

Fossil Energy and Carbon Management Tribal Working Group

October 8, 2024
Medora, North Dakota



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Fossil Energy and
Carbon Management



Fossil Energy and Carbon Management Tribal Working Group

Summary of Timeline

Together, the assembled tribal leaders, DOE Assistant Secretary Crabtree, FECM Staff, and USEA, collectively started the process of dialogue and communication to find common ground and a mutually beneficial working relationship, September 2022 in Las Vegas, NV.

In Las Vegas, the concept and idea of potentially developing a FECM Tribal Working Group was initiated by tribal leaders.

In March 2023, the tribal leaders met in Moab, UT and again in October 2023 in Santa Fe, NM to further develop the idea and worked with Assistant Secretary Crabtree on the Mission and Statement of Purpose.

Prior to today's meeting, we met in Jackson, WY in April 2024, to finalize the plans for Summer 2024 in preparation for the final rollout of the TWG today.

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Purpose

- To provide input, local knowledge, and expertise, and advise DOE FECM on the best ways to assist the Tribes' decarbonization efforts, as well as the utilization of their natural resources.
- To be implemented through regularly scheduled meetings and communication between member Tribes and DOE FECM senior leadership and technical staff.
- To conduct four meetings a year – three in person and one virtual. The option to call Special Meetings, either in person or virtual.

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Recommended Management & Governance Structure

- Two Co-Chairpersons (DOE & Tribal) and a Vice Chairperson/Secretary
- A part-time staff person or consultant

Operational Guidelines

- To be operated by consensus. The process of reaching a consensus
- Subcommittees, their roles and responsibilities
- Financial Sustainability
- Outreach and Communications

Charter & Bylaws

- Draft Charter distributed for review

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Suggested Annual Meetings Schedule 2025

- First Quarter 2025 (January-March) Washington D.C.
- Second Quarter 2025 (April-June) Western U.S./Indian Country
- Third Quarter 2025 (July-September) Western U.S./Indian Country
- Fourth Quarter 2025 (October-December) Virtual (Online via Zoom)

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Suggested Plan of Action: Short Term

- Familiarize themselves with the organizational structure of DOE's Office of FECM;
- Familiarize themselves with the mission, programs, grants, grant funding, and current and proposed budgets of the Office of FECM;
- Work with the Assistant Secretary and their staff on setting up virtual/in-person meetings over the first 6 months;
- By the end of 6 months, place the gathered information into an Indian Country/Tribal context;
- Work with the Assistant Secretary and their staff in understanding the history of the Office of FECM.

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Suggested Plan of Action: Long Term

- Work together to analyze and assess the information gathered over the first 6 months to meet over the next 6 months in person and virtually to make any suggestions to the Assistant Secretary as to Indian Country/Tribal specific future programming.

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Proposed Activities: 2024

- Late Summer/Fall Meeting, Western Carbon Management Forum
- 4-6 Tribes as Members of Working Group
- Schedule 6 Face to Face Meetings with individual Tribes (Summer 2024)
- Finalize TWG Charter and Governance

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Proposed Activities: 2025

- 4 Quarterly Meetings of the TWG (One in D.C., Two in Western U.S., One Virtual)
- 6-12 Tribes as Members of Working Group
- Continuance of Western Carbon Management Forum (Annually)



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Monitoring & Evaluation

- Regular discussions – at the 1st meeting of the year – of activities, reviews of previous year's accomplishments, development of Tribal priorities for next year
- Member surveys at each meeting
- Annual & Quarterly Reports