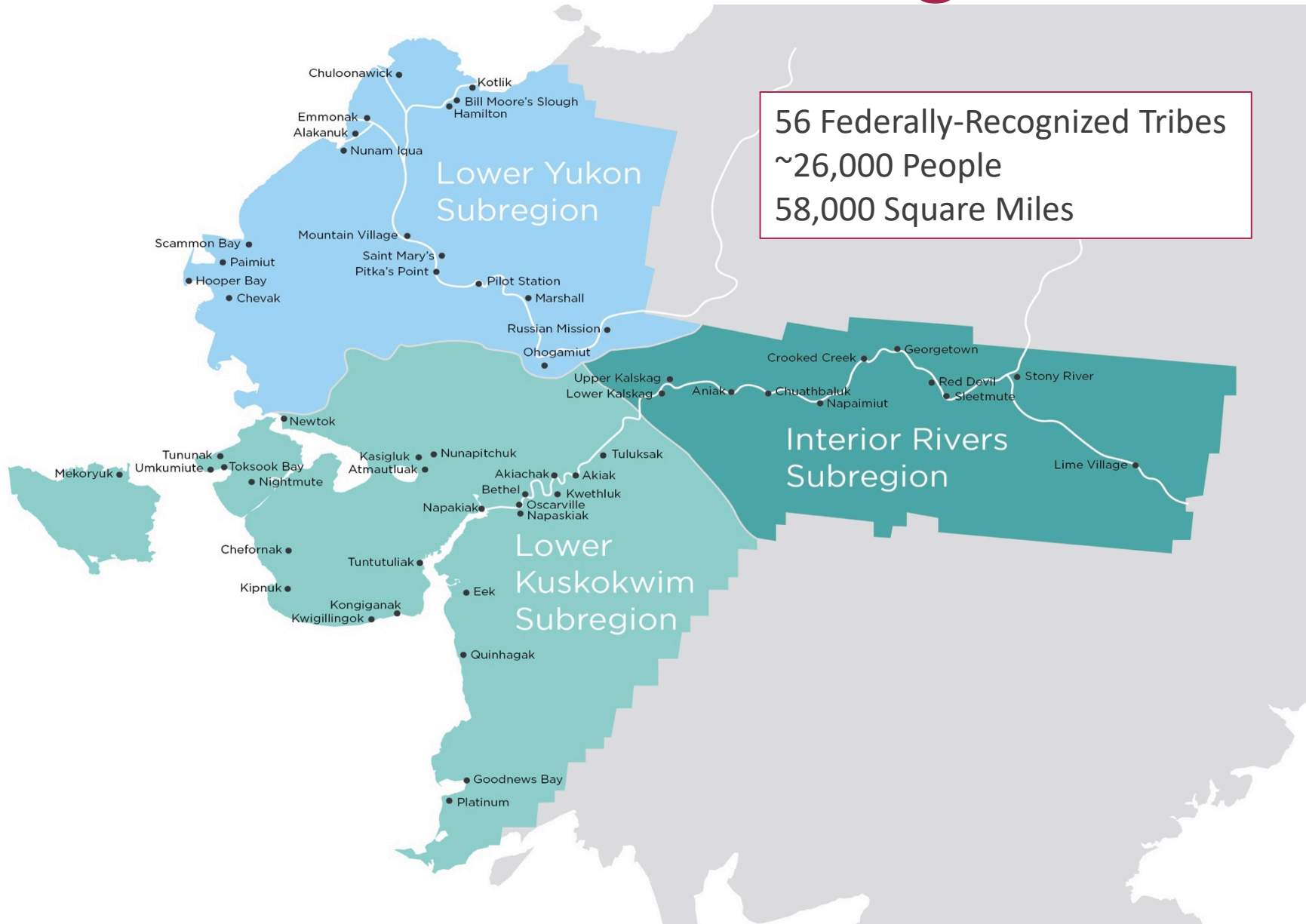
About Nuvista



Nuvista is a non-profit cooperative created by regional leaders of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta to help **our people** find energy opportunities that **carry our culture** and traditional **way of life** into the future.



Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Region



Nuvista's Focus



Our mission is to achieve a **more resilient** and connected region while **empowering** our communities with access to **affordable, sustainable** energy infrastructure.

Our approach focuses on **locally-driven** energy planning and education, community **energy efficiency** efforts, energy **generation and transmission** projects.



TEDO Partners



Kwethluk Incorporated (Kuiggluum Kallugvia)

Kwethluk, Inc. is the village corporation for the community formed under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) to manage money and lands of the people of Kwethluk. Kwethluk, Inc. owns and operates Kwethluk Light Plant, the electric utility.



Organized Village of Kwethluk

OVK is the federally recognized Tribe of Kwethluk and is governed by a Tribal Council.



About Kwethluk



- Population: 814 and has grown 5+% since 2000
- Median age of residents is 23.8 years old
- Median Household Income: \$47,500
- Unemployment rate: 26%
- Price of gasoline: \$5.83/gal, heating fuel: \$5.56/gal



Project Overview

Installation of an ABB 500/670 kW E-Mesh PowerStore battery energy storage system (BESS) into the Kwethluk power plant with 2 primary goals:

1. Improve the Tribal community's energy **resilience** and energy **security**
2. Provide **grid stability** to supplement the addition of **renewables** to the Kwethluk system



Kwethluk's Electric System



- Kwethluk's current electrical system is a standalone diesel power plant with 3 generators
- Peak load is 450 kW
- Average load is 180 kW
- Kwethluk has an average of 9 outages per year
- **Project in progress:** installation of 4 100-kW wind turbines with an estimated production of 200,000 kWh/year for each turbine





Energy Security & Resilience

The BESS will provide a renewable, rechargeable, non-fossil fuel emergency power back up for community facilities during outages.

In the event of an outage, the BESS will provide emergency power to:

- The **power plant**, so that operators can complete necessary repairs
- The local **clinic**, **Tribal buildings and offices**, and the **Headstart building**
- Residential customers to prevent the thawing of **subsistence foods** stored in freezers

The battery will provide power for an estimated 3 hours for essential services, or 1 hour at the community's average load.

Progress To-Date



Assembly and construction began in October 2020. Local hires built a raised platform and shelter for the battery and placed the PowerStore inside.

Electrical work was completed in September/October 2021 and the shelter was finished, including the installation of an HVAC system and the batteries.

Remaining Milestones:

Commissioning (targeting the end of 2021)

12 months of monitoring



Quyana Cakneq / Thank You

Natalie Hanson

Executive Director, Nuvista
nhanson@nuvistacoop.org

George Guy

Business Manager, Kwethluk Inc.
g.guy_kwtinc@yahoo.com

Jennifer Epchook

Tribal Administrator, OVK
kwethlukira@gmail.com