

DOE OFFICE OF INDIAN ENERGY

Meet the DOE Indian Energy Program Team



Meet the Team

Office of Indian Energy

Comprised of 14 Federal employees and 10 contractors

The Director, Deputy Director, Senior Advisor, Budget Officer, Communications Specialist, and Management Analyst (6 FTE's) and two (2) contractors located in Washington, DC.



The Deployment Supervisor, Deployment Specialist, a Project Officer and two Engineers (5 FTE's) and eight (8) contractors, duty-stationed in Golden, Colorado. Financial assistance support received through the DOE Golden Field Office.



AK Senior Policy Advisor and two (2) Engineers duty-stationed in Alaska.



Meet the Team



Indian Energy Deployment Team (Federal)



Lizana Pierce, Senior Engineer and Deployment Supervisor



Tweedie Doe, Lead Project Officer



Michael Stevenson, Lead General Engineer



Tommy Jones, Deployment Specialist



Josh Gregory, General Engineer



Dan Smith, General Engineer

Meet the Deployment Team (Federal)



Lizana Pierce **Senior Engineer and Deployment** **Supervisor, Colorado**

Lizana Pierce duty stationed in Colorado and serves as the principal engineering expert for the Director and Deputy Director on deployment programs. Mrs. Pierce is responsible for implementing the Office's Deployment Programs: Technical Assistance, Financial Assistance; and Education and Capacity Building. Ms. Pierce has 25 years of experience in energy technologies, project development, and management, and has dedicated 20 of those years to assisting Indian tribes in developing their energy resources.



Ms. Pierce holds a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering from Colorado State University, and she pursued a Master's in Business Administration through the University of Northern Colorado.

Meet the Deployment Team (Federal)



Dr. Tommy Jones Deployment Specialist, Colorado

As a Deployment Specialist, Thomas ('Tommy') is responsible for assisting the Deployment Supervisor with implementing the Office's Deployment Programs: Technical Assistance, Financial Assistance, and Education and Capacity Building. Dr. Jones, is from Jones, Oklahoma and is an enrolled citizen of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, Naknek Native Village, and a Native shareholder of Bristol Bay Native Corporation of Alaska.



Dr. Jones has separate bachelor's degrees in Biology and Spanish from Oklahoma City University, a master's degree in Tropical Conservation Biology and Environmental Science from University of Hawaii at Hilo, and a Ph.D. in Natural Resources and American Indian Studies from the University of Arizona. He holds certifications in Administration and Management of Native American Natural Resources, Native Nation Building, and as a Project Management Professional. In 2016, he was honored as a recipient of NCAIED's prestigious Native American 40 under 40 award.



Meet the Deployment Team (Federal)

Tweedie Doe

Lead Project Officer, Colorado

As a project officer, Tweedie Doe serves as Project Officer, overseeing, reviewing, analyzing, and evaluating a diverse grants portfolio including cooperative agreements, awards, and projects involving energy development, efficiency, and use; reducing and stabilizing energy costs; development of Indian tribal energy and economic infrastructure relating to natural resource development; and electrification. Ms. Doe also serves as a financial assistance program resource to tribes.

Ms. Doe has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of Washington, and a Master of Arts in International Studies with emphasis on economics and human rights from the University of Denver. She obtained her Project Management Professional (PMP) certification in 2013 and is certified as a Project Officer and Contracting Officer Representative.



Meet the Deployment Team (Federal)



Michael Stevenson Lead General Engineer, Colorado

Mike Stevenson joined the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Indian Energy as an engineer in May 2021. Duty stationed in Golden, Colorado, he serves as a technical expert supporting technical assistance and administering financial assistance awards to Indian tribes, Alaska Native villages, and tribal and intertribal organizations.

Prior to joining the team at DOE, Mike spent the previous six years with the Department of the Interior as an Electrical Engineer for the Division of Energy and Mineral Development (DEMD), an energy office under the Bureau of Indian Affairs. While with the DEMD, Mike helped tribes explore both energy resource and capacity development by providing technical assistance and administering financial assistance through the DEMD's two grant programs.

Mike holds a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from the University of Colorado and a master's degree in Infrastructure Planning and Management from the University of Washington.



Meet the Deployment Team (Federal)



Josh Gregory General Engineer, Colorado

Josh Gregory joined the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Indian Energy as an engineer in September 2021. Duty stationed in Golden, Colorado, he serves as a technical expert supporting technical assistance and administering financial assistance awards to Indian tribes.

Prior to joining the team at DOE, Josh spent the previous five years with the Department of the Interior (DOI) as a Mechanical Engineer for the Division of Energy and Mineral Development (DEMD), an energy office under the Bureau of Indian Affairs. While at DEMD, he assist Tribes with their energy planning, assessment and project development.

Josh was born and raised in Denver, Colorado, and holds a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Colorado.

Meet the Deployment Team (Federal)

Dan Smith

General Engineer, Alaska

Dan Smith joined the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs as a general engineer in February 2021. Duty stationed in Anchorage, Alaska, he serves as a technical expert supporting technical assistance and administering financial assistance awards to Alaska Native villages, Alaska Native regional and village corporations, and tribal and inter-tribal organizations.

After completing his education, he moved to Alaska to pursue his personal mission of building infrastructure, where he worked for Alaska Energy Authority on a large hydroelectric projects and other smaller renewable energy projects. After a tenure at AEA, he began work with the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium where he worked on energy systems used for providing drinking water and sanitation infrastructure in Native villages across the State of Alaska.

Mr. Smith studied Civil Engineering with a focus on hydraulic and water resources engineering.



Meet the Deployment Team (Federal)



Alan Verbitsky **General Engineer, Alaska**

Alan Verbitsky joined the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs as a general engineer in November 2020. Duty-stationed in Alaska, he serves as a senior technical expert, advising the Office and its constituents on the technical ramifications, limitations, and engineering requirements of tribal energy and infrastructure planning and management, project development, capacity building, and costs, as well as the electrification of Indian lands and homes.

Following post-graduate studies and a brief stint in an oil field in the south-central United States, he served as the lead electrical engineer at Minot Air Force Base and earned his professional engineering license in North Dakota. Afterwards he transferred to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 7 Headquarters in Anchorage, Alaska, as the lead electrical engineer in the facility design section, which served bush Alaska. During this time, he received his professional engineering license in Alaska. Verbitsky later transferred to the U.S. Coast Guard Support Center in Kodiak, Alaska, serving Coast Guard facilities in western Alaska and the Aleutian Chain. After separating from civil service, he became the Director of Engineering and Facilities for the Kodiak Island Borough. In 2002, he returned to the lower 48, where he worked as the Director of Engineering for SRT Communications, as well as the Facility Manager for the Indian Health Service on the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Reservation in Belcourt, North Dakota. Prior to joining the Office of Indian Energy, Verbitsky spent several years as a consulting engineer, working in Canada, China, and the United States.

Verbitsky graduated from North Dakota State University with a Bachelor of Science in electrical and electronic engineering and a concentration in chemical engineering and control theory.

Meet the Deployment Team (Contractors)



Jen Luna, Lead



Jami Alley



Kris Venema



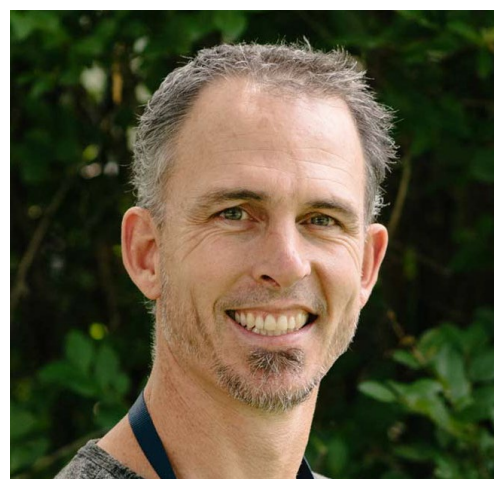
James Jensen



Jessica Bekker



Mike Vehar



Nathan Ballenger



Brandon Kiger