U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY | Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy

Tribal Energy Program

Assisting Tribes to Realize Their Energy Visions

Our Mission

To offer financial and technical assistance to Tribes through government-to-government partnerships that

- Enable tribal leaders to make informed decisions about energy choices
- Bring renewable energy and energy efficiency options to Indian Country
- Enhance human capacity through education and training
- Improve local tribal economies and the environment
- Make a difference in the quality of life of American Indians and Alaska Natives.

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TRIBAL ENERGY PROGRAM

eere.energy.gov/tribalenergy

Purpose

The Tribal Energy Program promotes tribal energy sufficiency and fosters economic development and employment on tribal lands through the use of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies.

The Program, under the Department of Energy's (DOE's) Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) and in cooperation with the DOE Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs, provides financial and technical assistance to Tribes to evaluate and develop their renewable energy resources and reduce their energy consumption through efficiency and weatherization.

As building knowledge and skills is essential to developing, implementing, and sustaining energy efficiency and renewable energy projects, the Program also offers education and training opportunities.

Policy

The Department of Energy's American Indian and Alaska Native Tribal Government Policy sets forth principles to be followed by DOE to ensure effective implementation of government-to-government relationships with American Indians and Alaska Native tribal governments. Through the authorities set forth in the Energy Policy Acts and Executive Orders, DOE is seeking to support energy sufficiency on tribal lands and fulfill the trust responsibility set forth in DOE's American Indian and Alaska Native Tribal Government Policy.

For DOE's policy, visit
eere.energy.gov/tribalenergy/links.cfm#policy_guidance

DOE Indian Energy

The Tribal Energy Program is implemented in coordination with the DOE Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs.

For more on that Office, visit
energy.gov/indianenergy

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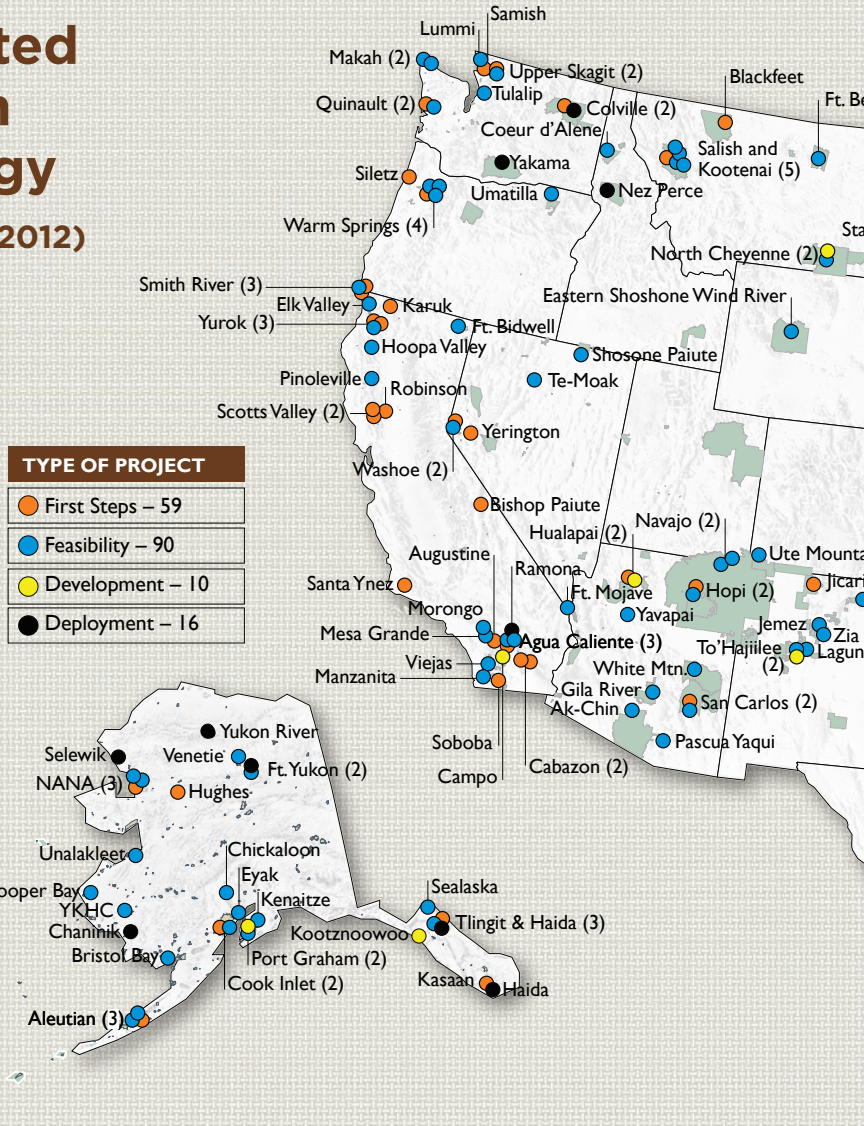
DOE has invested $41.8 million in 175 tribal energy projects (2002 to 2012)

Photo by Robert Gough, NREL 12817

Little Soldier turbine installed at Rosebud Sioux Reservation (SD)

Photo from Pueblo of Laguna

Solar installation at Pueblo of Laguna's Majors Ranch (NM)



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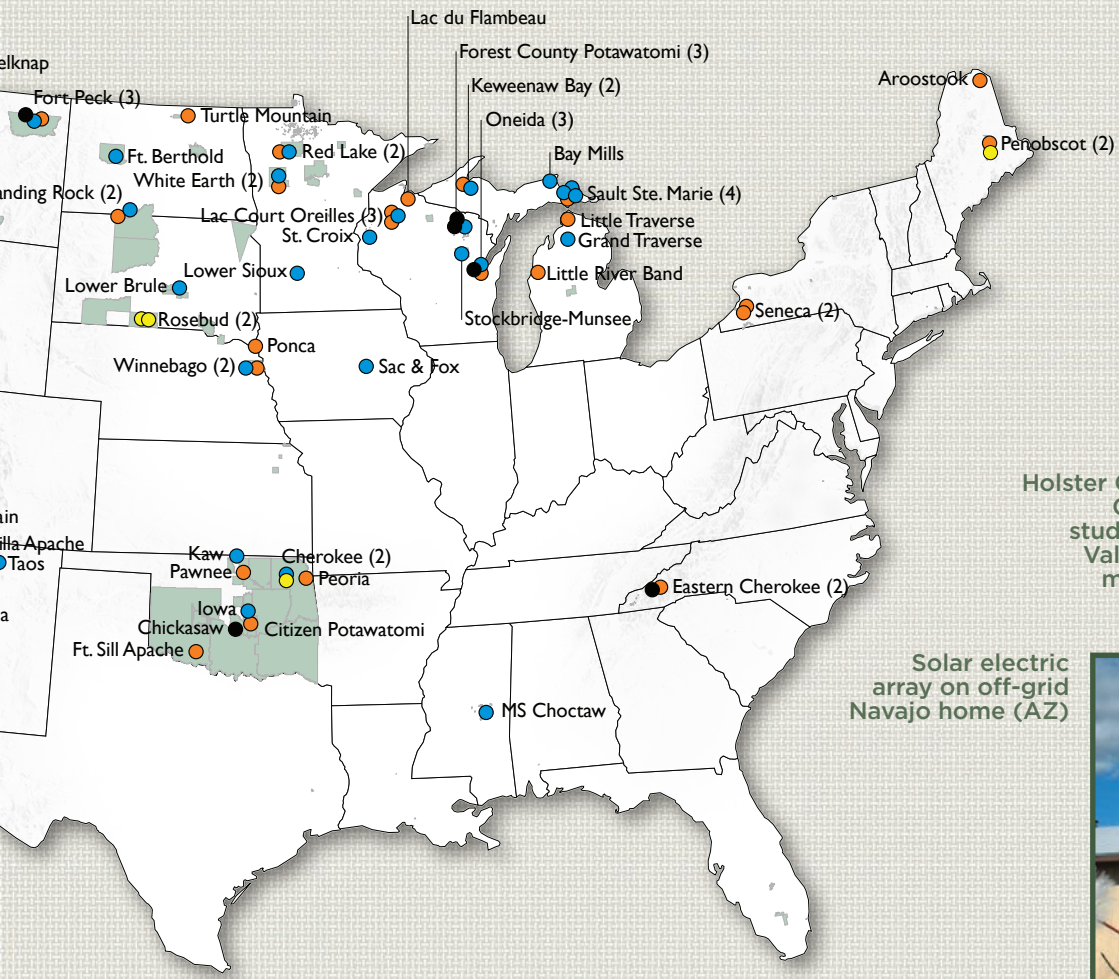


Photo from Hoopa Valley Tribe

Holster Creek in Northern California is being studied by the Hoopa Valley Tribe (CA) for micro-hydropower.

Solar electric array on off-grid Navajo home (AZ)

Photo from the DOE Tribal Energy Program

Project details are posted on the website

Energy Efficiency

Existing buildings represent one of the best opportunities for immediate and cost-effective reductions in energy use.

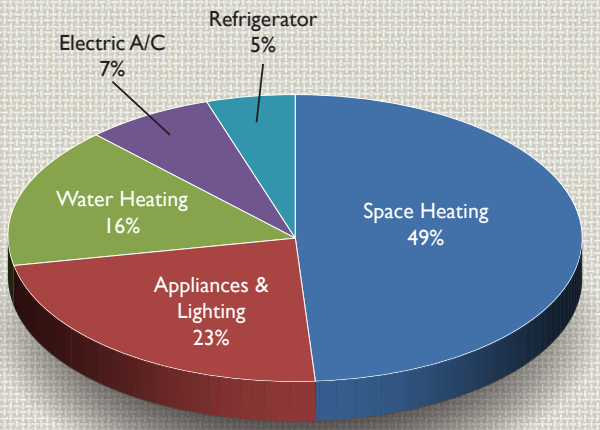
Reasons for Energy Efficiency and Green Construction

- Weatherization reduces the export of local energy dollars and keeps more money in the community
- Energy efficiency can return ~$2.51 in benefits for every $1 invested
- They help save the 30% of energy wasted in commercial buildings
- They can reduce the building's operations and maintenance costs over a 30-year life span (only about 2% goes toward construction)

Tips to Save Energy Today

- Install programmable thermostats
- Turn things off when not in use—lights, TVs, computer and monitor
- Lower the thermostat on your water heater to 120°F
- Wash only full loads of dishes and clothes
- Air-dry clothes
- Look for ENERGY STAR® label on light bulbs, home appliances, electronics, and other products

Energy Use in Our Homes



See EERE's Energy Saver website at *energy.gov/energysaver/energy-saver*

Photo from Forest County Potawatomi Community, NREL 25046

Forest County Potawatomi Community (WI) retrofitted a 34,000-square-foot historic building, reducing electricity and natural gas use by more than 50%.

Photo from Nez Perce Tribe, NREL 25047

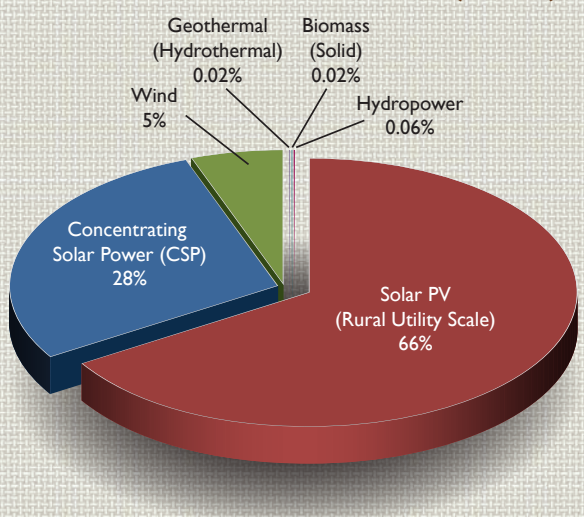
The Nez Perce Tribe (ID) retrofitted five buildings, reducing energy use by more than 30% to save an estimated $30,000 per year.

See energy efficiency project details at
eere.energy.gov/tribalenergy/projects.cfm

Renewable Energy

American Indian land comprises approximately 2% of U.S. land but contains an estimated 5% of all renewable energy resources.

Tribal Generation Potential (MWh)*



*Excludes urban PV and enhanced geothermal systems

For more, see DOE's Data and Resources for Tribes at *nrel.gov/docs/fy13osti/57748.pdf*

Benefits of Pursuing Clean Energy Development on Tribal Lands

- Long-term stabilization of energy costs
- Economic development
- Revenue generation opportunity
- Opportunity to conserve and sustain natural resources
- Energy self-sufficiency
- Strengthened tribal energy infrastructure

Photo from Haida Corporation, NREL 25048

Site of Haida Corporation's Reynolds Creek 5-MW Hydro Project (AK)

For resource and technology information, see the Guide to Tribal Clean Energy Development at *eere.energy.gov/tribalenergy/guide*

Funding Opportunities

- Funding for the evaluation, development, and deployment of renewable energy and energy efficiency projects on tribal lands is provided to Tribes on a competitive basis.
- Each funding opportunity announcement will identify submission requirements, eligibility, rating criteria, and cost share, if any.

Education and Training

- **Student internships**
  See the website for information and application form.
- **Regional workshops and webinars**
  The Tribal Energy Program, in cooperation with the DOE Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs, conducts periodic workshops and webinars for Tribes to learn about renewable energy and energy efficiency and how to develop those resources. See Events on the website.
- **Renewable energy short courses**
  Short courses are posted on the website. Also see online courses on the National Training & Education Resource website at *nterlearning.org* by searching "Indian Energy."

Courtesy of Native village of Venetie tribal government

One of the world's northern-most tribally owned solar systems, Native Village of Venetie (AK)

For information on funding and training opportunities, visit the Tribal Energy Program website at

eere.energy.gov/tribalenergy

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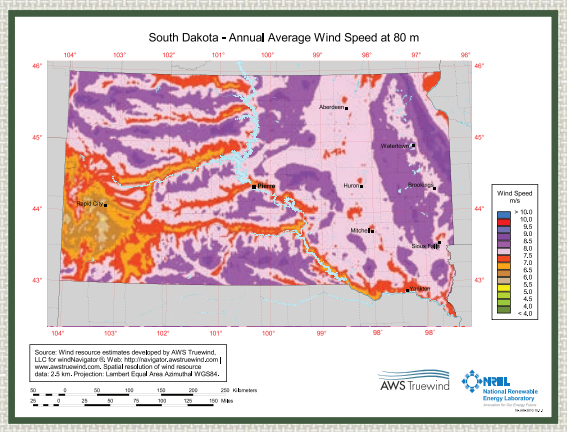


High-resolution wind prospecting maps are available for most tribal regions.

National Laboratory Technical Assistance

- Strategic energy planning
- Grantee support
- Transmission/interconnection
- Project development
- Finance
- Lease agreements

Assistance provided upon request based on resource availability. Learn more at eere.energy.gov/tribalenergy/technical_assistance.cfm.

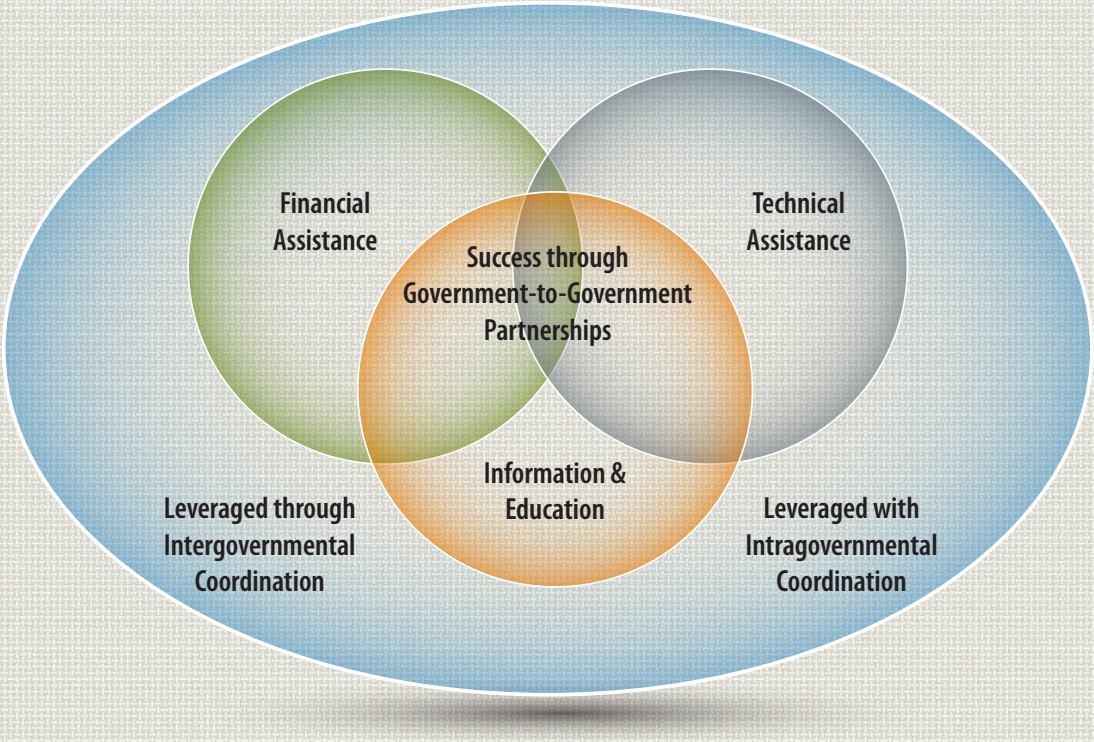
Information

- **Tribal Energy Program website**
  eere.energy.gov/tribalenergy
  - Upcoming events
  - Program information
  - Funding opportunities
  - Project summaries
  - Project contacts and reports
  - Information resources
  - Training opportunities
  - Program contacts

- **Guide to Tribal Clean Energy Development**
  eere.energy.gov/tribalenergy/guide
  - Development process
    - Strategic planning
    - Options analysis
    - Organizational development
    - Project development
  - Resource library
    - Energy resources
    - Technologies
    - Cost
    - Risk factors
    - Legal issues
    - Financing options
    - Contacts
  - Case studies

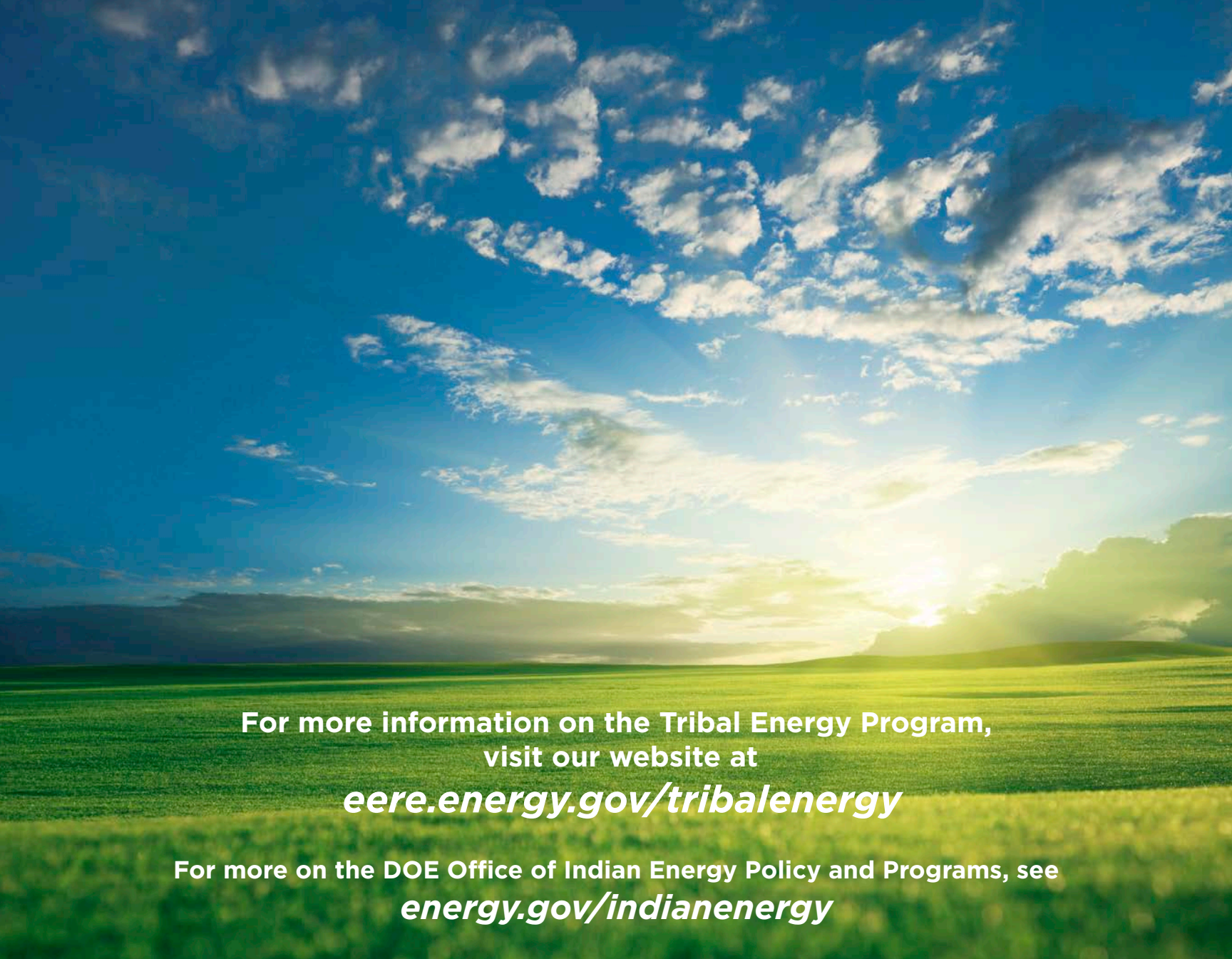
Three-Pronged Approach

The Tribal Energy Program employs a three-pronged approach to assist Tribes in realizing their energy visions.



To receive periodic information on funding opportunities, upcoming workshops and training, and other tribal energy events and resources, subscribe to email updates at

eere.energy.gov/tribalenergy



For more information on the Tribal Energy Program,
visit our website at

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For more on the DOE Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs, see

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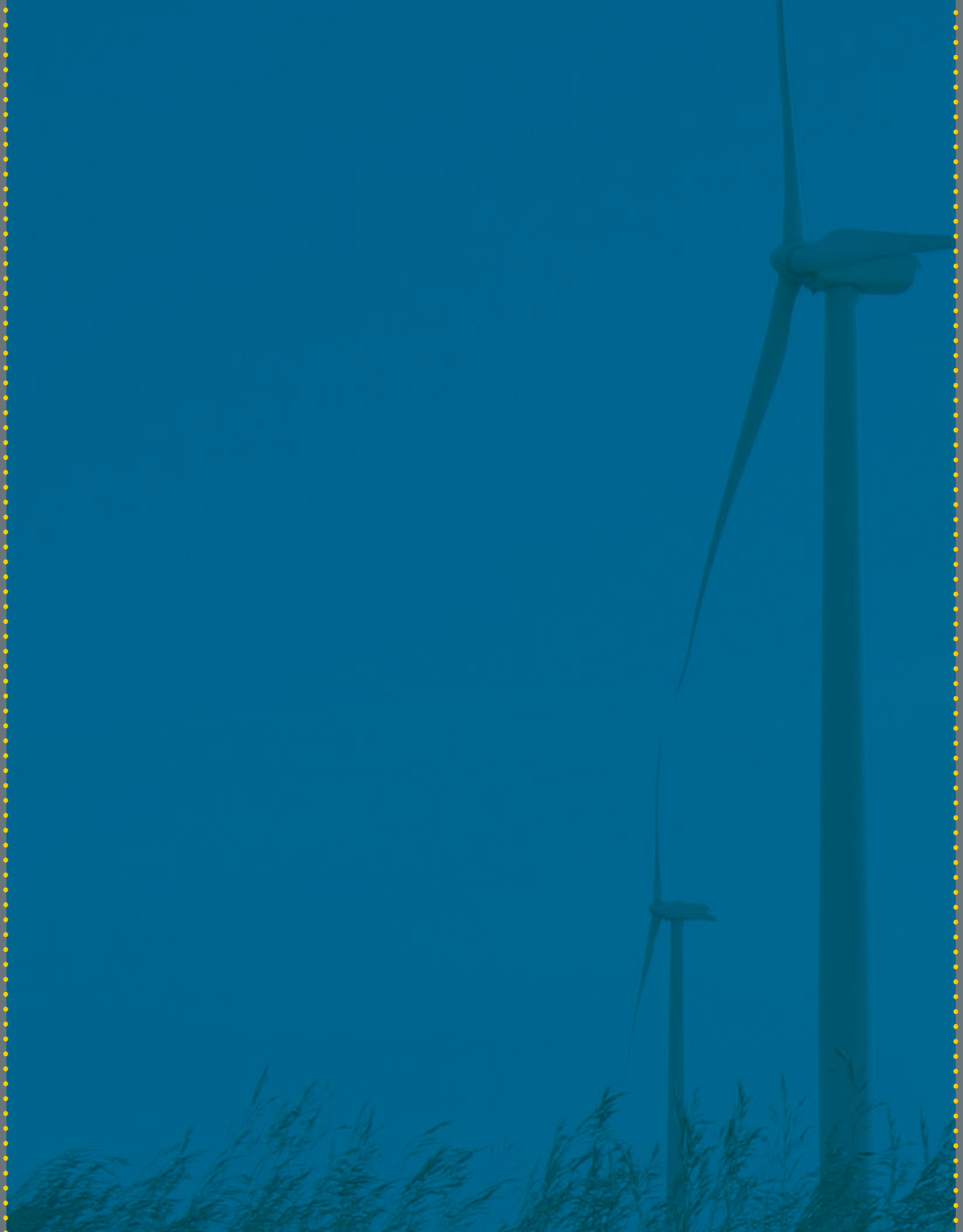

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For more information visit:
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Front cover photo by Robert Gough, NREL 12817; inside cover photo from istock 11221660

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