

Enhancement of Pueblo of Acoma Utility Authority

Presented by:

Raymond Concho Jr., 1st Lieutenant Governor Arvind Patel, Utility Authority Director

Agenda

- Background
- Project Overview
- Future Plans

Pueblo of Acoma



- One of nineteen Pueblos in New Mexico
- 6,344 enrolled tribal members 2,906 are on Acoma Tribal Lands
- Tribal Leadership is appointed annually by traditional leaders of the Pueblo.
- "Oldest continuously inhabited village in North America"

Location

- 55 miles west of Albuquerque in west central NM
- 770,000 acres of trust land, but the vast majority of this land is considered open range.
- 5,612 7068 ft above sea level, high mountain desert
- Tribal Boundaries are contiguous, few checker boards.

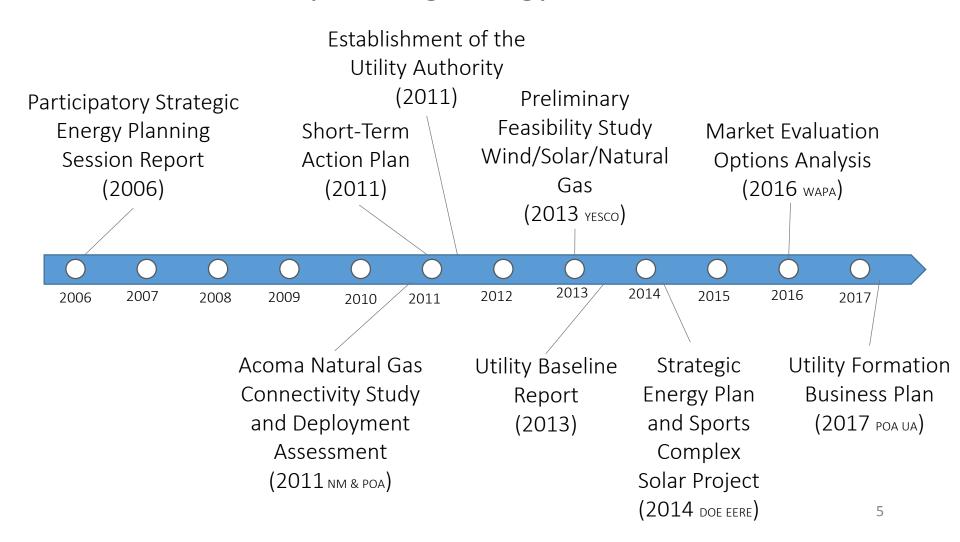
In the recent years the Pueblo has acquired lands adjacent to

the current boundaries.





Acoma has been pursuing energy alternatives since 2006



Solar Projects at the Pueblo of Acoma





13 unit off-grid waterless composting restroom buildings atop Old Acoma

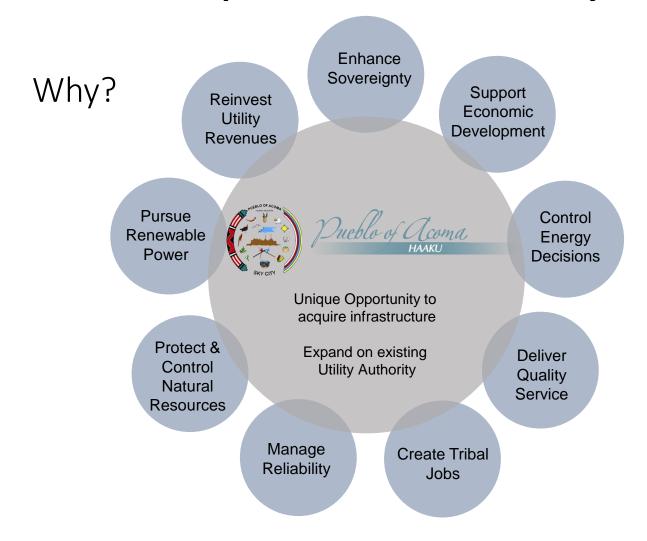




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Off-grid pv system for running track lighting

In 2016, Acoma prioritized electric utility formation



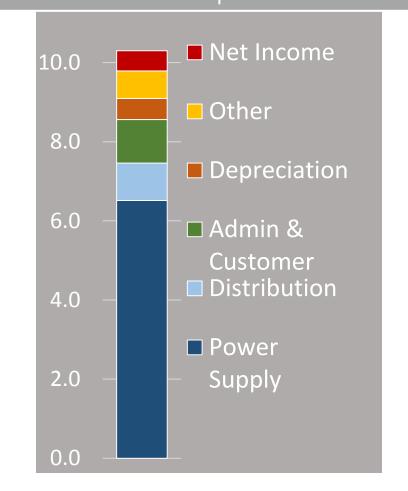
Pueblo of Acoma Utility Authority



ROW Dispute and Settlement Agreement

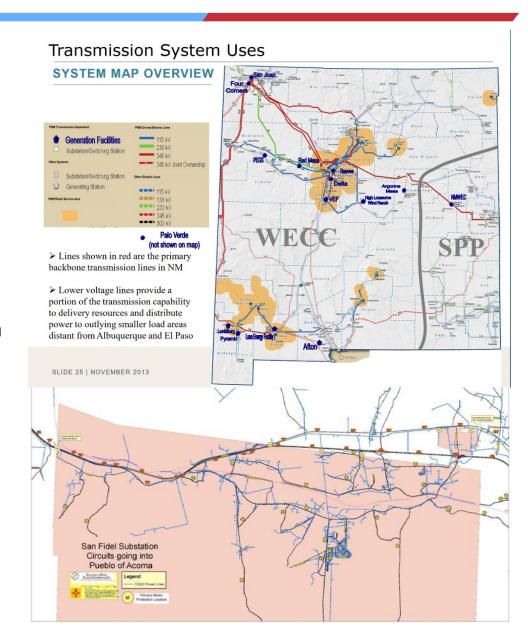
- Based on a dispute between the Pueblo of Acoma and the local incumbent coop over an expired ROW agreement Acoma filed, in Tribal Court, a trespass and damages case against the coop.
- After a two year period Acoma and the incumbent coop signed a settlement agreement where the Acoma would dismiss the case and if desired by Acoma, the coop would transfer all electrical facilities within the exterior boundaries of the Pueblo.
- At the end of 2016, Acoma Pueblo partnered with Avant Energy to perform an electric utility formation assessment – high level feasibility study

Acoma's Average Retail Payment 10.3 Cents per kWh



- Next step was to develop the utility formation business plan and gain clarity on actual costs including:
 - 10 yr financial statement
 - RFP for wholesale power
 - RFP for contract O&M
- We are now negotiating the interconnection agreement which will govern how the two systems operate moving forward:

Interconnection and System Separation Service Territory Operation and Maintenance Responsibilities Physical Facilities (Matrix of Responsibilities for Facilities) Level of Service Representations and Warranties Covenants Indemnification Conditions Precedent Closing Arrangements and Post-Closing Arrangements Termination Clause Choice of Law Severability Notices Counterparties Survival Terms and Conditions Amendment Waiver Regulatory Approvals (PRC, BIA, RUS)



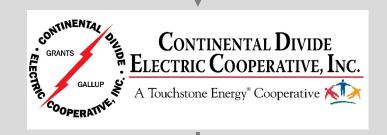
Current

Future















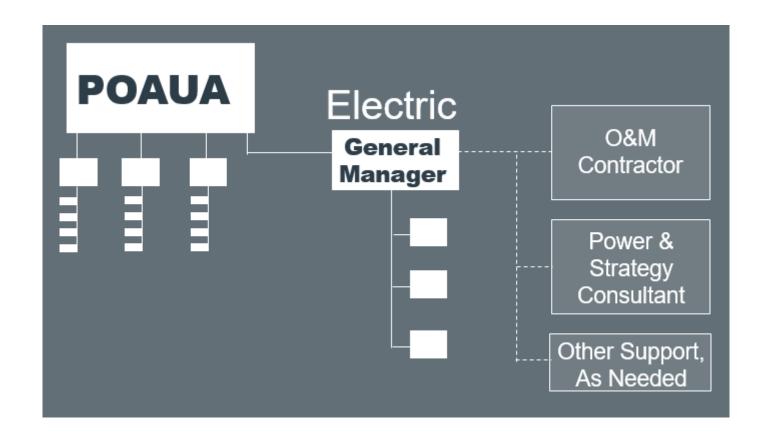




Project Overview

Develop Structure Develop People

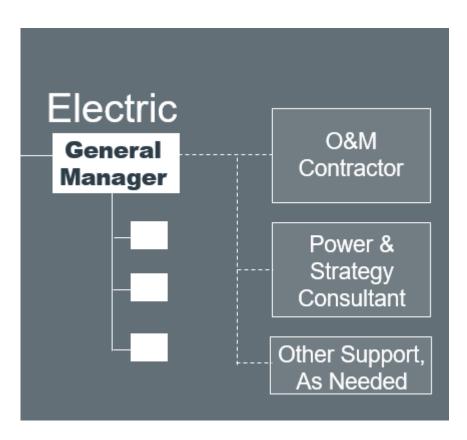
Develop Operations



Project Overview

Develop Structure Develop People Develop Operations

- Identify Staffing Needs
 Based on Existing
 Capabilities
- Roles and Responsibilities
- Job Descriptions & SOP's
- Hire and Train Key Staff
- Capacity Development Goals



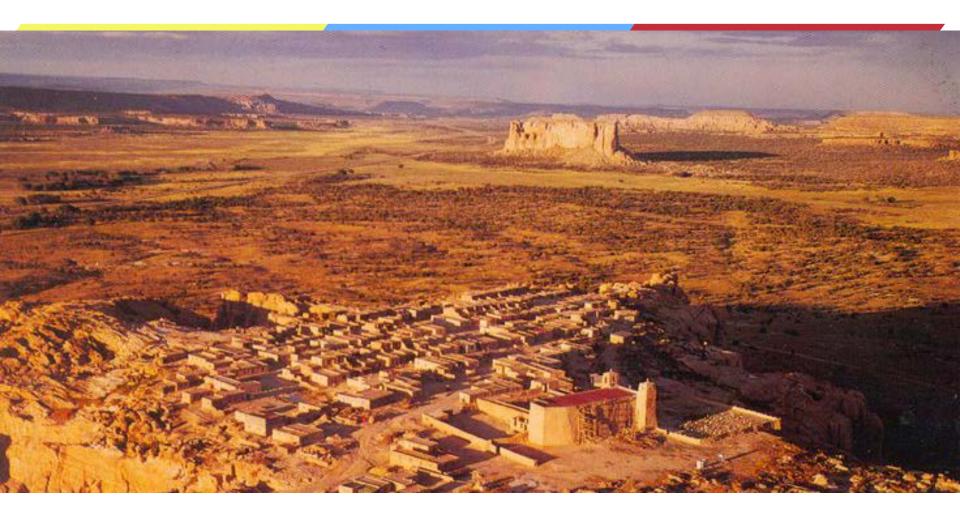
Project Overview

Develop Structure Develop People

Develop Operations

- Five-year Utility Strategy
 - What activities should be prioritized?
 - Transition to internal O&M
 - Position utility to support economic development goals
- Operations and Maintenance Plan
 - Focus on reliability
 - Manage and prioritize investments in system improvements
 - Incumbent utility doesn't do any pm work or scheduled system replacement, just reactionary maintenance
 - Older system with reliability issues

Future Plans



Natural Gas Utility, Renewable Generation,
Apprenticeship Program, Community Wide Broadband Deployment



Project Stakeholders



PUEBLO OF ACOMA TRIBAL COUNCIL, GOVERNOR'S OFFICE AND THE UTILITY AUTHORITY BOARD

















Special thank you to the DOE Office of Indian Energy!

Contact Information:

Raymond J. Concho Jr. 1st Lt. Governor 1st It@puebloofacoma.org

Arvind Patel, Utility Authority Director apatel@puebloofacoma.org