Presented by
Spokane Indian Housing Authority (SIHA)
ENTERING
Spokane Indian Reservation
Children of the Sun
(Spokane Tribe of Indians)

- Spokane Reservation designated in 1881

- Wellpinit resides 50 miles Northwest of Spokane, Washington in the heart of the Spokane Reservation.

- Tribal enrollment 3,000
Cayuse Mountain Fire

(August 2016)

• In 2016 The Cayuse Mt. Fire left its devastating mark on the Spokane reservation causing much damage to local wildlife and land. In recent history this was the first time a fire of this scale had effected the Spokane tribal government, community and local first responders. The Cayuse wild fire awoke the consciousness of the Spokane tribe and (SIHA) that the severity of wild fires due to environmental change will not stop and we must be prepared for the worst scenario.
• Closed within 1 mile of tribal governmental buildings. The wildfire cut off electrical power and water to the community and emergency responders.

• Tribal administration shut down for a week due to power outage.

• 18,000 Acres lost to the fire.

• Tribe’s timber sales severely impacted.

• No lives were lost.

• 14 homes lost to the wild fire.
Spokane Indian Housing Authority

• Established 1971

• Operates and manages 220 rental and mutual help units.

• 2 low income housing tax credit projects.

• Staff and workforce of over 37 employees.

• Force account and weatherization crews.

• Three Bands Construction

• Preliminary planning to build the Spokane Urban Indian Village.

http://www.spokaneiha.com/
SIHA Office and campus 2019
What is COSSI?
“Children of the Sun Solar Initiative”
The Project

• COSSI is a solar energy plan that allowed SIHA to install PV panels on essential Tribal administration and service buildings that need to operate during emergencies as well as residential units.

• A proposed second phase, COSSI II project will install community solar on all remaining SIHA managed units and other tribal member owned homes within the reservation boundaries. It will reduce energy cost for families and tenants making affordable energy available.

• COSSI is an energy plan to address issues caused by environmental change that threaten the social, economic and environmental well-being of the Tribe, its people and land and promote energy sovereignty.
The Project

• A $2.13 million dollar project.

  • Matching grant: $1,000,000 DOE funding for renewable energy on Indian lands
  • Tax Credit Investor – Sun Vest
  • Philanthropy: Wells Fargo Foundation through GRID Alternative’s new - Tribal Solar Accelerator Fund
  • TA: HUD Office of Native American Programs (ONAP)
  • Install PV solar panels on 23 homes and 9 essential tribal buildings.
  • Move the Spokane Tribe towards resiliency and energy sovereignty.
  • Honor the Spokane Tribe’s long history of stewardship of the land by providing affordable clean energy.
  • Blueprint for a second phase – COSSI II
COSSI Benefits

• The solar photo voltaic panels will produce 650 kW (annually)

• Providing 23,126,810 kW or 23 MG of electricity over the life of the project.

• COSSI Energy will supplement 24% of the energy used in Wellpinit.

• Save tribal programs approximately $ 2.8 million over the 35 year life span of the PV system.

• Reduction of CO2 emissions by approximately: 9.32575 Tons per year for a total of 326 tons over 35 years.
Community Impact

• Operations and Maintenance (O&M) contracted to Spokane Tribe’s Sovereign Power entity.

• Train 6-8 tribal members.

• Create opportunity up to 4 Tribal member jobs.

• Lower energy bills for tribe.

• Change the status quo on renewable energy.
• Environmental Reduction in greenhouse gas and other emissions. The projected reduction of greenhouse gas emissions using projected solar energy, including SO2, NOx, and CO2, is 506 pounds of SO2, 960 pounds of NOx and 729,056 pounds of CO2 per year.

• Equivalency of greenhouse gas emissions. The annual greenhouse gas emission reductions referenced are equal to: carbon sequestration by

| 506 Acres of forest per year. | 78.8 Homes energy for one year. | 113 Passenger vehicles driven for a year. | 60,080 Gallons of gasoline consumed. |

The above amounts were calculated using the GHG Equivalencies Calculator at [http://www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/energyresources/calculator.html](http://www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/energyresources/calculator.html)

This is for the full capacity of the Solar PV systems can offset annually in Wellpinit, Wa.
Our Partners
References & Websites

- http://www.spokanetribe.com/
- http://sunvest.com/about/
- https://gridalternatives.org/
- http://www.spokaneiha.com/
- https://www.energy.gov/indianenergy/office-indian-energy-policy-and-programs
- http://sovereignpower.co/#0
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Spokane Tribal Fish Hatchery 2019
Public Safety Building 2019