

DOE WRCS

The image features the text "DOE WRCS" in a large, bold, sans-serif font. The letters are filled with a dark blue grid pattern. The letter 'W' is unique, containing a cutout of a smiling man in a dark blue shirt with "JINTO" visible on it. The letter 'E' contains a cutout of a person's arm and shoulder. The other letters (D, O, R, C, S) are solid blue with the grid pattern. The background is plain white.

Northern Cheyenne Tribe White River Community Solar

Department of Energy – Indian Energy



Presented by: Otto Braided Hair III – Sustainable Energy Manager – Northern Cheyenne Tribe

2016

2019

Current

Road to Renewable Energy

2016

2019

Current



Resolution Passed

In 2016, the Northern Cheyenne Tribe passed a resolution to pursue renewable energies, Marking a pivotal moment for the nation.

2016

2019

Current



Department of Energy – Indian Energy

Northern Cheyenne Tribe awarded \$3.5M to advance these efforts and continue to pursuit of renewable energy.

2016

2019



Pilot Projects – 15 Residential & 3 Commercial Projects

Phase I project was completed in 2023

Phase II project was completed in 2024

Current

Opportunities

for

Growth



1

Renewable Energy

Renewable energy is an emerging focus for the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, aligning with traditional values of environmental stewardship and sustainability.



2

Community

Expanding knowledge of solar energy and its potential impact remains a key focus.



3

Timeframe

Securing necessary approvals for renewable energy initiatives involves multiple steps, ensuring alignment with community priorities.



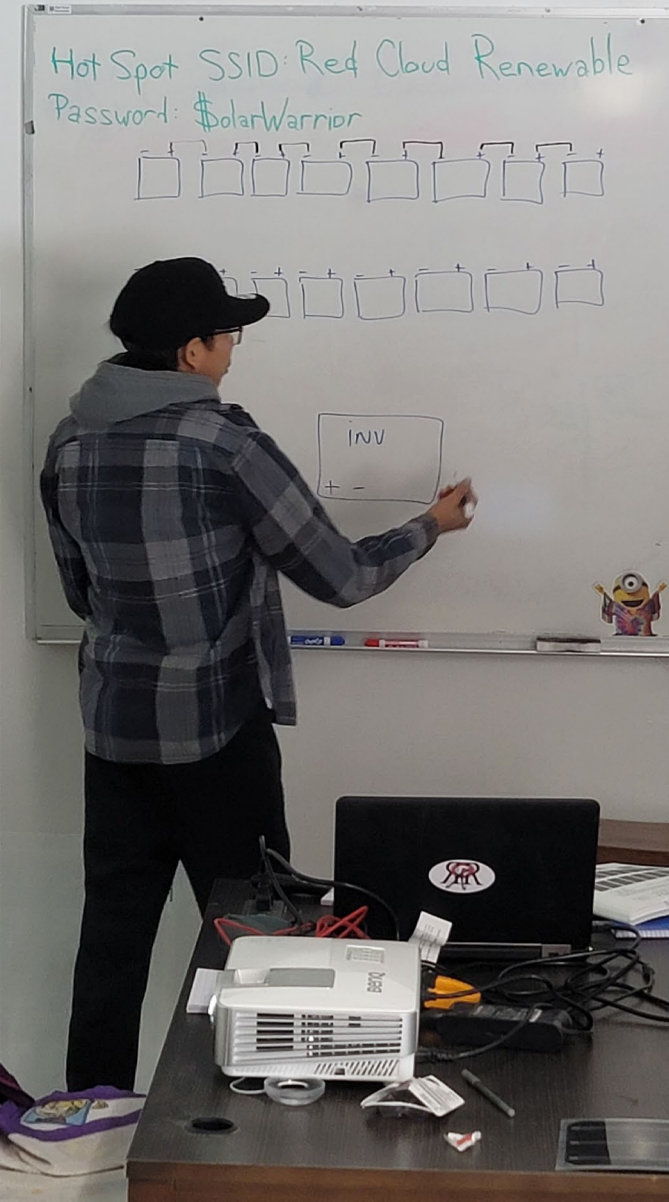
4

Contractors

Limited availability of local contractors equipped for large-scale solar installations.



Project Preparation - Training - Testing



Northern Cheyenne Graduates of the Redcloud
Renewable Energy Training Center PV101 AND PV201
Course.



PHASE I

15 Residential Homes



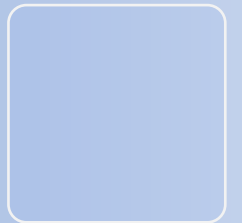
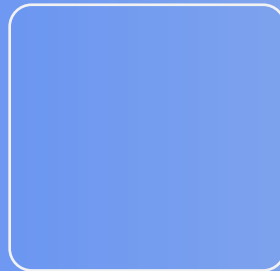
Elders

Site Assessments & Outreach

Began outreach with basic introduction to solar energy and its relevance to the tribe.

Shared the purpose and benefits of the newly established Solar Program.

Gathered essential data from elders to support system design and meet community-specific needs.



Training

Local Talent

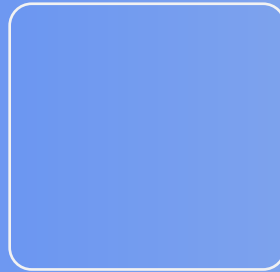


Hands on

Site Assessments & Outreach

Northern Cheyenne Tribe
partnered with Freedom
Forever to co-lead a
Introductory Hands-On
training.

Site Safety
Planning & Design
Installation
Operations and
Maintenance



Collect Data



Spec Design



Implement



Collect Data



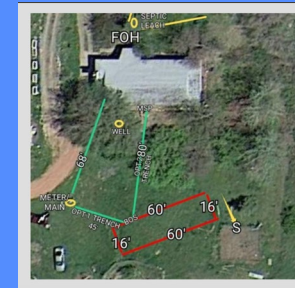
March 2022: Initial Site Assessments

Data Collection: Began gathering essential information for solar array design.

Community Engagement: Introduced selected participants to the solar energy industry.

Program Launch: Presented the 50/50 shared savings initiative, the Northern Cheyenne Tribe Residential Solar Program (NCT-RSP)

Spec Design



Implement



Spec Design



July 2023: Site Assessments Completed.

Assessment Scope: Evaluated all 15 project site locations.

Community Engagement: Secured Participant approvals for NCT-RSP Program.

Feedback Integration: Collected unput to refine and enhance program execution.

Collect Data



Implement



Collect Data



Spec Design



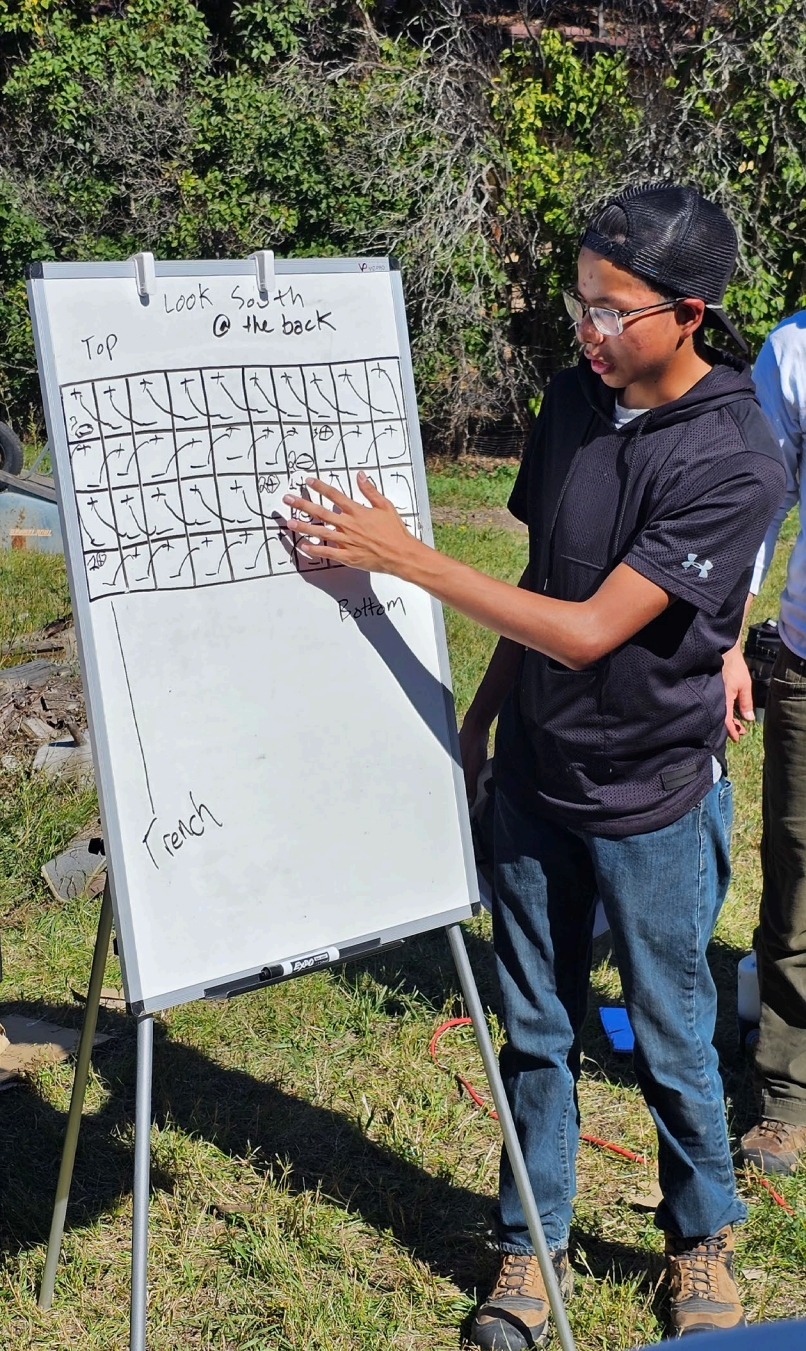
Implement



September 2023: Construction Kickoff

Milestone Achieved: Construction began at the first project site

Collaboration in Action: Trainees assisted Freedom Forever with trenching across all project sites.



EDUCATION



TEAM WORK



SUCCESS



Hirees for Freedom Forever's traveling installer crew.



PHASE II

3 Commercial Projects



Phase II

3 Commercial locations:

Northern Cheyenne Tribal
School

Little Eagle Head Start
Center

Northern Cheyenne Utility
Commission – Pump Station



Approvals



Spec Design



Implement



Approvals



July 2024: Key Approvals Secured

Local Approvals: Northern Cheyenne Tribal School, Little Eagle Head Start, and Northern Cheyenne Utility Commission.

Government & Administrative Clearances: Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Bureau of Indian Education (BIE), Land Authority Dept.

Spec Design



Implement



Spec Design

Approvals



Implement



July 2024: Approvals, Assessments, and Preparations.

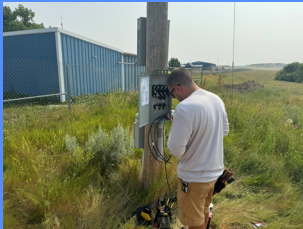
Site Assessments: Conducted and completed while securing project approvals.

Site Preparations: Cleared areas and coordinated with Freedom Forever for material delivery and project set up.

Approvals



Spec Design



Implement



July 2024: Construction Launch

Material Delivery: Materials arrived on-site, marking the start of construction.

Workforce Development: Phase I trainees, hired full-time by Freedom Forever gained hands-on experience with large-scale installations.

Northern Cheyenne Utility Commission – Pump Station 25kW Ground Mount Solar Array



Combined: Northern Cheyenne Tribal School & Little Eagle Head Start 125kW Ground Mount Array





Next Steps

Spring 2025: Preparing for Expansion

1

Residential Projects

Planning for additional
50-60 solar
installations



2

Site Assessments

Conduct evaluations
and engaging
participants in the
solar energy industry.



3

Program Introduction

Expanding
awareness of the
NCT-RSP program.



4

Hands-on Training

Providing
Opportunities to
develop skills and
grow the
workforce of
“Solar Warriors &
Warriorettes”





Q & A

Northern Cheyenne Tribe
Sustainable Energy Manager

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