



TURNING KNOWLEDGE INTO ENERGY PROJECTS

DOE Tribal Renewable Energy Webinar Series 2014

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) Tribal Energy Program, and Western Area Power Administration are pleased to continue their sponsorship of the DOE Tribal Renewable Energy Webinar Series.

This year, the series focuses on topics and issues related to facility- and community-scale renewable tribal energy projects. The webinar series is part of the DOE coordinated efforts to provide education and capacity-building for Tribes and tribal energy resource development organizations. The webinars expand on the 2012 and 2013 webinar series and draw on the existing online training materials available to assist Tribes interested in deploying renewable energy projects.

Presented by:

DOE Office of Indian Energy
Policy and Programs

DOE Office of Energy
Efficiency and Renewable
Energy Tribal Energy Program

Western Area Power
Administration

Why You Should Attend

- Find ways to promote tribal energy sufficiency, stabilize energy costs, enhance energy security, and strengthen tribal energy infrastructure.
- Foster tribal self-determination, economic development, and employment using renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies.

Webinars-at-a-Glance

Each webinar will start at 11 a.m. Mountain time. The webinars typically last up to 90 minutes. The webinars will be recorded and made available on the wapa.gov website.



Date	Topic
November 27, 2013	Resources Available for Tribal Energy Project Development
January 29, 2014	Renewable and Energy Efficiency Market Update
February 26, 2014	Strategic Energy Planning
April 2, 2014	Renewable Energy Project Development Finance Framework: The Five-Step Process
April 23, 2014	Identifying Project Potential and Options
May 28, 2014	Renewable Energy Project Refinement
June 25, 2014	Net Metering
July 30, 2014	Project Implementation and Operations & Maintenance
August 27, 2014	Introduction to Facility- and Community-Scale Project Financing
September 24, 2014	Successful Project Financing Mechanisms: Energy Savings Performance Contracts and Utility Energy Service Contracts
October 29, 2014	Putting It All Together





Who Should Attend

The webinars are targeted to tribal leaders, executives, and staff who are interested in developing facility- or community-scale renewable energy projects. Utility and industry staff and other stakeholders will also gain perspective from the webinars.

How to Register

There is no charge to participate in the webinars, but registration is required. To register, go to the Tribal Energy Program webinars Web page at eere.energy.gov/tribalenergy/webinars.cfm, and click on the workshops you want to attend. After registering, you will receive an email confirmation that is unique to you and includes the Internet address, phone number, and passcodes to participate.

What You Will Learn

November 27, 2013

Resources Available for Tribal Energy Project Development

Attendees will learn about the “go-to” resources that Tribes can utilize within DOE and in other federal, state, and local offices to help get a project online. The presentations will cover DOE’s EERE Tribal Energy Program resources, Strategic Technical Assistance Response Team (START) Programs, Tribal Energy Education Programs, and Tribal Leader and Best Practices Forums, among other resources. Attendees will also learn about the latest developments in DOE’s renewable energy education curriculum for Tribes, which is delivered via an online training platform.

January 29, 2014

Renewable and Energy Efficiency Market Update

Technical experts from DOE’s National Renewable Energy Laboratory will explore the latest developments in renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies. In addition to learning about the unique characteristics of biomass, geothermal, hydropower, solar, wind, and energy efficiency technologies, attendees will gain insight into how the various technologies are competing in the marketplace and how Tribes can use them separately and in combination to the greatest benefit of their communities.

February 26, 2014

Strategic Energy Planning

Attendees will learn about developing a strategic energy plan, identifying key aspects of successful energy planning, and using available information and resources. The available resources include archived webinars in the series from the DOE Office of Indian Energy Education Initiative. Attendees will understand how the plan 1) enables the Tribe to mobilize the long-term support necessary for energy project development that extends beyond changing political administrations, 2) helps address barriers to energy development by providing a long-term view that prioritizes projects over not just years but several decades, and 3) engages stakeholders from all segments of the community to help the Tribe pursue energy development projects in a thoughtful and strategic manner.

April 2, 2014

Renewable Energy Project Development and Finance Framework: The Five-Step Process

Attendees will be introduced to the five key steps of the energy project framework that lead up to a successful project: 1) Understanding Project Savings and Production Potential, 2) Project Options, 3) Project Refinement, 4) Project Implementation, and 5) Project Operations and Maintenance. Each of the five steps will be covered in more detail in the remaining webinars in the 2014 series.

April 23, 2014

Identifying Project Potential and Options

Attendees will understand the components of identifying energy project potential and options (steps 1 and 2 in the five-step project development process). Presenters will discuss market considerations, initial site considerations, project savings or rate-of-return estimates, production potential, final site selection, tribal options, finance, partnerships, and participation processes. Attendees will also become familiar with data gathering and analysis procedures such as tribal facility electric cost data, regulations, and interconnection requirements; paths to market for project power; and renewable sales, risks; and utility rules. By following the steps outlined in the webinar, Tribes can determine the range of potential project choices and options available to help them make the best decision that fits into their short- and long-term energy plans.

May 28, 2014

Renewable Energy Project Refinement

Attendees will become familiar with the three components of project refinement (step 3 in the five-step project development process): project financing strategies, off-taker agreements, and vendor selection. Project refinement obstacles, particularly financing, can deter the deployment of renewable energy projects on tribal lands. Attendees will learn about the financial resources and ownership options available—including venture capital and innovative financing—that can help Tribes overcome longstanding barriers and attract higher levels of private investment. Finally, attendees will learn how project refinement can accelerate renewable energy development and, with it, tribal economic and community development.



June 25, 2014

Net Metering

Attendees will become familiar with the services provided by utility net metering and their importance in making projects cost-effective. The speakers will provide information based on case histories of how facilities that generate their own electricity from renewable energy sources can feed electricity they do not use back into the grid. Many states have net-metering laws with which utilities must comply. In states without such legislation, utilities may offer net-metering programs voluntarily or as a result of regulatory decisions. The webinar will cover the general differences between state legislation and implementation and how the net-metering benefits can vary widely for facilities in different areas of the country.

July 30, 2014

Project Implementation and Operations & Maintenance

Attendees will become familiar with the last two steps of the five-step project development process: Project Implementation (Step 4) and Operations & Maintenance (Step 5). Information on project management, reporting, monitoring, and commissioning will be provided. Other topics the presenters will cover include project agreements, vendor contracting process, preconstruction tasks, and equipment installation. The webinar will stress the importance of developing a long-term operations & maintenance (O&M) plan, establishing a maintenance schedule, replacing worn or disabled equipment, establishing and enhancing an effective and motivated O&M staff, evaluating warranty agreements and extensions, and budgeting for O&M.

August 27, 2014

Introduction to Facility- and Community-Scale Project Financing

Although smaller in scale than commercial projects, these projects often cannot hurdle the financing barrier. Attendees will become knowledgeable about the types of financing that exist for smaller

projects that serve an individual facility or community and their advantages and disadvantages to tribal communities. They will also learn about the importance of including cost-effective energy efficiency improvements in the project design and how to calculate the life-cycle cost of various options under consideration.

September 24, 2014

Successful Project Financing Mechanisms: ESPCs and UESCs

Attendees will learn about two popular mechanisms developed for federal agencies to finance renewable energy and energy efficiency projects: energy savings performance contracts (ESPCs) and utility energy service contracts (UESCs). The discussion includes how these two methods allow Tribes to develop the projects with limited-to-no up-front capital costs, thus minimizing the need for including the project costs in budgets or requesting Congressional appropriations for them. The speakers will also identify best implementation practices developed over nearly 15 years and hundreds of projects.

October 29, 2014

Putting It All Together

Attendees will hear a recap of the information covered in the previous webinars and the tremendous tribal energy project opportunities that are waiting to be taken advantage of. Attendees will hear about the data from a 2012 National Renewable Energy Laboratory report, which cites that American Indian land comprises 2% of U.S. land but contains an estimated 5% of all renewable energy resources. Presenters include participants in the START Program and the Indian Country Energy and Infrastructure Working Group. Attendees will learn about the DOE Office of Indian Energy collaborations and tribal experiences that identified obstacles and opportunities in energy and related infrastructure development and capacity building in Indian Country. The question-and-answer session will emphasize the need to get feedback from key stakeholders on the topics for the 2015 Tribal Webinar Series.

Equipment and Services Needed

To participate, attendees need to have Internet access and a phone line available. Attendees will connect to the Internet to see the PowerPoint slide presentations and dial in on a toll call line to hear the webinar speakers and to ask questions real time.

Attendees are encouraged to review the prior webinars, available online at www.wapa.gov (click on Renewables in the top navigation and then click on the Final Tribal Webinar Presentations link).

Also, attendees are highly encouraged to visit the National Training and Education Resources website at nterlearning.org (search Indian Energy) for a wealth of training material on a variety of renewable energy project development topics.



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energy.gov

indianenergy@hq.doe.gov

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