

## Knowledge Is Power ... and in Rural Alaska, Power Is the Future

By providing expert technical assistance, building tribal capacity, and expanding access to capital, the Office of Indian Energy is empowering Alaska Native leaders, corporations, and their staff with the knowledge and skills they need to implement strategic solutions to their unique energy challenges—solutions with the potential to stabilize energy costs, enhance energy security, strengthen tribal energy infrastructure, and guide Alaska Native communities toward a sustainable energy future.

# ADVANCING TRIBAL ENERGY DEVELOPMENT IN ALASKA

## INCREASING ENERGY SECURITY FOR NATIVE COMMUNITIES

The Indian Tribal Energy Development and Self Determination Act of 2005, under the Energy Policy Act of 2005, authorizes the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Indian Energy to fund and carry out a variety of programs and projects that assist American Indian Tribes and Alaska Native villages with:

- **PROMOTING** tribal energy development, efficiency, and use
- **REDUCING** and **STABILIZING** energy costs
- **ENHANCING** tribal energy natural resources and **STRENGTHENING** economic infrastructure
- **ELECTRIFYING** Indian lands and homes.

To address these directives in Alaska, we partner with Alaska Native villages and corporations to maximize the value of their abundant energy resources through:



Technical assistance



Access to capital



Education and capacity building

For more information on how to partner with the Office of Indian Energy to advance energy solutions that benefit Alaska Natives, visit [energy.gov/indianenergy](http://energy.gov/indianenergy) or contact our staff duty-stationed in Alaska:

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[www.energy.gov/indianenergy/alaska](http://www.energy.gov/indianenergy/alaska)

Front side photo from Tanadgusix Corporation;  
inside photo from Dave Pelunis-Messier,  
Tanana Chiefs Conference

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Saint Paul Island, Alaska

## DOE Investments in Alaska Tribal Energy Projects 2002–2017

**56** energy  
development and  
efficiency projects  
funded

Over **\$22 million**  
invested by DOE

Nearly **\$30 million**  
in tribal cost share




# Delivering Technical Assistance


The Office of Indian Energy provides no-cost technical assistance to advance tribal energy projects and initiatives.

In Alaska, technical assistance is delivered by DOE and national laboratory experts, and offered through several tribal organizations as part of the DOE-funded Intertribal Technical Assistance Providers Network.

## Types of On-Request Technical Assistance




**Energy Planning**  
Early assessment, program design, and options analysis




**Housing and Building Energy Efficiency**  
Strategic guidance for creating more efficient homes and buildings




**Project Development**  
Expert insights and analysis to overcome technical, financial, sociopolitical, and other project barriers



**Resilience**  
Strategic guidance with planning for, mitigating, and adapting to challenges such as extreme weather events and natural disasters



**Village Power**  
Expert assistance with power cost equalization qualification and energy security and infrastructure challenges



**Policy and Regulation**  
Information and guidance on navigating local, state, and federal energy governance issues

For more information or to request technical assistance see [energy.gov/indianenergy/technical-assistance](https://energy.gov/indianenergy/technical-assistance).

## Feedback from Technical Assistance Recipients

“We knew we had energy resources but not how many! This also helped us understand how to better plan for our future energy needs.”

“We were impressed with how the workshop helped us prioritize our energy goals and establish a strategy for achieving them.”

“This was so good for us! We are saving more money now so we can buy more gas to go hunting and fishing.”

“This is the most cost-effective technical assistance provided to us and improved our efforts to provide electricity services to our customers and ... be in compliance in receiving PCE [Power Cost Equalization] funding to help our customers here in our community.”

# Expanding Access to Capital

The Office of Indian Energy facilitates tribal access to capital for energy project development through competitively awarded grants.

## ALASKA PROJECTS SELECTED FOR FUNDING IN 2017

In 2017, the Office of Indian Energy will invest nearly **\$2.5 million** in eight Alaska projects, saving Alaska communities **over \$1.4 million** per year.

**Huslia Tribal Council— Huslia, AK**  
**Community-scale biomass** project that is expected to:

- Provide heating for **60%** of the community's buildings
- Save **~\$57,000** annually in heating costs

**Tanadgusix Corporation— Saint Paul Island, AK**  
**Energy efficiency and wind** project that is expected to:

- Reduce energy use of island airport facility by **54%**
- Reduce diesel fuel purchases by **~\$239,000** annually

**Northway Village—Northway, AK**  
**Energy efficiency** project that is expected to:

- Reduce energy use in three tribal buildings by **21.8%**
- Save **~\$21,546** in annual electricity and fuel oil expenses

**Alaska Village Electric Cooperative (Joint Venture with Bethel Native Corporation)—Bethel, Oscarville, and Napakiak, AK**  
**Wind** project that is expected to:

- Reduce diesel fuel usage by **~170,280** gallons annually to save **~\$1,106,000** each year
- Save **~\$18 million** in energy costs over the life of the project

Four additional projects will take the first steps toward developing and sustaining renewable energy and energy efficiency on tribal lands.

- Akiachak Native Community – Akiachak, AK
- Native Village of Atmautluak – Atmautluak, AK
- Native Village of Kwigillingok – Kwigillingok, AK
- Village of Aniak – Aniak, AK

For information on prior Alaska projects, see [energy.gov/indianenergy/maps/tribal-energy-projects-database](https://energy.gov/indianenergy/maps/tribal-energy-projects-database).

# Building Tribal Capacity

Through trainings, forums, annual Program Reviews, online resources, and partnerships, the Office of Indian Energy supports tribal efforts to build the internal capacity needed to implement successful strategic energy solutions that benefit Alaska Natives.

## Alaska Trainings and Forums

The Office of Indian Energy provides a variety of in-person training opportunities customized to address the unique energy challenges Alaska Native villages face, including regional workshops, and trainings and forums at Alaska conferences.

## Program Review

Annual Program Reviews feature project status updates from tribes across the nation who are leveraging Office of Indian Energy grant funding to develop and deploy energy technology. This multi-day event dedicates between one and two full days to Alaska projects, creating a prime opportunity for sharing Alaska-specific project successes, best practices, and lessons learned.

## Virtual Learning

The Office of Indian Energy provides a variety of educational resources on our website, including webinars, renewable energy online courses, and an extensive energy resource library. Explore these online learning opportunities at [energy.gov/indianenergy/resources/education-and-training](https://energy.gov/indianenergy/resources/education-and-training).

## Partnerships

The Office of Indian Energy partners with Alaska Native village governments, village and regional corporations, tribal and intertribal organizations, and industry to leverage resources for energy initiatives that address critical energy and infrastructure goals of Alaska Native communities.



Solar array installed on a Gwitchyaa Zhee Gwich'in Tribal Government building in Fort Yukon, Alaska, with grant funding from DOE