

**Office of Indian Energy  
(\$K)**

<b>FY 2021 Enacted</b>	<b>FY 2022 Annualized CR</b>	<b>FY 2023 Request</b>
<b>\$22,000</b>	<b>\$22,000</b>	<b>\$150,039</b>

**Overview**

The Office of Indian Energy Policy and Program's (IE) financial and technical assistance are beneficial to: promoting tribal energy development, efficiency, and use; reducing or stabilize energy costs; enhancing and strengthening tribal energy and economic infrastructure; and bringing electrical power and service to Indian land and homes -- with the ancillary benefit of providing employment on Tribal Lands and Alaska Native communities. IE achieves the mission through financial assistance, technical assistance, education, and outreach. This assistance is intended to overcome barriers to energy development, increase energy reliability and resiliency, and electrify lands and homes.

Financial Assistance will continue to provide funding toward energy development and electrification in Native American and Alaska Native communities. The FY 2023 Budget provides a major increase in funding for IE to support the two multi-year initiatives begun in FY 2022: 1) transition all of the nation's tribal colleges and universities to renewable energy; and 2) electrify the roughly 30,000 tribal homes that currently lack electricity. Both efforts will include supporting a substantial interagency coordinated tribal energy job training component. DOE will work together with USDA and DOI to ensure that incentives are properly aligned, the right mix of loans, grants, and technical assistance is deployed, and the objectives are achieved as cost-effectively as possible, while fully respecting tribal sovereignty and self-determination. The FY 2023 Budget also provides funding increases to expand its current efforts for the transition of Indian Country to clean energy.

Since 2010, DOE's Office of Indian Energy has invested over \$114 million in more than 200 tribal energy projects. Recipient cost share of over \$80 million has leveraged Indian energy investments to have resulted in immediate and tangible impacts in American Indian and Alaska Native communities. Seventy-five percent of those investments have been in hardware installation projects which have resulted in more than 43-megawatts (MW) of new generation, and more than 10-megawatthours (MWh) of new battery storage, providing electricity to over 8,600 tribal buildings across the Nation. These investments have saved over \$13.7 million annually and are estimated to save over \$295 million over the life of these systems, resulting in \$3.46 saved for every DOE dollar invested.

In FY 2021, Indian Energy provided \$12 million across 13 different American Indian and Alaska Native communities. These Project included over 3.5 MW in clean energy generation and over 3.5 MW in battery storage in Indian Country, with savings of over \$1.8 million annually. Indian Energy also provided \$14.8 million in cost share reductions to 27 grantees to provide some financial relief to Native communities struggling with COVID.

Technical Assistance leverages DOE laboratories and partner organizations to facilitate expeditious energy deployment. By building internal technical capability, local support is being provided, and tribal capacity is increased. Technical assistance is provided at no cost to address a specific technical or financial barrier or to assist with energy planning. Since 2010, nearly 400 technical assistance requests have been completed, providing technical, financial and energy planning expertise to bear on overcoming barriers to Indian energy development.

**Office of Indian Energy**  
**Appropriation Level and Program Level Funding (\$K)**

	<b>FY 2021 Enacted</b>	<b>FY 2022 Annualized CR</b>	<b>FY 2023 Request</b>	<b>FY 2023 Request vs FY 2021 Enacted (\$)</b>	<b>FY 2023 Request vs FY 2021 Enacted (%)</b>
<b>Assistance Programs<sup>1</sup></b>					
Financial Assistance	15,810	15,810	123,212	107,402	679%
Technical Assistance	1,190	1,190	6,524	5,334	448%
<b>Total, Assistance Programs</b>	<b>17,000</b>	<b>17,000</b>	<b>129,736</b>	<b>112,736</b>	<b>663.2%</b>
<b>Program Direction</b>					
Salaries and Benefits	1,986	1,986	4,856	2,870	145%
Travel	75	75	265	190	253%
Support Services	2,579	2,579	11,879	9,300	361%
Other Related Expenses	360	360	3,303	2,943	817%
<b>Total, Program Direction</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>20,303</b>	<b>15,303</b>	<b>306.1%</b>
<b>Total, Office of Indian Energy</b>	<b>22,000</b>	<b>22,000</b>	<b>150,039</b>	<b>128,039</b>	<b>582%</b>
<b>Federal FTEs</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>93.3%</b>

<sup>1</sup> Formerly named Tribal Energy Program which was an EERE Program

**Outyear Funding**

(\$K)

	<b>FY 2023 Request</b>	<b>FY 2024</b>	<b>FY 2025</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>
<b>Office of Indian Energy Policy and Program</b>	<b>150,039</b>	<b>153,000</b>	<b>157,000</b>	<b>161,000</b>	<b>167,000</b>

**Major Outyear Priorities and Assumptions**

Outyear funding levels for 2023 Appropriation total \$635,000,000 for FY 2024 through FY 2027. 2023 Appropriation priorities include the following:

- deployment/grants management (tribal building energy efficiency retrofit, new generation/construction, net-zero tribal college campuses)
- capacity building/workforce development (participation in education (traditional students)), worker training, workforce transition, tribal leader capacity-building, energy leader social capital investment),
- policy analysis and support (state/tribal utility commission policy portfolio integration analysis, examination of the policy implications of new technologies, improving access to capital)

**Office of Indian Energy  
Assistance Programs**

**Overview**

The Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs (IE) serves all federally recognized Indian tribes, which include Alaska Native Regional Corporations and Village Corporations, as well as tribal and intertribal organizations, and tribal energy development organizations. Numerous factors burden Indian tribes interested in developing their vast energy resources. Energy and infrastructure development in Indian Country is constrained due to limited funding and financing, inadequate infrastructure, limited technical capacity, and a complicated legal and regulatory structure governing Indian lands. As a result, Native Americans are three times as likely to live in overcrowded housing and with inadequate infrastructure, about one in four (25%) of American Indians and Alaska Natives lives in poverty<sup>2</sup> and unemployment rates are twice as high as those among non-Indians nationally<sup>3</sup>. Additionally, more than 175 Alaska Native villages rely almost exclusively on diesel fuel for electricity and oil for heat. In some communities, electricity costs exceed \$1.00/kilowatt-hour, more than eight times the national average of \$0.12/kilowatt-hour<sup>4</sup>.

In consultation with Tribal Leaders, Alaska Native Regional Corporations and other constituents, IE achieves its mission by promoting Indian energy development, electrifying Indian Country, and helping to reduce or stabilize the cost of electricity. IE achieves the mission through financial assistance, technical assistance, and education and outreach.

Financial assistance, primarily through competitive grants to Indian tribes and other eligible tribal entities, supports the deployment of energy infrastructure, efficiency and electrification projects, reducing energy costs, increasing reliability and resiliency, and building human capacity within and among tribes.

In the area of technical assistance, IE is transitioning to become more effective and efficient using local Subject Matter Experts (SME's) to assist Native American and Alaska Native communities in developing energy projects and providing support for energy planning. In Alaska, this was implemented through an interagency agreement with the Denali Commission for local SME's.

Policy initiatives include coordination and collaboration with various sectors of government that are critical to investment, job creation, project development, and operation of energy systems throughout Indian Country, including the Indian Country Energy and Infrastructure Working Group (ICEIWG). ICEIWG advises the Secretary of Energy on behalf of Indian tribes on their policy priorities. Policy analysts survey energy needs and energy resources on Indian lands, including available infrastructure support, and develop strategies for electrification and energy deployment and development. Policy initiatives also include coordination and collaboration through a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of the Interior on issues including electrification and energy development in Indian Country.

**Highlights and Major Changes in the FY 2023 Budget Request**

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<sup>2</sup> U.S. Census Bureau. Macartney, S., Bishaw, A., Fontenot, K. Poverty Rates for Selected Detailed Race and Hispanic Groups by State and Place: 2007 – 2011.

<https://www.census.gov/library/publications/2013/acs/acsbr11-17.html>. Accessed April 2017.

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Public and Indian Housing, Native American Housing Block Grants 2017 Summary Statement and Initiatives. [https://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=11-Nat.Am\\_HSNG\\_BIK\\_Grants.pdf](https://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=11-Nat.Am_HSNG_BIK_Grants.pdf). Accessed April 2017.

<sup>4</sup> Schwabe, P. (2016). *Solar Energy Prospecting in Remote Alaska: An Economic Analysis of Solar Photovoltaics in the Last Frontier State* (No. NREL/TP-6A20-65834; DOE/IE-0040). NREL (National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), Golden, CO (United States). <https://energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2016/02/f29/Solar-Prospecting-AK-final.pdf>. Accessed April 2017.

IE's FY 2023 budget priorities are continuing and expanding efforts towards (1) universal energy access for Indian country, (2) 100% renewable tribal colleges and universities; (3) transitioning Indian Country to clean energy; and (4) building capacity in Indian Country.

### **Universal Energy Access for Indian Country**

Tens of thousands of U.S. citizens living on tribal reservations currently live in homes without electricity. Without electricity, these families lack access to what many consider basic necessities like wired lights, computers, and refrigeration. The Department of Energy, working through the Office of Indian Energy, seeks to remedy this inequitable situation and bring clean energy to every tribal home that wants it. IE will work in partnership with the US Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Department of the Interior (DOI), States, Tribes, and local utilities to ensure that incentives are properly aligned, the right mix of loans, grants, and technical assistance is deployed, and that universal electrification is achieved as cost-effectively as possible, while fully respecting tribal sovereignty and self-determination.

### **100% Renewable Tribal Colleges and Universities**

Tens of thousands of tribal students study at the nation's 37 tribal colleges and universities each year<sup>5</sup> – seeking an education that will lead to meaningful work that will help their homelands and provide good paying jobs for their families. This initiative will combine the ingenuity of tribal students with the vast energy potential of tribal lands to bring renewable energy projects to every tribal college and university in the nation, with the ultimate goal of those schools being powered by 100% renewable energy. Students will be engaged in hands-on learning, with opportunities to help plan, design, and install renewable projects at their schools – helping to equip them to go on to good paying jobs in the renewable energy sector.

### **Transitioning Indian Country to Clean Energy**

Building on past successes, IE will expand efforts to transition Native American and Alaska Native communities to clean energy while building local economies, stabilizing and reducing energy costs and building local capacity. Native communities pay some of the highest energy costs in the Country. By transitioning to clean energy Native Nations can tap into their vast energy resources, build local economies and internal capacity and increase resiliency for future generations.

### **Capacity Building**

Indian country has only just barely tapped into its vast energy resources. IE will work through technical assistance, education, and outreach to build skills and knowledge in Indian country to take advantage of these energy resources, provide good paying jobs, and power Indian country with renewable energy. IE will partner with tribal climate and energy education programs to train and build capacity of community members, college students, and professionals in Indian Country – and – expand IE's local network of technical assistance providers to improve effectiveness and efficiency and to target the needs of tribes using local experts.

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<sup>5</sup> American Council on Education Issue Brief (C. Nelson and J. Frye). *Tribal College and University Funding: Tribal Sovereignty at the Intersection of Federal, State, and Local Funding* (2016). <https://www.acenet.edu/Documents/Tribal-College-and-University-Funding.pdf#:~:text=Tribal%20colleges%20and%20universities%20%28TCUs%29%20continue%20to%20provide,enroll%20nearly%2028%2C000%20full-%20and%20part-time%20students%20annually>. Accessed March 25, 2022.

**Indian Energy  
Assistance Programs  
Activities and Explanation of Changes**

FY 2021 Enacted	FY 2023 Request	Explanation of Changes FY 2023 Request vs FY 2021 Enacted
Assistance Programs \$17,000,000	\$129,736,000	\$112,736,000
Financial Assistance \$15,810,000	\$123,211,563	\$107,401,563
Competitive grant program supporting energy development and electrification in Indian Country, and associated support contracts.	Competitive grant program supporting energy development and energy access in Indian Country, and associated support contracts. Financial Assistance: Maximize available funding for financial assistance awards and expand opportunities for historically underserved populations, including those who have not received funding from IE.	Continue to provide grants for energy development, energy cost savings, and energy access in Indian Country. Increase energy access into tribal homes and partner with tribal colleges and universities to transition to clean energy.
Technical Assistance \$1,190,000	\$6,524,437	\$5,334,437
Technical Assistance disseminates information to Indian Country through in-person and on-line training, internships, regional/national workshops, webinars, and printed guides and materials.	Technical Assistance: Reconfigure technical assistance by expanding the network of local service providers to improve effectiveness and efficiency and to target needs of tribes.	Continue to expand technical assistance focused on energy development, energy cost savings, and energy access in Indian Country.
On-request assistance efforts provides high-level support for electrification and energy development in Indian Country.	Education and Outreach: Expand STEM <sup>6</sup> education and internship programs, vocational/technical opportunities, and non-traditional students, and increase outreach efforts to engage American Indian and Alaska Native communities and better educate the public on tribal energy potential, development challenges, and viable deployment solutions.	Partner with tribal climate and energy education programs to train and build capacity of community members, college students, and professionals in Indian Country.
Efforts will also focus on building partnerships and leveraging resources to maximize education, training, and technical assistance.		

<sup>6</sup> Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) is a broad term used to group together these academic disciplines.

**Office of Indian Energy  
Program Direction**

**Overview**

Program direction provides federal staff responsible for the management and execution of IE's programs and activities, as well as the associated support contractors, rent, supplies, travel, and other related expenses. The staff is responsible for providing overall guidance and direction for DOE program offices on tribal energy activities and initiatives necessary to achieve IE's program objectives and provides day-to-day management of financial assistance, technical assistance, and outreach and capacity building efforts. Program direction also provides managerial support for the reporting, compliance, and other statutory responsibilities.

The FY 2023 Budget anticipates 29 federal staff: 10 FTEs in Washington, D.C., 5 FTEs in Anchorage, Alaska, and 14 FTEs in Golden, Colorado. The Washington, D.C. staff includes executive leadership, operations, and policy analysis. The Anchorage, Alaska staff provides education and technical assistance for the nearly 230 Alaska Native villages, over 200 Alaska Native Village Corporations, and 13 Alaska Regional Corporations. The Golden, Colorado staff provides management and oversight for approximately 80 existing financial assistance awards throughout the nation, while delivering technical assistance within the contiguous U.S. for nearly 340 Indian tribes and dozens of tribal and intertribal organizations.

**Highlights and Major Changes in the FY 2023 Budget Request**

- Energy access: Expand efforts towards achieving 100% universal energy access for Indian country and address the inequities to provide basic necessities like wired lights, computes, and refrigeration.
- Education and Outreach: Expand STEM education and internship programs to include vocational/technical opportunities, and non-traditional students, as well as increasing stakeholder outreach efforts to better educate the public on tribal energy development challenges. Develop partnership with tribal climate and energy education programs to train and build capacity of community members, college students, and professionals in Indian Country;
- Increase outreach efforts to engage American Indian and Alaska Native communities and better educate the public on tribal energy potential, development challenges, and viable deployment solutions;
- Support project management and procurement across IE's portfolio of projects, including closing out completed financial assistance awards; and
- Maximize the efficient and effective use of additional resources to accomplish IE's new initiatives and core mission while reducing overall expenses and improving the delivery of IE's services in Indian Country.

**Program Direction Funding  
(\$K)**

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Salaries and Benefits	1,986	1,986	4,856	2,870	145%
Travel	75	75	265	190	253%
Support Services	2,579	2,579	11,879	9,300	361%
Other Related Expenses	360	360	3,303	2,943	817%
Total, Washington Headquarters	5,000	5,000	20,303	15,303	306.1%
Federal FTEs	12	15	29	14	93.3%

**Program Direction Summary  
Indian Energy Federal Salaries and Expenses**

**Office of Indian Energy  
Program Direction  
Activities and Explanation of Changes**

FY 2021 Enacted	FY 2023 Request	Explanation of Changes FY 2023 Request vs FY 2021 Enacted
Program Direction \$5,000,000	\$20,303,000	\$15,303,000
Salaries and Benefits \$1,986,000	\$4,856,000	\$2,870,000
Federal Salaries and benefits to implement program activities, monitor 70 active projects, generally 15-20 TA requests in process, up to 10 contractor support activities, and provide program management functions.	31 Federal Salaries and benefits to implement new initiatives program activities, monitor 80 active projects, and increase in TA requests related to education/outreach environmental justice, energy access, and energy poverty.	The Increase in the federal staff will support the new initiatives and funding level.
Travel \$75,000	\$265,000	\$190,000
Travel required for Federal staff delivery of program management and Office of Indian Energy deployment activities, including outreach and education, technical assistance, and project management to support the 574 federally recognized Indian tribes throughout the nation, many of which are located in remote and rural areas.	Travel required for Federal staff delivery of program management and Office of Indian Energy deployment activities, including outreach and education, technical assistance, and project management to support the 574 federally recognized Indian tribes throughout the nation, many of which are in remote and rural areas.	Travel to support new initiatives, additional TA support, energy access, and education/outreach.
Support Services \$2,579,000	\$11,879,000	\$9,300,000
Management, administrative, mission and technical support.	Management, administrative, and operations support.	Contractual staff to support operations.
Other Related Expenses \$360,000	\$3,303,000	\$2,943,000
Computer hardware and software provided through the OCIO, Working Capital Fund, office space, registration fees, supplies, and small purchases through the micro-purchase credit card.	Computer hardware and software provided through the OCIO, Working Capital Fund, additional office space, registration fees, supplies, and small purchases through the micro-purchase credit card.	Other related expenses to support additional office space and operations.