

Tribal Utility Feasibility Study



CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE COLVILLE RESERVATION

TRIBAL ENERGY PROGRAM

NOVEMBER 13-16, 2012

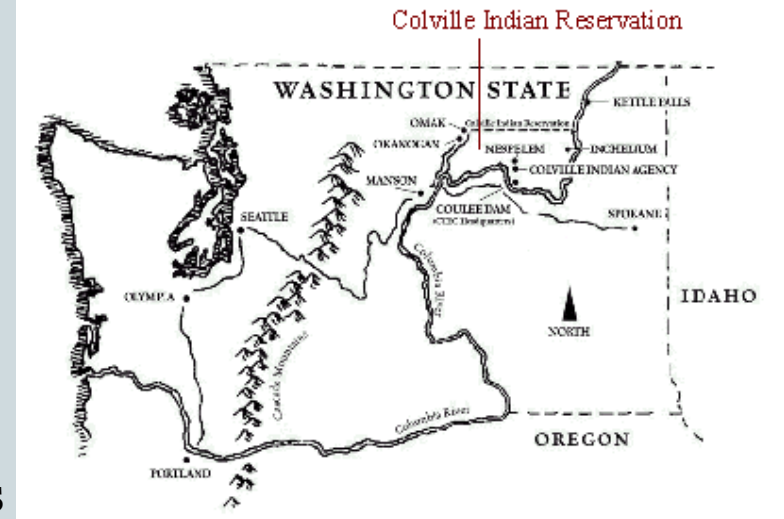


Outline

- History on the Colville Tribe
- Colville Tribal Energy Program/Strategic Energy Plan
- Impacts of Tribal Utility
- Tasks for Feasibility Study
- Colville Tribes Renewable Energy Projects
- Conclusion

History on the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation

- Executive Order signed July 1872
- 14 Elected Business Council Members
- Representing 4 Districts of 1.4 million acres of land
- 800,000 acres of forested lands, 600,000 acres of range and agricultural lands
- Bordered by the Columbia and Okanogan Rivers
- Grand Coulee Dam and Chief Joseph Dam exist on tribal lands along the Columbia River



Colville Tribal Energy Program

Colville Tribal
Strategic Energy
Plan

Management
of Tribe's
Energy Assets

Formation of
Tribal Utility

- Established in 2005, the leadership created an Energy Program to oversee the many energy related activities and opportunities available to the Colville Tribes.
- The first duty was to manage the forward sale of hydroelectric power from Wells Dam, a legal settlement that has returned several million dollars in revenue to the Tribal government.
- In 2008, the Energy Program developed the Strategic Energy Plan to identify a vision of potential energy projects
- Since then, the Tribal Energy Program focuses on opportunities such as wind, solar, woody biomass, biofuels, and small/large hydroelectric

Impacts to the Colville Tribes with a Tribal Utility

- Establish and exercise sovereignty for Colville Confederated Tribe
- Have more control over current and future electricity sales
- Taking the next step in understanding/managing existing agreements made with Wells Dam.
- Allow leadership to make the best decision on what type of utility it will form and develop that tool to benefit the people

Impacts to the Colville Tribes **without** a Tribal Utility

- Currently, six (6) different utilities on the reservation
- Bonneville Power Administration is the distribution agency for the federal dams on the Columbia River
- Hydropower built on tribal lands on the Columbia River produces the lowest electricity rates in the US
- Lack of control of energy distribution, rates and future; a social and economic justice issue
- Forced to react to energy market; no control

Tasks for Feasibility Study

1. Overview of Existing Utility Service on Reservation
2. High Level Financial Feasibility
3. Recommendations for any Utility Cost Model Appearing Feasible
4. Report on Estimated Tribal Utility Costs in Each Utility's Service Territory
5. Present Final Tribal Utility Report to the Colville Business Council

Overview of Existing Utility Service

FOR EACH SERVICE PROVIDER DETAIL THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

- Overview of the Provider
- General Information about their Utility Infrastructure
- Information about their Current Rates
- Existing Utility Programs of Interest to Tribes
- Possible Opportunities for Tribe as Relates to that Utility
- Problems Related to Current Service
- Create, in conjunction with tribal offices, map of all electric utility service providers with appropriate information overlays.

High Level Financial Feasibility

- Likely Costs of Service of a Tribal Utility in Each Current Utility's Territory Compared to Current Service Provider Expected Costs
- One general cost of service model will be created for a tribal utility assuming wholesale power is acquired from Bonneville Power Administration.
- Assumptions will be made regarding the cost of service in each utility territory
- Assumptions applied to the model, showing possible costs of a tribal utility in each territory.

Recommendations for Utilities Appearing Feasible

- **PRELIMINARY RESEARCH AND REPORT TO INCLUDE:**
 - Approaches
 - Timing
 - Issues
 - BPA Process Constraints
 - Opportunities into any Utility Model that Appears to be Financially Feasible

Present Final Tribal Utility Report to the Colville Business Council

- Complete the Tribal Utility Feasibility Study Report
- Utilize all relevant analysis of legal and regulatory framework necessary for a Tribal Utility
- Consultants will draft and finalize a report on the information discovered and present it to Colville Business Council.

Conclusion

- Many opportunities to develop renewable energy projects
- Create the instrument to manage our Renewable Energy Projects providing jobs in a culturally sound, self-determined, sustainable green economy
- Complete DOE Tribal Utility Feasibility study to assess the possibility of a Tribal Utility

Questions?



The seal of the Colville Confederated Tribes Reservation is a circular emblem. It features a central figure of a Native American man in traditional dress, holding a bow and arrow. The figure is surrounded by a wreath. The outer ring of the seal contains the text "THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES" at the top and "OF THE COLVILLE RESERVATION" at the bottom, separated by two stars. The year "1873" is inscribed in the center of the seal, above the figure's head.

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