

Penobscot Community Center - Solar Power Plan

Department of Energy



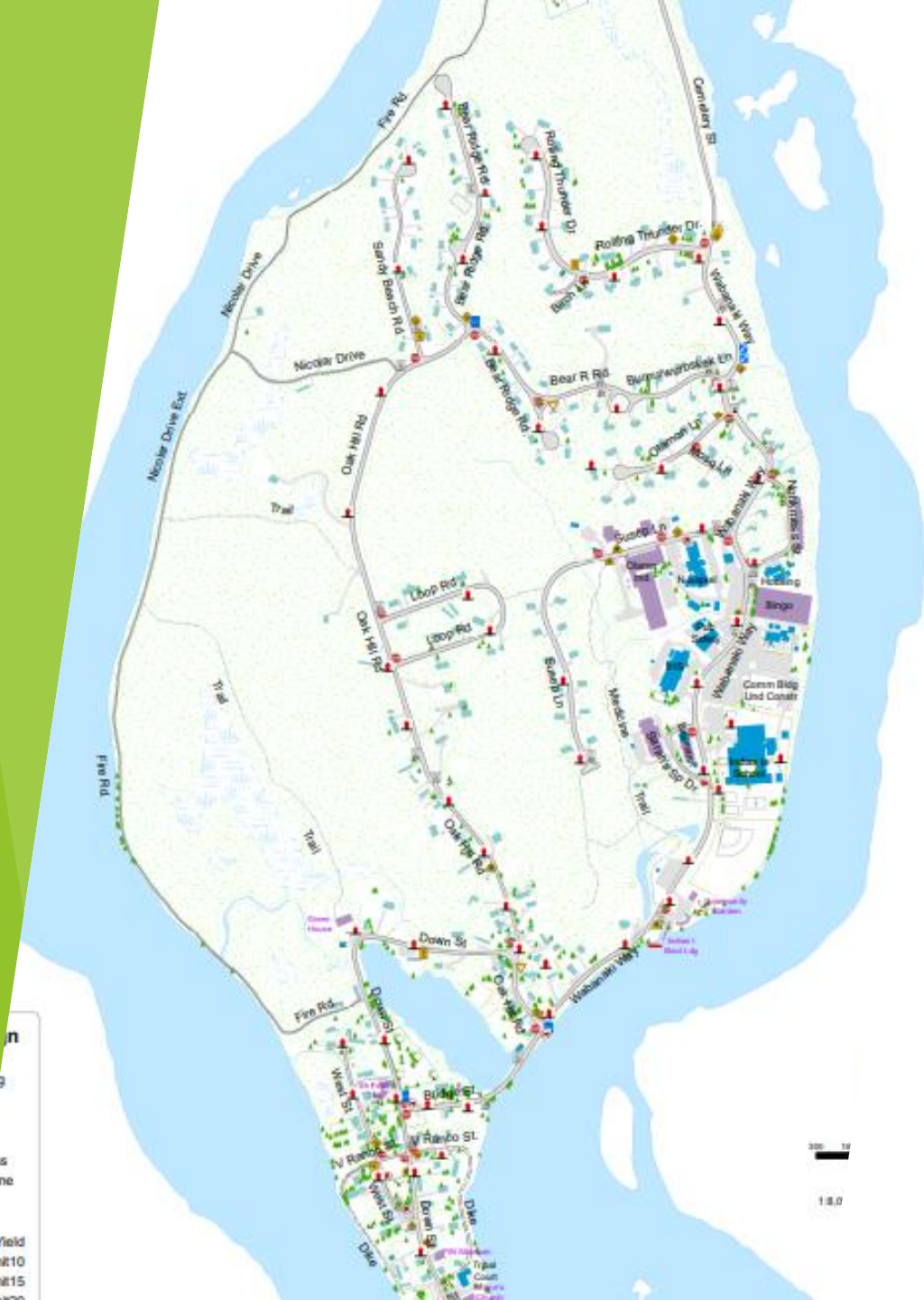
Ben Stevens for
Community Development

Penobscot Indian Nation

► Where we live - Indian Island, Maine

The Penobscot Nation reservation, also known as Indian Island, is a three-mile-wide island situated in the Penobscot River.

There are app. 2,500 Penobscot tribal citizens with a fifth of those living on the reservation and ~ two-fifths living in the service area.



About

- ▶ Penobscot Nation is building an 18,000 square foot building next to the Penobscot River, on the Penobscot reservation at Indian Island.
- ▶ The construction has begun and the walls are presently going up. The building will house tribal administration, the Penobscot Museum and the Tribal Court.



Solar - Our Vision



- ▶ Increase solar in the commercial area of the island first, followed by residential.
- ▶ Create nanogrids which we can connect into a microgrid.
- ▶ Train Penobscot members in solar repair and maintenance (ongoing).
- ▶ Apply for grants and renewable workforce development opportunities.
- ▶ Start pre-engineering.

Results



1. Community Center Solar will be 94Kw from the DOE grant in Summer 2024
2. We will add 124 Kw of solar to the building in phase 2, along with battery storage and software to balance the batteries, generator and solar to make this a 24/7 operation.
3. When finished, this building will be the first nanogrid.
4. Several of these nanogrids together will make our microgrid.
5. A \$4.5 million grant from DOE has been awarded for our phase 2.
6. Pre-engineering work is underway.

Where to go from here? Bringing renewables to our farm and other tribal locations!

