

Western Tribal Fossil Energy and Carbon Management Working Group

Background

- The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) - more than \$13 billion with eligibility to apply for billions in additional funding
- The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) - \$720 million in climate resilience and energy funding, plus hundreds of billions in tax credits
- The Creating Helpful Incentives to Produce Semiconductors (CHIPS) and Science Act - \$280 billion

Sufficient outreach and coordination are needed to ensure Tribal access to these funding and incentive opportunities.

Western Tribal Fossil Energy and Carbon Management Working Group

Purpose

1. To empower the Western Tribes with fossil energy and carbon management resources to gain full access to the available funding and incentive opportunities.
2. To accelerate the Western Tribes' pivot towards clean energy while developing their vast energy and carbon management potential.

The Working Group will provide input, local knowledge, and expertise, and advise the Federal Government on the best ways to assist Western Tribes' decarbonization efforts, as well as the utilization of their natural resources.

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Initial Objective

To develop an Action Plan to formulate

- the purpose, goals and objectives of the Working Group
- a plan of the Working Group's planned activities for a short (6 months) and long term (12 months),
- required resources, and
- recommendations for the management and governance structure to ensure sustainability.

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Initial Action Items

1. To conduct a series of in-person meetings with representatives of the Western Tribes to discuss issues of interest, purpose and objectives, and any other topics relevant to the establishment of the Working Group.
2. Produce a comprehensive Action Plan for the Western Tribal Fossil Energy and Carbon Management Working Group compiling the information collected during discussion meetings with the Western Tribes.
3. Present the Action Plan at the next meeting of the Western Tribes Working Group to take place in the Summer – Fall 2024.
4. Update the Action plan based on the feedback provided by representatives of the Western Tribes received during the Summer – Fall 2024 meeting.

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Longer Term Goals and Activities

Goal: We hope this collaboration will support the formation of Tribal energy offices; responsible development of energy resources and associated industrial production; and foster sustainable economic development for the Tribes while addressing Tribal sovereignty, self-determination, the benefits and impacts of retiring and repurposing energy assets, and climate change.

2024 activities (Potential)

- 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)
- Create Draft Potential Budget of TWG
- Finalize TWG Charter and Governance

2025 activities (Potential):

- 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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