

# National Tribal Energy Summit

## Track 2: Science & Technology Key Themes

### Transition to a Clean Energy Economy

- Changes in federal, state and tribal policy toward renewables and economic sustainability.
- Tribes are leaders in clean energy, they can come up with clean energy plans to reduce carbon footprint and work with other tribes, example from Sault Ste. Marie Tribe in Michigan.
- Energy innovation and efficiency is good for tribal sovereignty, culturally and economically



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## Track 2: Science & Technology Recommendations

### Transition to a Clean Energy Economy

- More education in Indian Country for youth and residents about energy (how it works, benefits of reducing energy use, etc.)
- Help tribes understand ROI from EE/RE projects
- Get students involved in energy in schools (all levels)
- Expose tribes and youth to newer technologies
- Create opportunities for economic development and jobs in energy for tribes
- Provide incentives (e.g., education credits) for community members to get engaged in energy issues
- Encourage tribes (incl. youth) to share knowledge
- Leverage inter-tribal consortiums for information sharing between tribes and innovative energy solutions
- Help tribes identify ways to sell their energy resources (e.g., cap and trade pilot to create economic opps)
- Set up test beds for various technologies at labs and train tribes on how to use/maintain equipment



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## Track 2: Science & Technology Key Themes

### Tribal Access to Transmission and Distributed Energy

- Build plans and strategies for energy development.
- Look at resources available to assist tribes.
- Micro-grid (integration of resources and loads) is important for rural isolated tribes. Build efficiency, then introduce grids.
- Consider how electricity will be sold and marketed, generation can be the easier part.



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## Track 2: Science & Technology Recommendations

### Tribal Access to Transmission and Distributed Energy

- Use microgrids to provide energy to islanded tribes (but DC needs to be addressed for appliances; see OE report as a reference)
- Have a network of microgrids connected to a larger grid for security and emergency situations
- Remove unnecessary limitations to access to federal funding for tribes to develop capacity (e.g., limitation in current DOE FOA)
- Create opportunities to collaborate and share knowledge among tribes (e.g., Blue Lake micrgrid)
- Increase the budget to fund tribal projects



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## Track 2: Science & Technology Key Themes

### Tech Transfers

- Tribes seeking resources for innovation and technology transfer initiatives.
- Tech can be useful tool for economic development, can move from novelty to useful tool.
- Important to consider infrastructure complexities.



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## Track 2: Science & Technology Recommendations

### Tech Transfers

- Encourage innovation in tribes (e.g., pilot projects among tribes and with private industry)
- Tribes working with universities on new technologies (e.g., building EE)
- Create a forum/central collection point/clearing house where information can be shared about innovative tribal energy projects/technologies
- Set up DOE regional offices to focus on technology solutions by region to help tribes be more sustainable
- Do more work in different kinds of storage
- Require all new tribal housing to include EE/RE technologies (federal govt needs to update building codes; HUD is an obstacle)



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