SANTO DOMINGO TRIBE’S SOLAR PV SYSTEM

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DIRECTOR OF NATURAL RESOURCES
• Traditionally known as Kewa Pueblo
• Located 30 miles north of Albuquerque and 25 miles south of Santa Fe
• Land base consists of 92,682 acres
• Latest census shows 5,136 members
• A total of 637 homes
• Non-gaming Tribe with little economic development
• Conservative Tribe that holds customs and traditional values in high regards
• Many Tribal members are self-employed - high unemployment rate
PROJECT OVERVIEW: PV SOLAR POWER FOR THE TRIBE’S WATER PUMP AND TREATMENT FACILITY

- Awarded DOE implementation grant to for a solar photo voltaic project
- Reduction in largest energy cost of the Tribe's - community water pump and treatment facility (WPT)
- The WPT facility provide potable water to the Pueblo community and its residents
- Connect the OV Solar System to the Public Service of New Mexico (PNM) electrical grid
- Reduce the Tribe's reliance on fossil fuel energy and associated environmental impacts
- Reduce the Tribe’s energy costs:
  - Community WTP has the highest energy costs for the Tribe
  - The PV Solar System for the WTP is estimated to save the Tribe approx. $20,000/year
  - Lower the aver cost of electricity from the current costs…and provide a 6-year return on investment in DOE match
LEADING THE WAY THROUGH RENEWABLE ENERGY

As the Tribe’s first renewable energy project, we hope to serve as an example of what these projects can look like for Pueblos and Tribes in New Mexico, including seeking additional opportunities for our own community.
The Water Pump and Treatment Facility (WPT) is located on Tribal lands near the southwest corner of the intersection of US Interstate 25 and County Road 75A.

The WPT is one of the Tribe’s largest electrical demands.

Selected to demonstrate the feasibility of renewable energy project and how they will benefit the Tribe.

The WPT provides potable water to the Pueblo community of approximately 5,136 Tribal members and residents, including infrastructure.
Santo Domingo Tribe – Principal Investor (provided a 50% match)
  – Natural Resources Department has served as the program manager for the DOE Grant
  – Tribal Utility Authority has assisted with the installation of the solar panels and will be assisting with the monitoring of the system over the next calendar year.

Environmental International –

Affordable Solar – Contractor selected through competitive procurement


AlsoEnergy – Power Track
• Goal of Project: Awarded in FY2015:
  – Design and install a photovoltaic power (PV) system for the community water pump and treatment facility
  – Reduce the Tribe’s consumption of fossil fuel energy and substantially reduce the electricity costs

• Tasks:
  – Contractor selection for design and installation
  – Project design
  – Utility Application and Approval: interconnection, net metering, and Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) program approvals
  – Equipment procurement (modification made to allow contractor to procure)
  – Operation, Maintenance, Verification
  – Go/No Decision
PROJECT STATUS

Design and installation of the PV Solar System has been complete.

The PV Solar System went online in September 2017.

ACTIVITIES YET TO BE COMPLETED

NRD and TUA will monitor the system to ensure.
FUTURE PLAN

As the Tribe begins to monitor the PV Solar System, we will begin to collect data that will be crucial in determining future projects and the potential they may have with renewable energy options.
QUESTIONS?

THANK YOU TO THE
U.S. DOE Office of Indian Energy Program

THANK YOU
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