



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Office of
Indian Energy

TRIBAL LEADER FORUM SERIES

TRIBAL ENERGY SYSTEMS: CLIMATE PREPAREDNESS AND RESILIENCY

March 4, 2015

Thunder Valley Resort
1200 Athens Ave.
Lincoln, CA
(877) 468-8777

The tenth in a series of planned United States Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Indian Energy-sponsored strategic energy development forums, this Tribal Leader Forum will focus on climate change preparedness and resiliency. Although this is a broad topic, this forum will cover Tribal energy systems, models and best practices, clean and efficient climate resilient energy developments, smart climate energy development practices, and climate smart use of green and natural infrastructure. The forum will give Tribal leaders and staff an opportunity to interact with other Tribes, federal agencies, and industry to learn more about climate change resiliency efforts.

Objectives:

- Understand high level risks of disasters and climate change impacts on tribes.
- Understand energy preparedness and resiliency for climate change and disasters as strategies
- Hear from other leaders on how they have applied these strategies.

AGENDA

THUNDER VALLEY RESORT – PANO HALL – SALON D

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST (SALON D)
9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.	WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND OPENING REMARKS Jana Ganion , Energy Director, Blue Lake Rancheria David Conrad , Acting Director, Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs, U.S. Department of Energy
9:30 a.m.– 10:15 a.m.	Climate Change and the Need for Energy Resiliency Extreme weather events including flooding, heat waves, and drought threaten U.S. energy systems and infrastructure and tribal communities may be particularly vulnerable to these events. This session will provide an overview of how key energy infrastructure risks are impacting Indian Country as well as highlight resources available to assist tribes as they address climate change risks. Jeff Pillon , Energy Assurance Director, National Association of State Energy Officials Karen Diver , Chairwoman, Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	BREAK
10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Federal Programs to Promote Disaster Recovery Federal agencies offer a variety of programs to support community and tribal government efforts to prevent power outages, reduce storm impacts and help communities better prepare for the effects of a changing climate. This session will highlight these federal programs and discuss the support available to help tribal nations promote energy resilience and disaster recovery. Chris Bujalski , Natural Resources Director, Central California Agency, Bureau of Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior Ben Winter , Office of Policy Development and Research, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Critical Infrastructure and Energy Assurance Planning Energy disruptions caused by natural disaster and extreme weather pose significant risk to the public well-being and the economy. Assessing threats to energy infrastructure and developing plans to respond and protect energy delivery will reduce the risk that extreme event pose to the economy, public health and the environment. This session will examine energy assurance efforts and approaches that can help tribes evaluate risk to energy systems and infrastructure. April Salas , Infrastructure Systems Analyst/Program Manager for Preparedness and Response, Infrastructure Security, U.S. Department of Energy Alice Lippert , Senior Technical Advisor to the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Energy Infrastructure Modeling and Analysis, U.S. Department of Energy

12:30 p.m.– 1:30 p.m.	<i>LUNCH (Salon E)</i>
1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	<p>Microgrids for Resiliency: Challenges and Opportunities</p> <p>Many reservations have homes dispersed over large areas, often far from the power grid. Extending utility distribution lines to these rural areas is expensive, but advanced technologies offer new opportunities to power tribal nations. Microgrids can operate independently to bolster resilience and provide consistent power. This session will discuss the challenges and opportunities associated with using distributed generation and micro-grids to improve resilience.</p> <p>Sandra Begay-Campbell, Principal Member of the Technical Staff, Sandia National Laboratory</p> <p>Reginald Agunwah, Water and Environmental Specialist, Ramona Band of Cahuilla</p>
2:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.	<i>BREAK</i>
2:45 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	<p>Climate Action Champions Overview</p> <p>From creating climate-smart building codes to installing green infrastructure to setting targets for reducing energy consumption, Climate Action Champions have considered their climate vulnerabilities and taken decisive action to cut carbon pollution and build resilience. This session will discuss how to become a climate action champion, and the Tribal projects that were selected.</p> <p>Sarah Potts Ashton, Program Director, White House Climate Action Champion Competition</p> <p>Jana Ganion, Energy Director, Blue Lake Rancheria (Climate Action Champion Designee)</p> <p>Kathleen Brosemer, Environmental Program Manager, Saulte Ste Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians (Climate Action Champion Designee)</p>
4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	<p>Harnessing Natural Systems to Increase Climate Resiliency</p> <p>Changes in climate are causing more severe weather events including droughts, flooding and storms. Many states are affected by these changes including California, which is experiencing record dry conditions. This session will examine California’s actions to reduce the impacts of a severe drought and to ensure that these efforts address the needs of tribes in the state. Additionally, healthy natural systems and green infrastructure can protect community water resources and energy infrastructure from severe weather events. This session will also explore ways communities can promote green and natural infrastructure to help address risks associated with climate change.</p> <p>Cynthia Gomez, Tribal Advisor, Office of the Governor of California</p> <p>James Williams, Environmental Specialist, Muscogee (Creek) Nation</p>
5:30 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.	CONCLUSION & WRAP-UP