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Identifying Barriers and Predictors for Success for Renewable Energy Development on Tribal Lands

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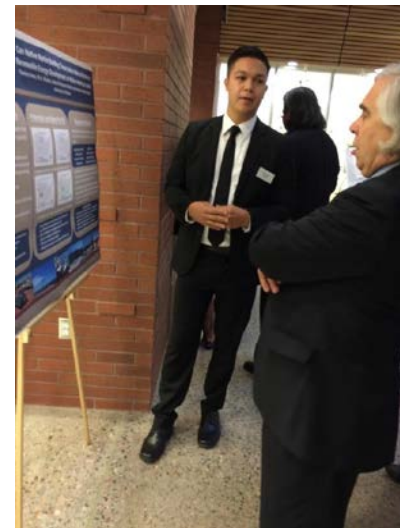
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Financing and Funding Remains a Challenge

- **Small scale projects > Large scale projects** – Challenges securing financing, outside capital, infrastructure, risk, RECs
- **Lack tribal equity to dedicate to RE** – competing interests
- **Debt** – Risk adverse, not willing/unable to take it, aversion of private capital





Tribal Leadership and Staff: Building Capacity

- **Tribal Staff & Leadership the “champions”** – Capacity challenges & key for success
- **Governance** – Separation of business and politics is key
- **Education, Education, Education at all levels**
- **Federal Programs** – Key to building and filling capacity



Building Productive Tribal-Non-Tribal Partnerships

- **Mistrust between outside partners & tribes** – History, misalignment of goals & desired financial outcomes
- **Federal policy** – Indian energy purchase preference, BIA Loan Guarantee Program reduces risk
- **Intertribal forums** – Capacity building, partnerships, addressing challenges





Cultural Acceptance Depends on Scale

- **Scale and geographic placement** – Larger projects = more impacts
- **Worldview differences** – Natural resources \neq economic resources, capitalism may conflict with values
- **Strategic Energy Planning** – Identifying what options are a cultural fit, increasing chances of success





Tribal Economic Sovereignty: RE Catalyst for Energy Independence

- **Tribal sovereignty motivates RE development** – Energy independence, tribal owned projects, tribal utilities, tribal regulation & incentives (RPS)
- **Reliance on outside capital can influence planning decisions**
- **RE development** – Greater degree of economic sovereignty & self-determination
- **Building capacity to meet these goals**



Going Forward – Unique Tribes with Shared Barriers

- **Tribal RE development remains a formidable challenge**
 - **Multitude of challenges other than energy**
 - **Internal capacity** - Still being built
 - **Tribal Sovereignty** – Driver for RE development
 - **Each tribe is unique** – Many barriers are shared
 - **Creating strategic energy plans** – Making decisions consistent with values
 - **Developing technical tools & models** – Assess risk, policy, regulations





Vision of Future of Tribal RE

- **Strong and unified vision of RE energy development in Indian Country**
 - Tribes partnering and collaborating on large and small scale RE projects
 - On and off reservation lands – competing regionally, nationally, and globally
 - Economic sovereignty – energy independence & economic benefit consistent with cultural values



Ahe'hee - Wado

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- Sandia National Laboratories
- Sandra Begay-Campbell
- Anonymous experts
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