

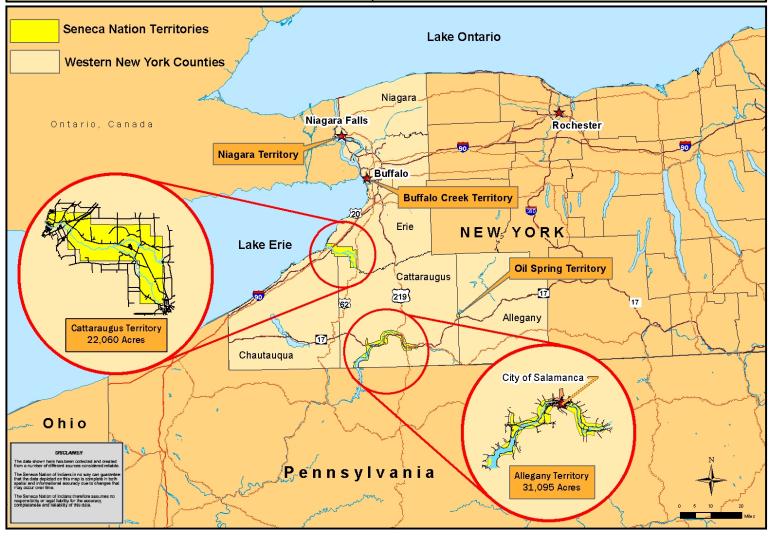
## SENECA ENERGY

#### "EMPOWERING THE SENECA NATION"

Anthony Giacobbe – Director of Power & Gas Seneca Energy

### **Seneca Nation of Indians**

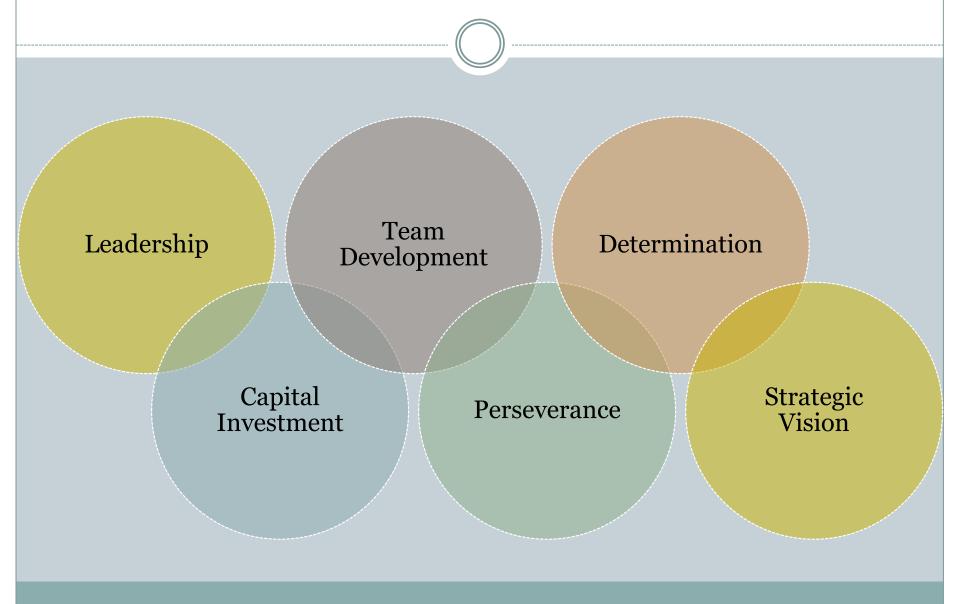
Locational Map of the Territories



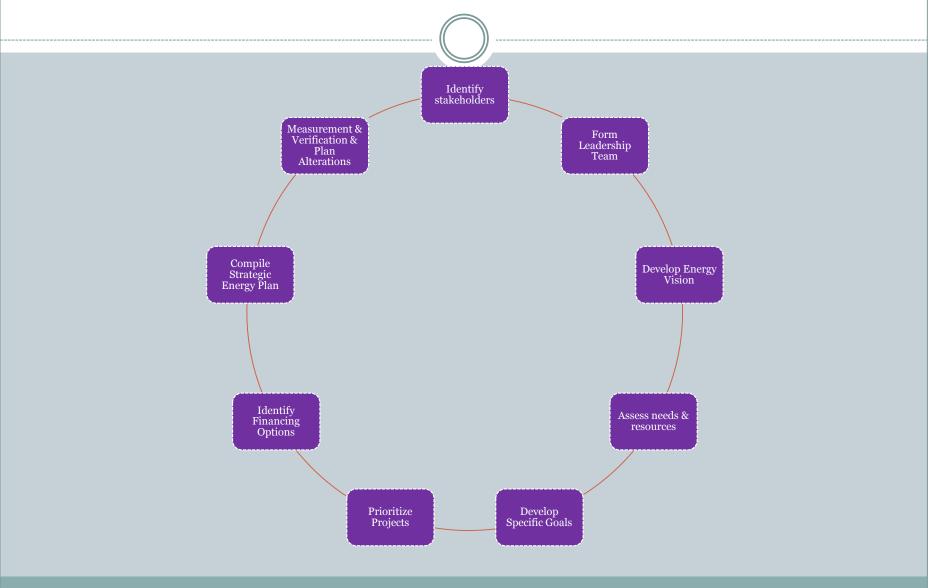
## **Mission Statement**

• The MISSION of Seneca Energy is to ensure the security, prosperity and independence of the Seneca Nation by building a sustainable energy platform and lowering energy costs for the Nation and its residents.

## **Framework for Success**



# **Energy Vision/Strategic Planning**



# **Strategic Planning**

Long-term strategy Clear path to reach goals

Game plan for short- and long-term

Guidance for dealing w/ challenges

Opportunity to engage stakeholders

# **Strategic Planning**

DOE First Steps Grant for Strategic Energy Planning

Tribal Energy Program – Clean Energy Deployment Grant (2015)

DOE NREL Anemometer Loan Program

Seneca Energy Established – 2011 (staffed 2014) DOE First Steps Grant for Energy Organization Planning

DOI Strategic Energy Planning Assistance DOE Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant

# **Energy Vision**

**Energy Sustainability** 

Reduce Energy Costs

Improve Infrastructure

**Economic Development** 

**Environmental Benefits** 

Utilize Natural Resources

Workforce Development

Energy "Hub"



## **Business Structures**

- Native Nation/Tribal businesses can be formed through multiple processes
  - Federal charter under Section 17 of the Indian Reorganization
     Act
  - Corporation chartered under tribally enacted laws
  - Under a state's incorporation laws
  - Limited liability company (LLC) organized under either a tribal or state law

## **Section 17 Corporation**

- BIA approves and issues corporate charters
- Submit a resolution petitioning for issuance of a charter to BIA
  - Describe details regarding business purpose, how it will be managed, powers and limitations
- The BIA regional director will sign and submit a Certificate of Approval

# Section 17 Advantages

- Preserves tribal assets
  - Wholly owned by Nation/Tribe
  - Separate and distinct
- Sovereign immunity removes any Nation/Tribal gov't property and assets from risk during a default
- No federal income taxes
  - Whether operating on-or-off the territory

# **Section 17 Disadvantages**

#### Inflexible

- Act of Congress to dissolve corporation
- Minimal statutory definition
  - State laws governing all aspects of the formation, management, operations, and dissolution of state-charted corporations
  - The absence of comprehensive corporate statutes may increase litigation risk and make prospective business partners hesitant to enter into contracts

# **Tribally Chartered Corporation**

- A tribally chartered corporation is an entity organized pursuant to a tribal code or resolution
  - The corporate charter will specify the management structure to be employed by the corporation
  - Run by a BOD elected by the corporation's shareholders
    - ▼ Often, the sole shareholder is the Nation/Tribe
  - The board selects an executive to oversee the corporation's day-to-day operations

# **Tribally Chartered Advantages**

- Avoidance of state regulation and taxation
  - Will not be subject to state control or taxation
- Easy to form
  - Formed by the tribal government
  - No approvals obtained from federal government or state authorities

# **Tribally Chartered Disadvantages**

- Potential lack of transparency for lenders and partners
  - May have trouble accessing capital and attracting joint venture partners due to lack of reporting
- Potential federal tax liability
  - Because Nations/tribes are exempt from federal taxation, the IRS will exempt tribally chartered corporations that operate as an "integral part" of the Nation/tribe

# **Project Implementation Phase I**

Feasibility / Public Outreach

Leadership Presentations "Champion(s)"

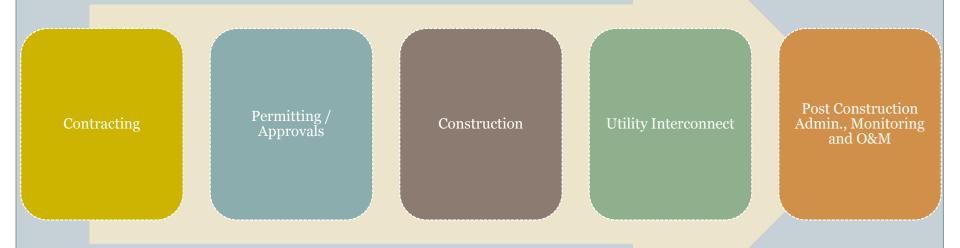
Technology / Resource Evaluation

Technology / Resource Evaluation

Site Selection

Financing

# **Project Implementation Phase II**



# **Turbine Construction**







# **Rotor Fly**







# 1.5MW Vensys Wind Turbine

## **Highlights**

- Investment: \$3.5MM
  - \$2.5MM grants
- Commissioned: 3/8/17
- Power: Virtually Net-metered
- Over 4MM/kWh produced
- ~\$500,000 revenue generated
- Community Benefits \$25 credit
- Project payback: ~8 years

# **Generation/ Emissions Stats**

- ~3.5MM/kWh annually
  - 430 homes powered/yr.
    - NYS 7,200 kWh/avg.
- 4.3MM lbs./CO2 annually
  - 147 cars off road/annually

## **Federal Grants**

Bring down overall cost of project

Not a source of longterm funding

Feasibility grants through BIA, DOE & DOI

DOE Deployment and Implementation Grant

Timeframe/Oversight Expectations

# Net-metering (NM)/Virtual net metering (VNM)

Billing mech. that credits energy sys. owners for electricity added to the grid

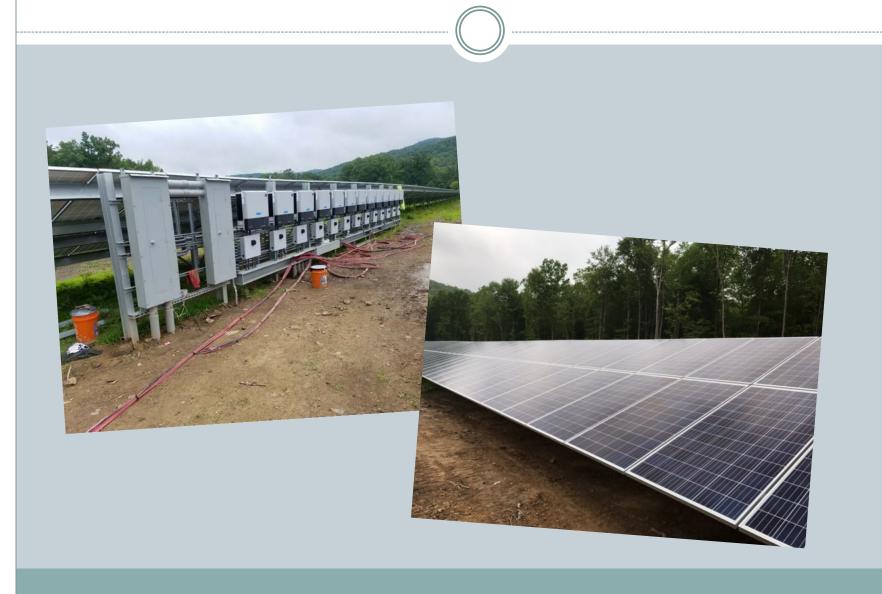
Customers are only billed for their "net" energy usage

VNM allows credits to offset load at multiple retail acct.'s within service territory

Credits appear on invoices the same as traditional net metering

Varies State-to-State





# 1.9MW Solar Array

## **Highlights**

• Investment: \$3.4MM

• Commissioned: 10/16/17

• Power: Virtually Net-metered

• Site: 7 Acres

• Project payback: TBD

• Financing:

Self-Funded Construction

• USDA -RUS Loan Application



# DOE Tribal Energy Loan Guarantee Program (TELGP)

Guarantees up to \$2B in loans to support energy economic opportunities

Guarantees up to 90% of the unpaid principal and interest

Borrower required to invest equity and all debt will be provided by non-federal lenders

https://www.energy.gov/lpo/tribal-energy-loan-guarantee-program

## **USDA Rural Utilities Services (RUS) Loan**

Provides much needed infrastructure to rural communities

Includes water and waste treatment, electric power and telecommunications services

Helping to expand economic opportunities and improve the quality of life for rural residents

https://www.rd.usda.gov/about-rd/agencies/rural-utilities-service

# **Projects**

## **Highlights**

- Agricultural Dept. PV 88 kW
- Catt Fish Hatchery PV 8 kW
- Allegany Fish Hatchery PV 10 kW
- Oak Tree Housing PV 10 kW
- Residential solar loan program
- LED lighting installations
- Natural gas pipeline replacement & expansion



## Seneca Energy

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