



Empowering Indian Country to Energize Future Generations

The on-the-ground START program is part of a broader DOE-IE effort to make reliable, accurate technical information and skills-based training available to tribal communities throughout the United States. Ultimately, these efforts will serve to further the Administration and DOE's shared commitment to provide Native American and Alaska Native communities with the tools and resources they need to foster tribal energy self-sufficiency and sustainability, advancing job creation, and enhancing economic competitiveness.

The DOE Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs is charged by Congress to direct, foster, coordinate, and implement energy planning, education, management, and programs that assist Tribes with energy development, capacity building, energy infrastructure, energy costs, and electrification of Indian lands and homes.

Advancing Next-Generation Energy in Indian Country

What is START?

The Strategic Technical Assistance Response Team (START) Program is a U.S. Department of Energy Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs (DOE-IE) initiative to provide technical expertise to support the development of next-generation energy projects in Indian Country.

The START Program seeks to spur clean energy project development by providing Tribes with tools and resources needed to foster energy self-sufficiency, sustainability, and economic competitiveness. With the support of technical experts from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), START assists tribal leadership with project development and financing and helps tribal communities strategically plan their energy future.

What does START do?

Emphasizing long-term and meaningful impact in Indian Country, START addresses a variety of renewable energy technologies, as well as the diverse spectrum of tribal communities across the United States. START project and community-based assistance is delivered to federally recognized Native American and Alaska Native governments through two distinct START initiatives. The first centers on clean energy project development support for specific Tribes in the contiguous 48 states. The second initiative focuses on community-wide energy planning, workforce training, and project support for Alaska Native communities.

Where is START?

START-supported projects and communities were selected through a competitive application process. Between December 2, 2011, and January 15, 2012, 46 American Indian and Alaska Native Tribes submitted applications to receive on-the-ground technical support through START. Technical assistance activities are scheduled for summer and fall 2012.



START Program: 48 Contiguous States

The selected Tribes in the 48 contiguous states will be paired with DOE and NREL technical experts who have clean energy deployment experience relevant to the Tribe's project development stage and technology. The technical experts will work directly with community-based project teams to evaluate financial and technical feasibility and provide early development technical assistance to get projects better positioned for financing and construction. This includes determining market feasibility; performing due diligence research, analysis, and documentation; completing early pre-development work to prepare site control, verify resource, pre-qualify off-take agreements, and strategy; and producing a permitting plan.

The following communities applied for and were selected to receive START technical assistance from DOE-IE in the 48 contiguous states.

- **Campo Band of the Kumeyaay Nation** in California will receive technical and financial analysis for commercial-scale renewable development project(s).
- **Forest County Potawatomi Tribe** in Wisconsin will receive technical and financial analysis to develop a community-scale biomass project to generate power for tribal government facilities.
- **Hualapai Tribe** in Arizona will receive resource assessments and project feasibility studies to explore development of available renewable resources, including wind and solar, to help power the Tribe's Grand Canyon West development.
- **Pascua Yaqui Tribe** in Arizona will receive assistance to complete project prioritization and feasibility analysis for solar power generation to meet tribal economic development goals.
- **Passamaquoddy Tribe of Indian Township** in Maine will receive technical and financial analysis for a proposed wind farm, including

analysis of wind ownership options for the Tribe.

- **Pueblo of Zuni** in New Mexico will receive assistance with tribal project prioritization and later-stage technical analysis to support proposals for identified clean energy and infrastructure development options and opportunities.

"Tribal communities, entrepreneurs, and small businesses will benefit greatly from the technical resources and expertise provided by DOE. START will help Native American and Alaska Native communities increase local generation capacity, enhance energy efficiency and conservation measures, and create job opportunities in the new clean energy economy."

—Director Tracey A. LeBeau
DOE Office of Indian Energy



Six Tribes in the 48 contiguous states were selected to receive START assistance to support the development of next-generation energy projects in Indian Country. *Illustration by NREL.*



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Office of
Indian Energy

Front page photo from iStockPhoto/7148505

energy.gov/indianenergy
indianenergy@hq.doe.gov

August 2012 · DOE/IE-0006

Printed with a renewable-source ink on paper containing at least 50% wastepaper, including 10% post consumer waste.