

Listening Session on Tribal Electricity Access and Reliability

Polling Questions

Section 1: Generation, transmission, and distribution assets available

Description: Generation, transmission, and distribution assets available to households residing in Tribal communities or on Indian land.

1. Does your tribe own any portion of the electrical infrastructure in your respective community? (Select all that apply)
 - a. Poles and Distribution Lines
 - b. Generation Resources, conventional and/or renewable
 - c. Substations
 - d. No, the tribe does not own any portion

2. How many distinct non-tribal utilities serve your tribal community(s)?
 - a. One
 - b. Two
 - c. Three
 - d. Four
 - e. Other/comment

3. Is there existing infrastructure in your community that could be extended to electrify homes that are unelectrified?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Don't know

Section 2: Price of Electricity

Description: Retail and wholesale prices of electricity available to households residing in Tribal communities or on Indian land

4. Do you consider the cost of electricity to be high for households in your community?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Don't know

5. What is the cost of electricity for households (residential) residing in your community?
 - d. Less than 14 cents/kWh
 - e. 14 to 20 cents/kWh
 - f. 20 to 40 cents/kWh
 - g. Above 40 cents/kWh
 - h. If the exact cost is known, enter in the questions box

Section 3: Workforce

Description: Participation of Tribal members in the electric utility workforce, including the workforce for construction and maintenance of renewable energy resources and distributed energy resources

6. Are their tribal member in your community that are directly a part of the energy job sector?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. If an estimate is known, enter in question box or if unknown simply type unknown

7. Is training and/or education needed to develop capacity for jobs in the energy sector?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Maybe

8. What training and/or education is needed to support these types of jobs for tribal members? (Select all that apply)
 - a. Renewable Energy
 - b. Conventional Energy
 - c. Operations and Maintenance
 - d. Weatherization and/or Energy Efficiency
 - e. Other (please clarify in the questions box)

Section 4: Electricity Access

Description: The percentage of households residing in Tribal communities or on Indian land that do not have access to electricity

9. Are any households in your community not connected to the centralized grid or not connected to a community-scale microgrid?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Don't know

10. How many households in your community are not connected to the grid? (Provide an estimate in the question box if known)
 - a. 0
 - b. 1 - 50
 - c. 50 -100
 - d. 100+
 - e. Add estimate to question box or if unknown type unknown

11. What barriers exist to providing electric service to unelectrified homes in your community? (Select all that apply)

- a. Financial
- b. Workforce
- c. Infrastructure
- d. Planning
- e. Other (please clarify in questions box). If no issue, N/A.

12. How many electricity outages do you have in your community per month?

- a. None
- b. Occasional outages
- c. Regular electricity outages occur each month
- d. Electricity outages occur often every month

13. How long do the electricity outages typically last?

- a. Seconds
- b. Minutes
- c. Hours
- d. Days
- e. Not applicable

14. If outages do occur, what are the causes of those electricity outages?

- a. Fires
- b. Storms
- c. Inadequate infrastructure
- d. End of the line or utility directed outages
- e. Other (please clarify in questions box)

Section 5: Distributed Energy Potential

Description: The potential of distributed energy resources to provide electricity to households residing in Tribal communities or on Indian land

15. Have you quantified the potential for wind, solar, hydro, biomass or other distributed resources on your tribal lands?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Don't know

16. What types, if any, of electricity generation do you currently have in your community?
(Select all that apply)

- a. Renewable energy (e.g. solar, wind, biomass, hydro)
- b. Conventional energy (e.g. coal, oil, gas)
- c. None

17. Does your community have a preference for renewable energy or conventional energy or a mix of both?

- a. Renewable energy (e.g. solar, wind, biomass, hydro)
- b. Conventional energy (e.g. coal, oil, gas)
- c. Mix of both

Section 6: Tribally-Owned Utility Potential

Description: The potential for tribally-owned electric utilities or electric utility assets to participate in or benefit from regional electricity markets

18. Does your community want its own tribal utility?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Maybe

19. Do you have agreements in place with a non-tribal utility(s) (e.g. right-of-way, interconnection agreement, WAPA allocation)?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Don't know