



*Pueblo of Acoma*  
HAAKU

# Enhancement of the Pueblo of Acoma Utility Authority

Presented by:

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Pueblo of Acoma Utility Authority

# Pueblo of Acoma

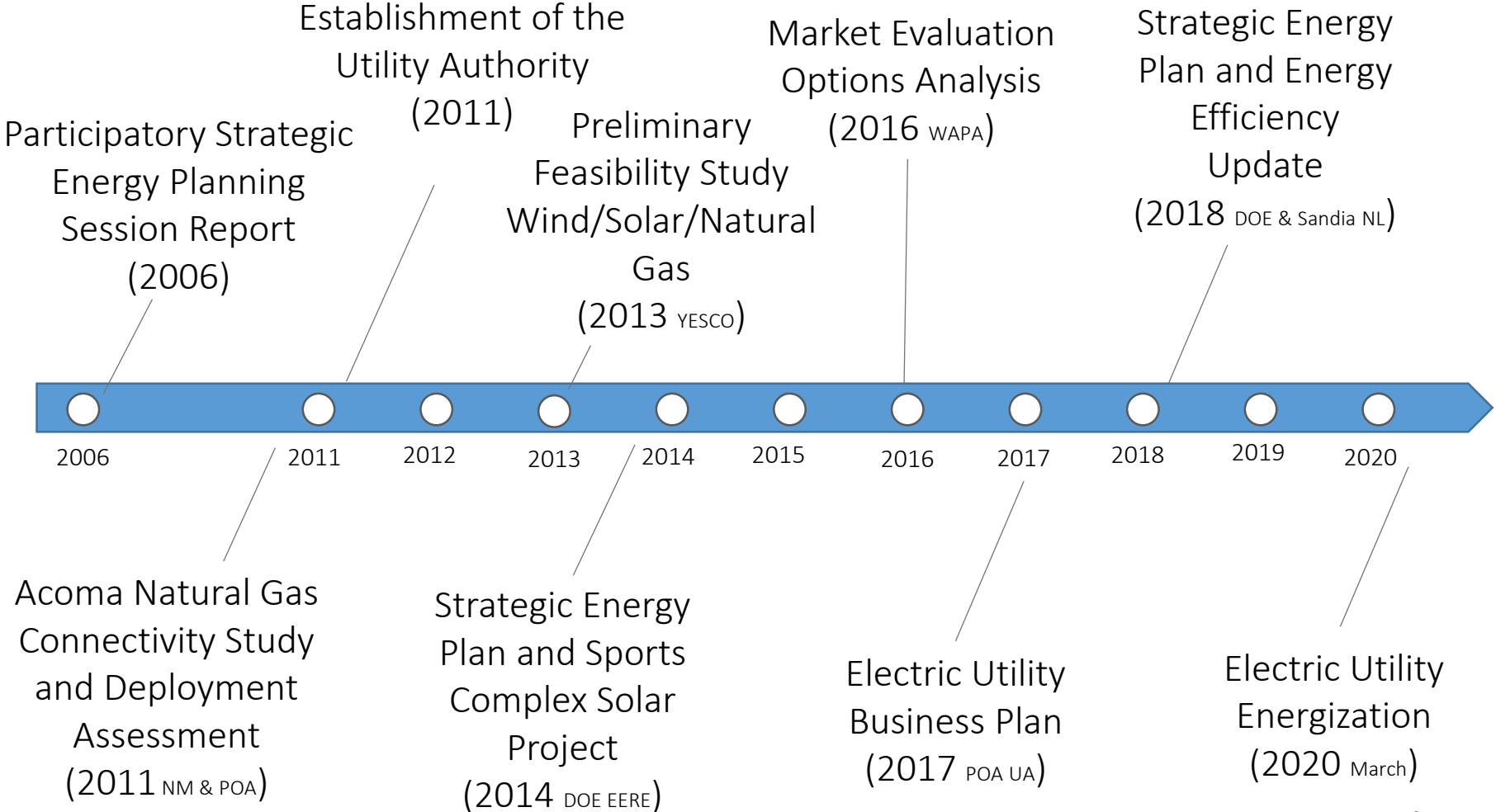


- One of nineteen Pueblos in New Mexico
- 6,344 enrolled tribal members, about 3,500 are on Acoma Tribal Lands
- Tribal Leadership is appointed annually by traditional leaders of the Pueblo.
- “Oldest continuously inhabited village in North America”



# Project Background

Acoma has been pursuing energy alternatives since 2006





# Project Background

## Solar Projects at the Pueblo of Acoma



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

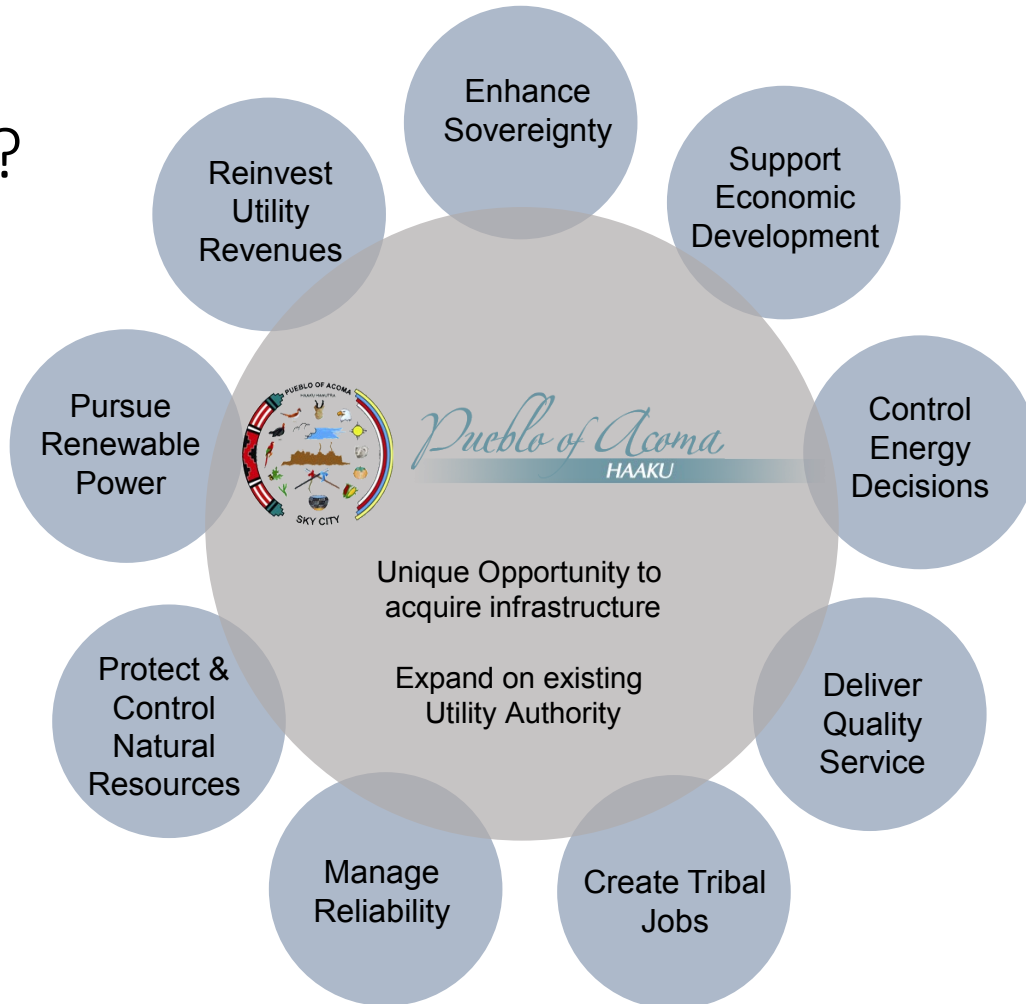


Off-grid pv system for running track lighting

# Project Background

In 2016, Acoma prioritized electric utility formation

Why?

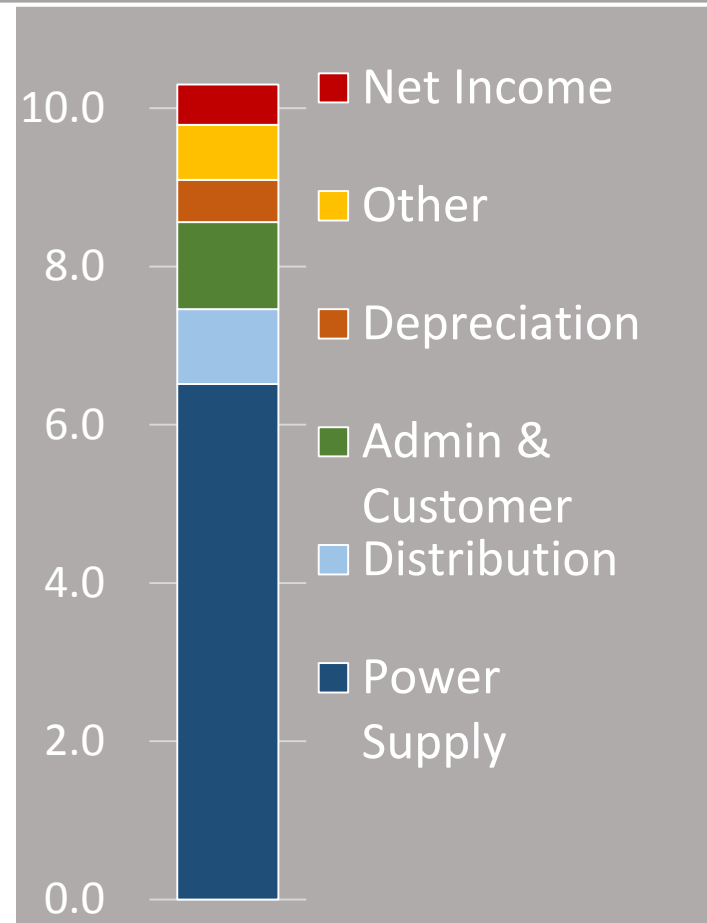


# Project Background

## ROW Dispute and Settlement Agreement

- Based on a dispute between the Pueblo and our local incumbent coop over an expired ROW agreement Acoma filed, in Tribal Court, a trespass and damages case.
- After a two year process a settlement agreement was reached in 2014 where Acoma would dismiss the trespass damages and the coop would transfer all electrical facilities within the exterior boundaries of the Pueblo.
- In 2016, Acoma Pueblo performed an electric utility formation assessment – high level feasibility study.

### Acoma's Average Retail Payment 10.3 Cents per kWh



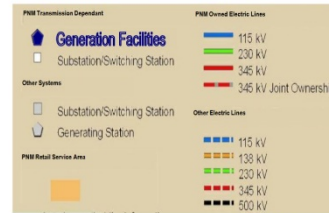


# Project Background

- Next, we completed a business plan looking at anticipated revenues, formation and operational expenses:
  - 10 yr financial statement
  - RFP for wholesale power
  - RFP for outage restoration support
  - Deferred maintenance
  - Operations expenses (prior outage restoration & maintenance)
  - Capital improvement plan
- Originally our plan looked at wheeling power through the incumbent coop's substation but their fee pushed us to build a substation and feeder line to become completely independent.

## Transmission System Uses

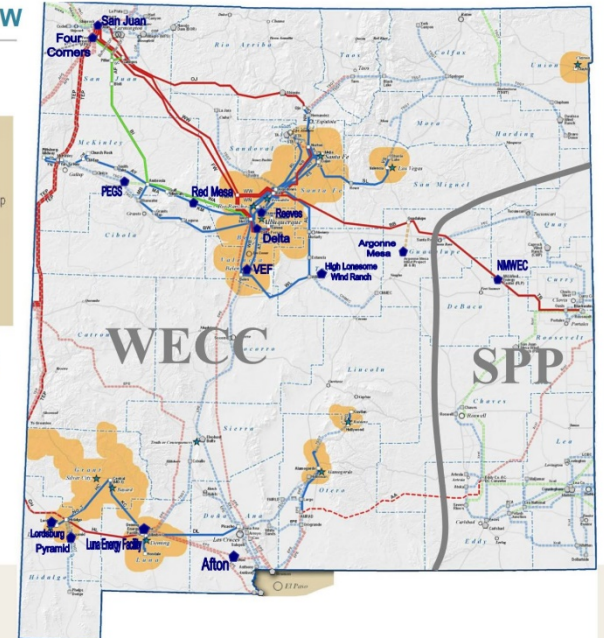
### SYSTEM MAP OVERVIEW



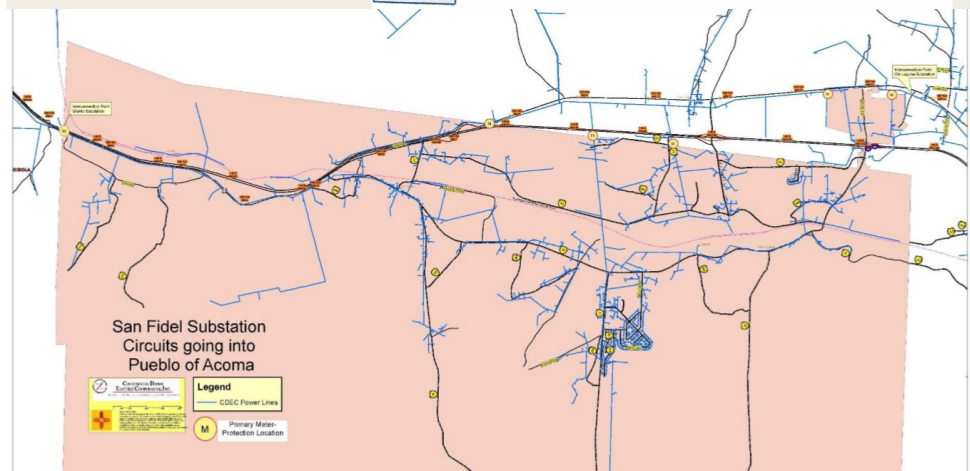
• Palo Verde (not shown on map)

➤ Lines shown in red are the primary backbone transmission lines in NM

➤ Lower voltage lines provide a portion of the transmission capability to delivery resources and distribute power to outlying smaller load areas distant from Albuquerque and El Paso



SLIDE 25 | NOVEMBER 2013

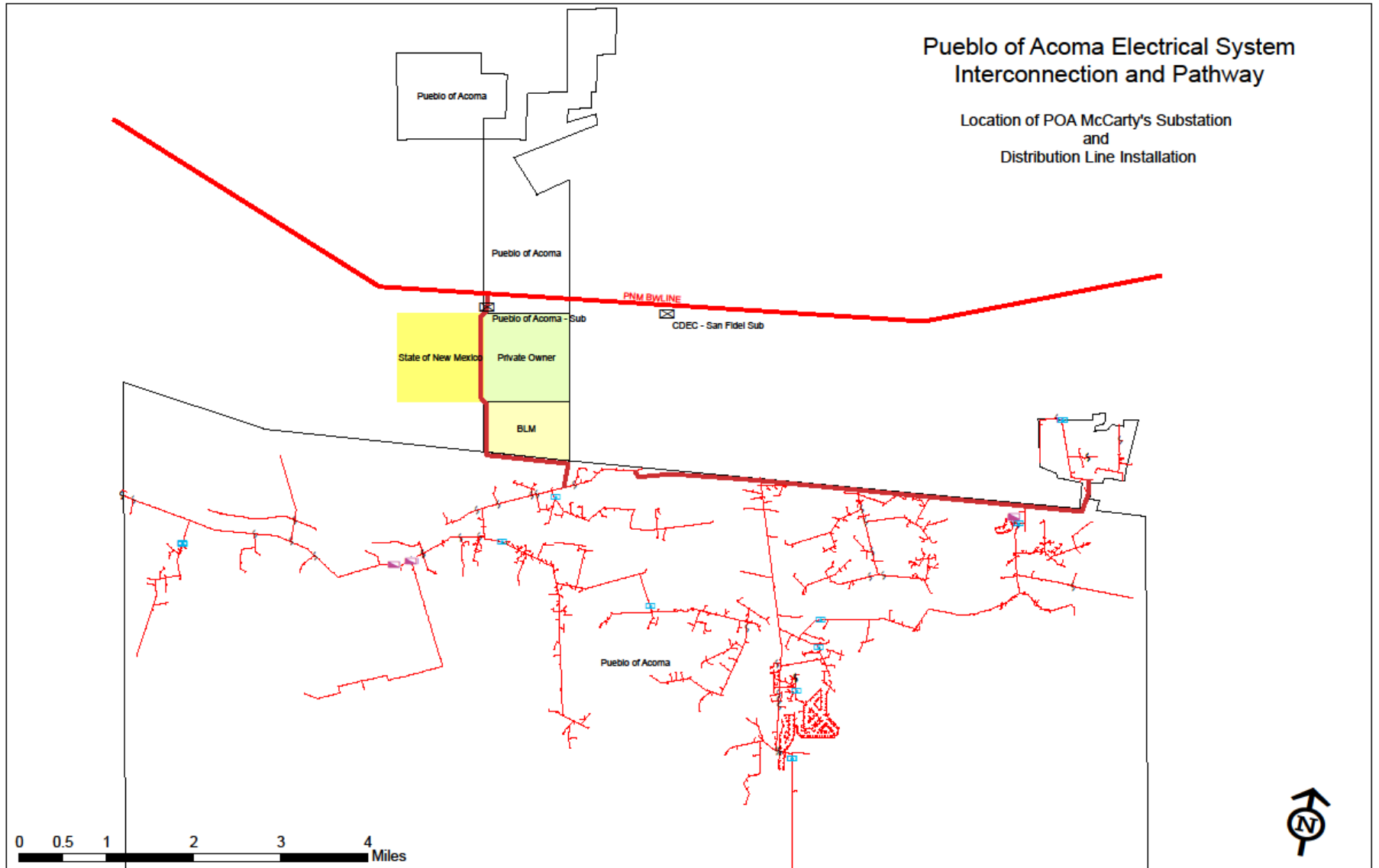




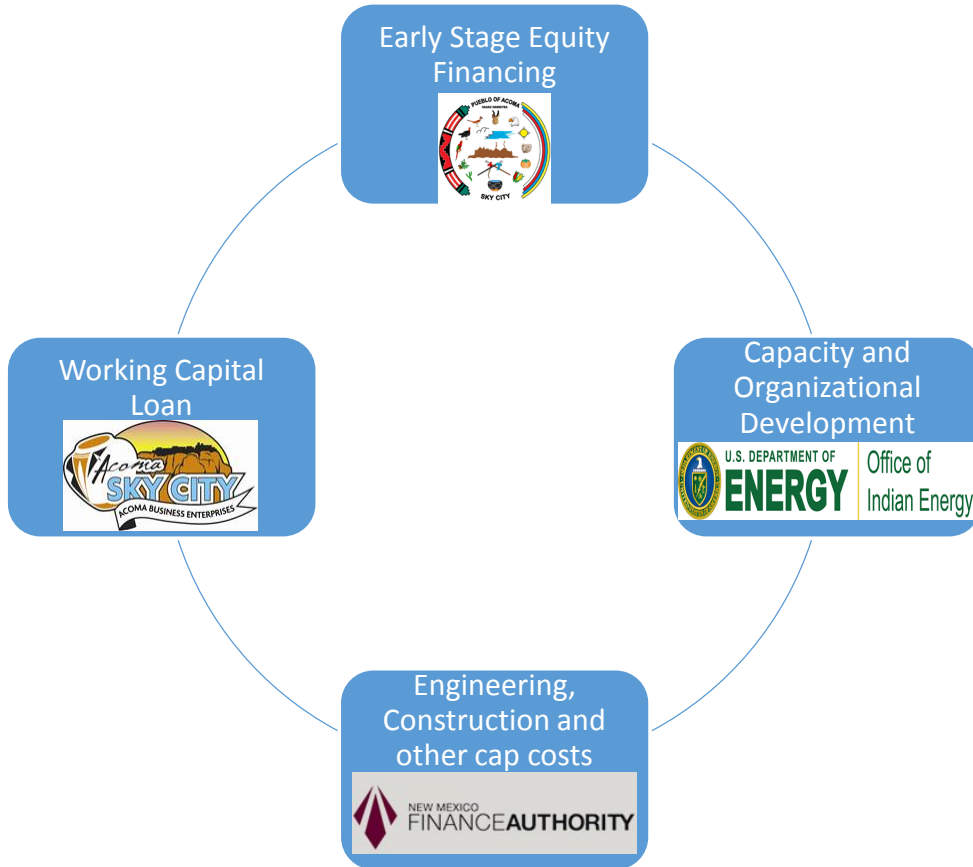
# Project Background

- In 2017 and 2018 the Pueblo and our incumbent coop negotiated the Purchase and Sale Agreement (PSA)
  - Severance plan and cost
  - Title transfer
  - Records transfer (mapping, customer account information, deposits, liabilities, etc...)
  - On-going grant of ROW
  - Mutual emergency backup provisions and switching procedures
- The Pueblo and coop is preparing for a joint presentation of the PSA to the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission to approve the transfer
- Utility Authority internal efforts:
  - NEPA and ROW - Complete
  - Construction of a 20 MVA substation and 14.4 kV distribution line to interconnect to the transmission system – In Progress
  - Hiring staff – In Progress
  - Operation and maintenance plan – In Progress
  - Capital improvement plan – In Progress
  - Electric Utility Policies and Procedures (utility and customer obligations) - Complete
  - Rate structure - Complete
  - Interconnection agreement with Public Service Company of New Mexico (PNM) - Complete
  - Wholesale PPA with Guzman Energy - Complete
  - Initial inventory (poles, transformers, conductor, etc...) - Complete
  - Equipment, vehicles, tools, safety supplies etc... - Complete
  - Integrate the electric rate/billing into our existing utility billing services - Complete
- Start date for the Acoma Tribal Electric Utility – March 2020

# Project Background



# Project Funding



- Due Diligence - \$560,000
- Capitalized Costs - \$5,190,000
- Non Capitalized Costs - \$500,000

Overall Project Cost for Establishment of the Acoma Electric Utility - \$6.25 Million

# Project Stakeholders



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



*Pueblo of Acoma*  
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Utility Authority - Water/Wastewater & Solid Waste



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**ENERGY**

Office of  
Indian Energy

**AVANT**  
ENERGY



**GUZMAN**  
**ENERGY**

STELZNER • WINTER • WARBURTON  
FLORES • SANCHEZ • DAWES P.A.

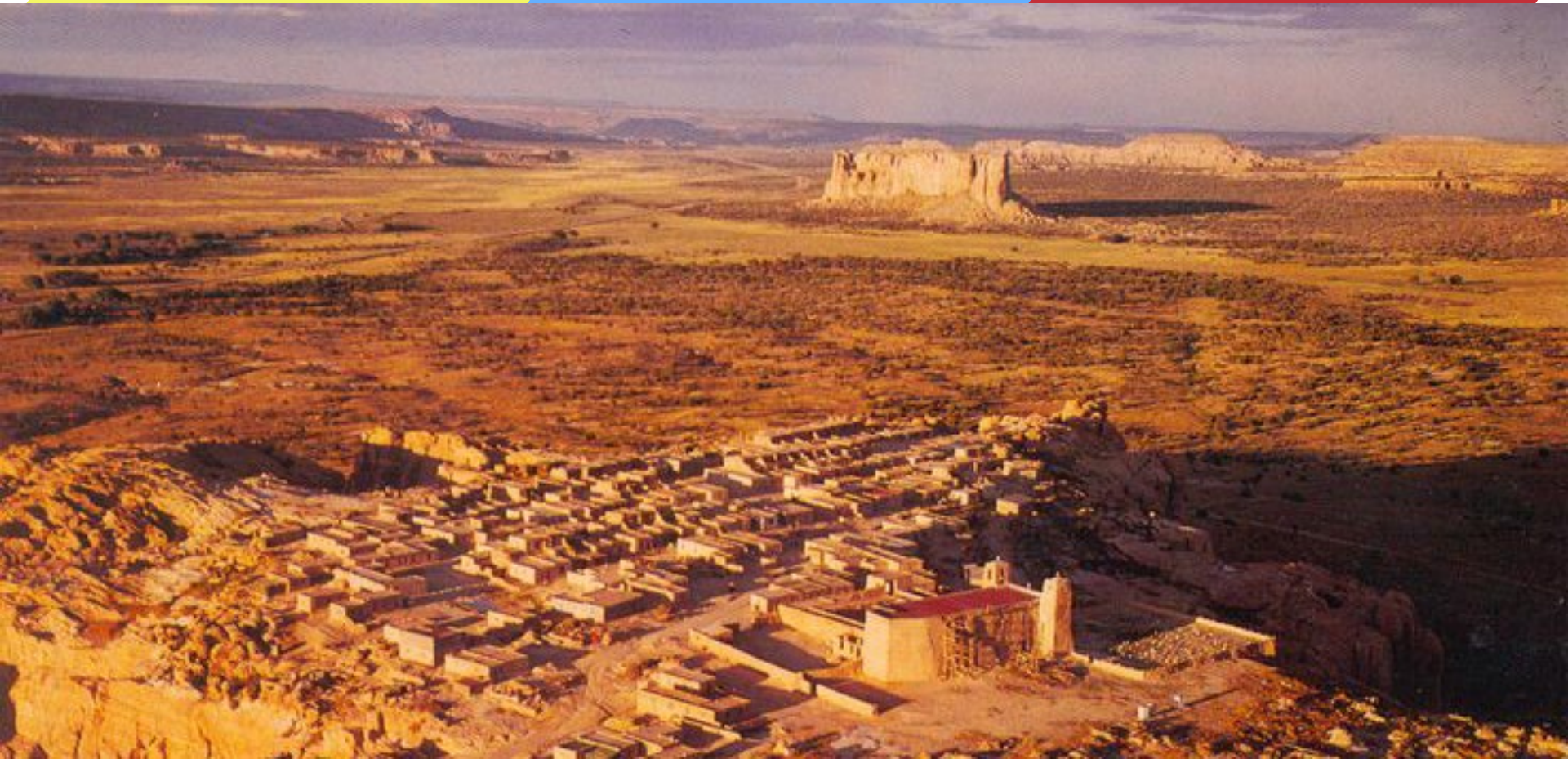


Western Area  
Power Administration





# Future Plans



With technical assistance from NREL, we are developing a RFQ/RFP to be able to vet a partner for a utility scale solar project (50+ MW)



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Special thank you to the  
DOE Office of Indian Energy!

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