

DOE OFFICE OF INDIAN ENERGY

DOE Indian Energy Program Overview

Wahleah Johns, Director



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Office of
Indian Energy

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Director – Wahleah Johns

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**Director, Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs,
Washington DC**

Wahleah Johns is Director for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs. She is responsible for upholding and advancing the Office of Indian Energy’s mission to maximize the development and deployment of energy solutions for the benefit of American Indians and Alaska Natives.

Johns is a member of the Navajo (Dine) tribe and comes from northeastern Arizona. Her background is in renewable energy and community organizing, having co-founded Native Renewables, a nonprofit that builds renewable energy tribal capacity while addressing energy access. Her work with the Black Mesa Water Coalition and Navajo Green Economy Coalition has led to groundbreaking legislative victories for groundwater protection, green jobs, and environmental justice. In 2019, she was awarded the Nathan Cummings Foundation Fellowship.

Johns is deeply honored to work with the Office of Indian Energy to help native communities lead the way in the transition to clean energy.



Office of Indian Energy

The DOE Office of Indian Energy is charged by Congress under the **Indian Tribal Energy Development and Self Determination Act of 2005** (Title V of the Energy Policy Act of 2005) to “provide, direct, foster, coordinate, and implement energy planning, education, management, conservation, and delivery programs that –

- (1) promote Indian tribal energy development, efficiency, and use;
- (2) reduce or stabilize energy costs;
- (3) enhance and strengthen Indian tribal energy and economic infrastructure relating to natural resource development and electrification; and
- (4) bring electrical power and service to Indian land and the homes of tribal members located on Indian lands or acquired, constructed, or improved (in whole or in part) with Federal funds.”



Clockwise from top right: **Seneca Nation's** (NY) 1.5 MW wind turbine, **Fort Yukon's** (AK) combined heat and powerhouse, **Coeur d'Alene Tribe's** (ID) Benewah Market energy efficiency project, **Sokaogon Chippewa Community** (WI) Housing Project, and **Chippewa Cree Tribe's** (MT) Residential Solar.

Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs

- **Mission:** The Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs is to maximize the development and deployment of energy solutions for the benefit of American Indians and Alaska Natives.
- IE supports 574 federally recognized tribes, over 200 Alaska Native Village Corporations, and 13 Alaska Native Regional Corporations to harness their vast resources through: 1) financial assistance; 2), technical assistance; and 3) education and capacity building.
- **Office structure:**
 - Number of employees: 13
 - Offices: Anchorage, AK, Golden, CO and Washington, D.C.

Deployment Program



Financial Assistance

We facilitate tribal energy project development through financial assistance (competitively awarded grants).



Technical Assistance

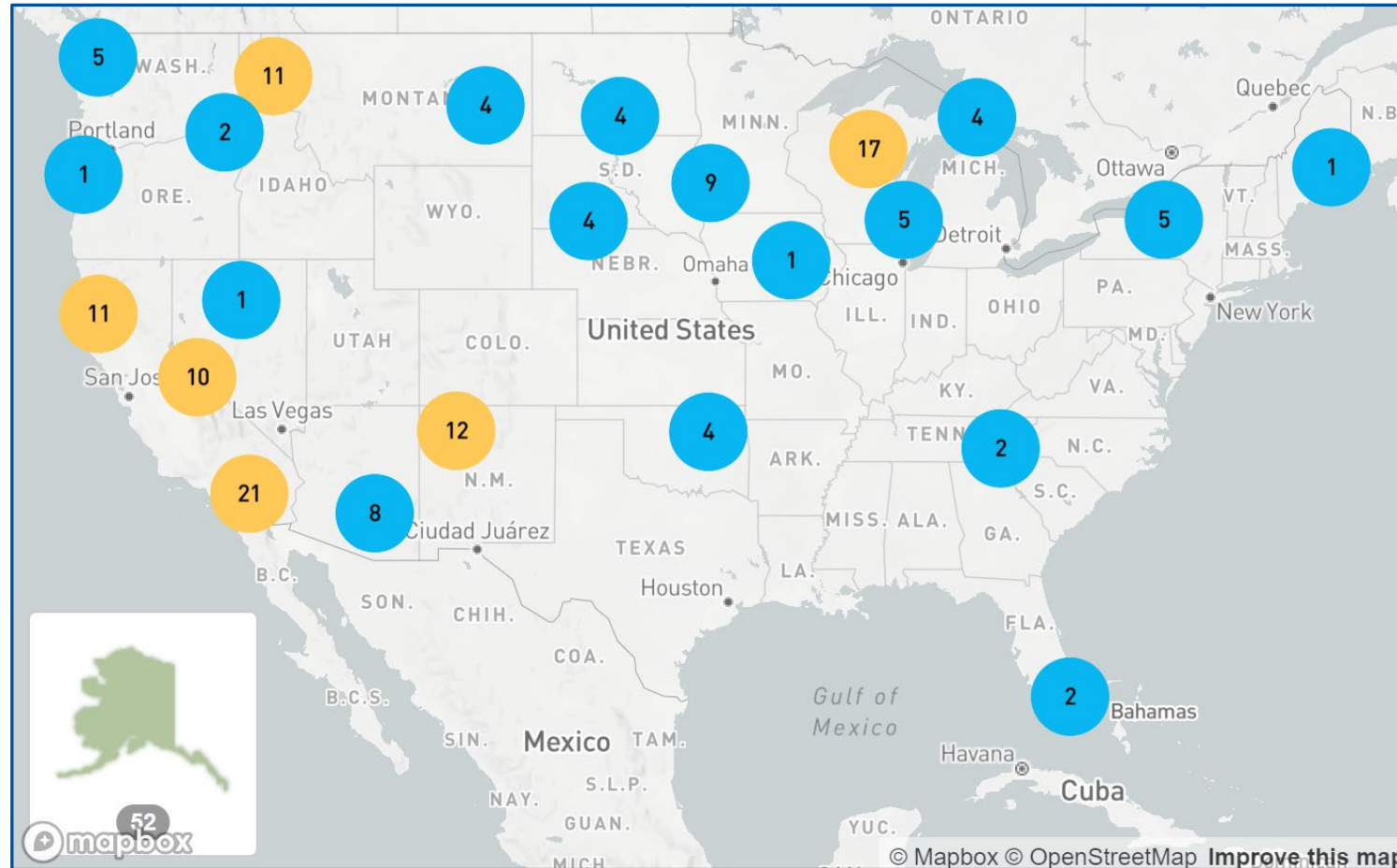
We provide federally recognized Indian tribes, including Alaska Native villages, regional and village corporations, tribal energy resource development organizations, and other tribal groups and communities, with technical assistance to advance tribal energy and infrastructure projects at no charge.



Education and Capacity Building

Thorough regional workshops, webinars, and college student internships, we support tribal efforts to build internal capacity to develop energy projects and navigate energy markets.

Invested over **\$114 million** in more than **200 tribal energy projects** valued at nearly **\$200 million** (2010-2021)



IE Top Priorities 2022

1) Transition Indian Country to Clean Energy

- Increase budget deploys more tribal clean energy resilient projects
- Support tribal nations in energy transition
- Support Tribal Energy Loan Guarantee Program (\$2 Billion direct loan authority)

2) Universal Energy Access for Indian Country

- Over 20,000 Native American homes do not have access to electricity
- Design and deploy stand alone microgrids for rural and remote homes

3) 100% Renewable Tribal Colleges and Universities

- 37 TCU's
- Holistic approach to clean energy design and deployment at campuses

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Office of INDIAN ENERGY POLICY AND PROGRAMS

ABOUT US TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE RESOURCES FUNDING PROJECTS

DOE Awards \$9 Million to Tribal Communities

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