



DIVISION OF ENERGY AND MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

2024

TRIBAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND GRANTS REPORT



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
OFFICE OF TRUST SERVICES

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# DIVISION OF ENERGY AND MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

DEMD Branches provide the best technical assistance to federally recognized Tribes, including Alaska Native Villages to identify and implement opportunities to maximize their revenue stream and resource development

## RENEWABLE AND DISTRIBUTED GENERATION

The Branch of Renewable and Distributed Generation is a team of engineers, economists, and business development specialists committed to helping Tribes formulate and implement energy development strategies that best fit with their unique circumstances and long-term visions.



## FLUID MINERALS

The Branch of Fluid Minerals staff are experienced, highly-trained staff to assist Tribes and individual Indians in evaluating, understanding, and capitalizing on their energy and mineral resources. We can also connect your project with our extensive network of industry contacts, professionals, academic institutions, and government agencies.

## SOLID MINERALS

The Branch of Solid Minerals is a team of geologists and engineers that serve as technical advisors to Tribes and individual Indian landowners throughout the mineral resource development process. We assist with building tribal business capacity so that Tribes can successfully compete for investment dollars and potential business partners in the marketplace.



## NIOGEMS

### GEOTECHNICAL DATA SERVICES

The Branch of Geotechnical Data Services (GDS) team provides integrated support to Tribes and federal agencies. Services include subsurface structural characterization to develop fluid minerals and geothermal energy resources, analyzing regional fluid mineral and geothermal resources to support feasibility of resource development, providing related mapping services to Tribes, spatial analysis in support of electric vehicle infrastructure corridor siting and strategic planning, and other services.

NIOGEMS was developed in the early 1990s to consolidate various natural resource, realty, and geo-technical data into a single management software application. It is a map-oriented computer application that provides Tribes and federal users with access to natural resource data on Indian and non-Indian owned lands, both in and around reservations, to track and make decisions on leasing, developing, and managing energy and mineral resources.

## BUSINESS SERVICES

The Branch of Business Services supports Tribal economic development goals by monetizing Tribes' resources by creating strategic, comprehensive income-generating portfolios through financial and economic analysis, and by advising Tribes on business structures, foundational infrastructures, best-suited for project financing options and new venture partnerships.



## PROGRAM SERVICES FOR TRIBES

### GRANTS

- » Energy and Mineral Development Program (EMDP) Grant
- » Tribal Energy Development Capacity (TEDC) Grant

### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- » Resource Analysis
- » Economic Planning And Analysis
- » Technical Advisement
- » Grant Assistance
- » Project Planning
- » And More

### BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECT SUPPORT

- » On site assistance and support to develop resource options and negotiate agreement terms
- » Business Planning, Entity Formation, and Project Management
- » Business Partnering, Deal Structuring and Evaluation
- » Business Plan development
- » Economic and Financial Modeling
- » Marketing Collateral
- » Tradeshow Graphics
- » Design Assistance
- » Bring project online and generate revenue

The DEMD works closely with Tribes to develop understanding of the potential of specific energy and mineral resources, and to provide support through successful project completion. These services include working with Tribal staff to identify the location of resources, create resource development technical and business plans, structure business agreements and negotiate terms offered by developers, and provide necessary capacity support through project completion and revenue generation. Managerial and business support and potential land use impacts and environmental concerns are incorporated.

These services assist Tribes in building sovereignty through capacity building and sustainable economic development. The DEMD delivers projects to Tribes that incorporate solutions for their existing and anticipated energy, mineral and economic demands. These services are delivered based on Tribal requests across all energy and mineral commodities and resource development phases. For example, DEMD technical assistance and grant funding aids Tribes in high energy-cost areas to evaluate their renewable energy resources to determine if lower energy costs can be achieved through renewable energy development.

The DEMD provides meaningful technical assistance (TA) directly to Tribes and administers the TEDC and EMDP competitive grant programs for Tribes seeking to develop, market, and regulate their energy and mineral resources. TA is comprehensive in nature and may include technical and business advisement in the areas of renewable energy project development, geology, mining engineering, petroleum engineering, geophysics, feasibility studies, market analyses, and economics to Tribes and Tribal individuals.

# ACTIVE GRANT AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS MAY 2024

## 118

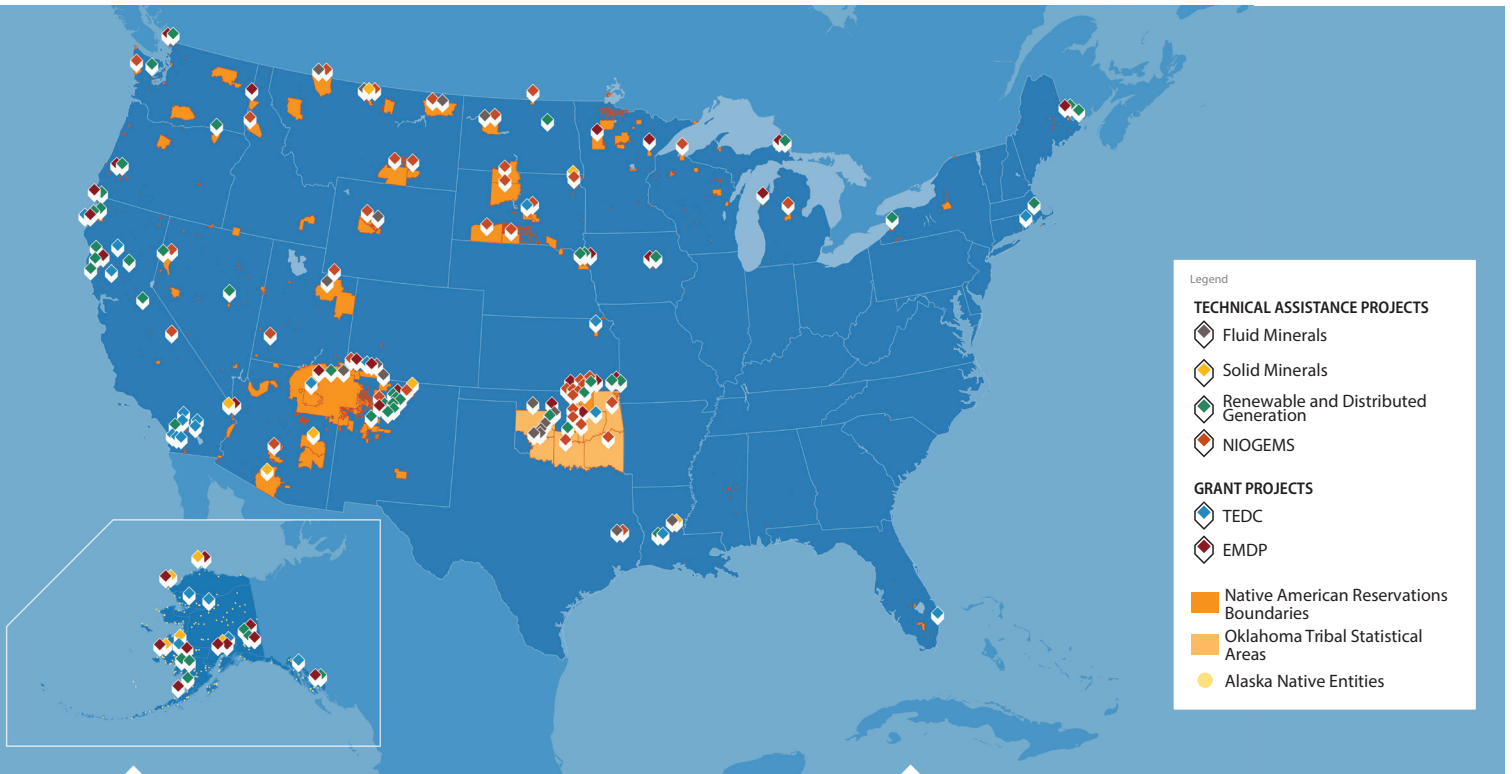
ACTIVE GRANT AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS

## \$20.3MM

GRANTS FUNDED TO TRIBES

## 87

TRIBES SERVED



Legend

**TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS**

- Fluid Minerals
- Solid Minerals
- Renewable and Distributed Generation
- NIOGEMS

**GRANT PROJECTS**

- TEDC
- EMDP

Native American Reservations Boundaries

Oklahoma Tribal Statistical Areas

Alaska Native Entities

**62**  
EMDP Grants

**42**  
Renewable & Distributed Generation

**7**  
Fluid Minerals

**13**  
Solid Minerals

**78**  
Reservations Supported in NIOGEMS

**4**  
Trainings

**24**  
Federal Employees Trained

**13**  
Tribal Installations

**10**  
Trained Tribal Members

**27**  
TEDC Grants

Business Services

**35**  
Technical Assistance Projects

**16**  
Renewable & Distributed Generation

**11**  
Fluid Minerals

**9**  
Geotechnical Data Services

**13**  
Solid Minerals

**19**  
Business Services



## BRANCH OF RENEWABLE AND DISTRIBUTED GENERATION

The Branch of Renewable and Distributed Generation provides American Indian Tribes and Native Alaskan Villages technical assistance and consultation to develop renewable energy and distributed generation projects on their land.

Renewable and distributed energy development represents an opportunity for Tribes to utilize their local resources in support of creating a sustainable economy. However, there is no one size fits all solution, and identifying the most effective options can be a challenging process.

The branch can assist with the front-end phases of energy development so that Tribes can secure financing. These phases of energy project development include:

- » Phase 1: Planning & Feasibility
- » Phase 2: Detailed Scoping & Refinement
- » Phase 3: Secure Contracts, Permits & Financing



49

Tribes Served



42

Energy and Mineral  
Development Program  
Grants



16

Technical Assistance  
Projects, covering a wide  
range of work scope



## BRANCH OF FLUID MINERALS - OIL, NATURAL GAS, AND HELIUM

The Fluid Minerals Branch focuses on building relationships with Tribal Councils, stakeholders, and Tribal Members. Without trusting relationships, the technical evaluations of our engineers and geoscientists are muted. DEMD focuses on responsible development of natural resources and promoting establishment of sustainable and self-sufficient tribal economies and increased revenue and job creation.



7

Tribes Served



7

Energy and Mineral  
Development Program  
Grants



11

Technical Assistance  
Projects



6

IMDA  
Negotiations



## BRANCH OF SOLID MINERALS

The Branch of Solid Minerals works with Tribes and individual Indian landowners to develop the mineral resources on their trust land. We can help to determine the quality and quantity of mineral resources on your land and assess the best uses and practices for your land's mineral resources.

Our team then helps to market your resources to potential partners and aids with connecting and negotiating Tribes and individual Indian landowners with well-established, well-financed industry partners.



22

Tribes Served



13

Energy and Mineral  
Development Program  
Grants



13

Technical Assistance  
Projects



2

Solid Mineral  
Agreements



### BRANCH OF BUSINESS SERVICES

The Branch of Business Services (BSB) ensures each Tribe's long-term plans are well developed and in full alignment with Tribal values and economic development goals. The BSB's expert team of business consulting professionals advise Tribes in the evaluation of new business structures and the adoption of critical business legal infrastructure. The team also guides Tribes through the process of establishing new ventures that facilitate the development of energy and mineral projects while focusing on generating new jobs and income throughout Indian Country.



27

Tribal Energy Development Capacity Awards



19

Technical Assistance Projects



### BRANCH OF NATIONAL INDIAN OIL & GAS, ENERGY, AND MINERAL SYSTEM (NIOGEMS)

The National Indian Oil & Gas, Energy and Minerals System (NIOGEMS) is exclusively available to Tribal offices and Tribal-supporting federal entities including the Office of the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs (AS-IA), the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Office of Natural Resources Revenue (ONRR), Orphaned Wells Program Office, and the Appraisal and Valuation Services Office (AVSO).

NIOGEMS staff provides user training and support. The software, data, training, and support are all provided at no cost to a requesting Tribe or federal office, bureau, or agency that serves American Indian and Alaska Native communities.



78

Tribal land bases in NIOGEMS



4

Trainings this FY



13

Tribal Installations



10

Tribal Employees Trained so far this FY



24

Federal Employees Trained so far this FY



### BRANCH OF GEOTECHNICAL DATA SERVICES

The Branch of Geotechnical Data Services (GDS) provides support for the Division of Energy and Mineral Development's (DEMD) work on Tribal grant and technical assistance projects. To assist Tribes and individual Indian landowners with energy and economic development goals, GDS works closely with each of the DEMD Branches to research and develop geographic information systems (GIS) datasets and cartographic (map) products that show energy demand, existing infrastructure, and energy generation potential.



9

Technical Assistance Projects



20,000+

"Digitally corrected, previously unmapped lease and tract ownership land pieces" so far this FY



2,000

square miles of 3D Seismic Data



10,200

miles of 2D Seismic Data



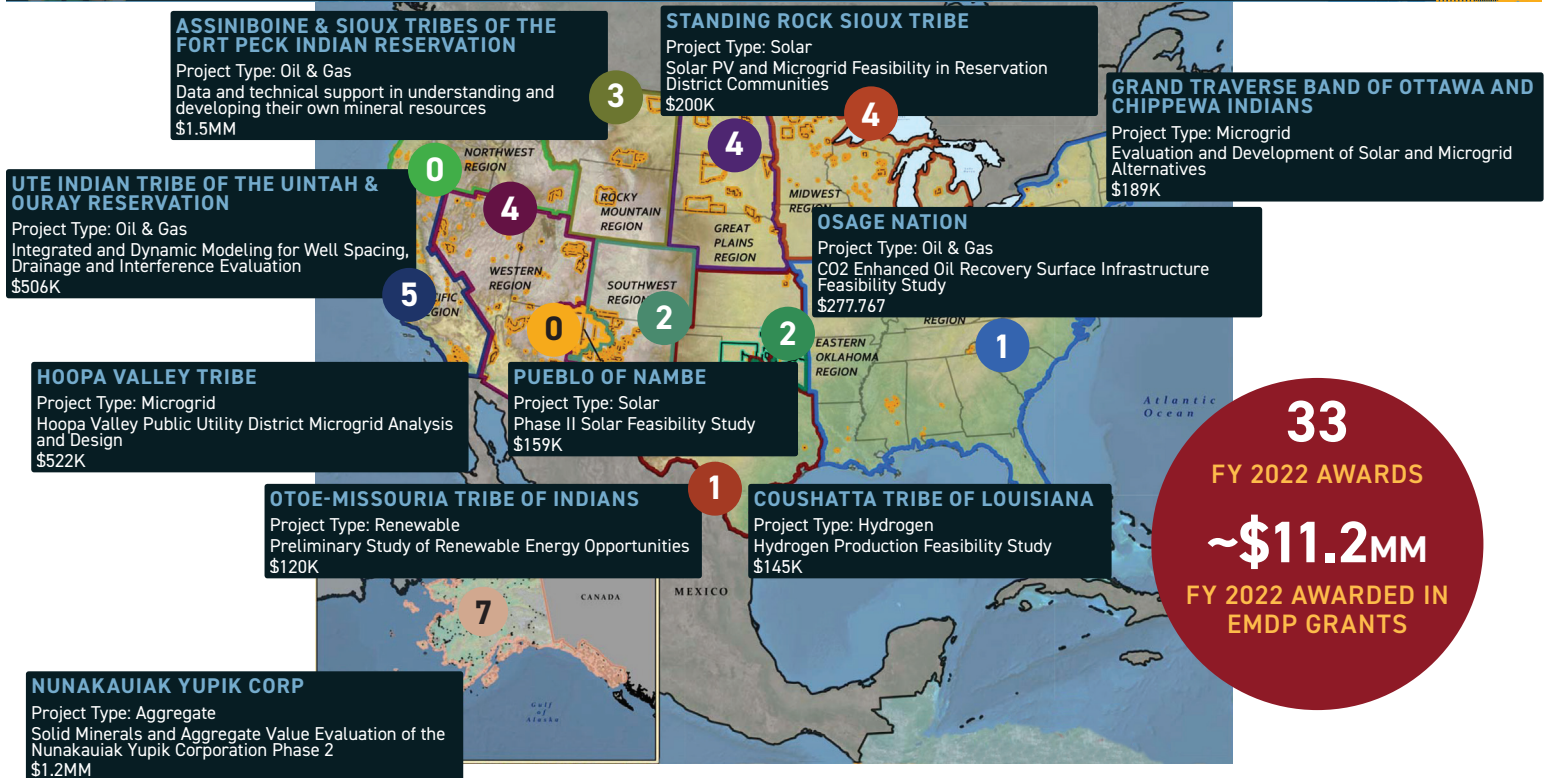
\$258MM

Re-Acquisition Value

# TRIBAL GRANT PROGRAMS FY 2022

PROJECTS FUNDED IN FY 2022

## Energy and Mineral Development Program (EMDP) Projects



**33**  
FY 2022 AWARDS  
**~\$11.2MM**  
FY 2022 AWARDED IN EMDP GRANTS

PROJECTS FUNDED IN FY 2022

## Tribal Energy Development Capacity (TEDC) Projects



**19**  
FY 2022 AWARDS  
**~\$2.7MM**  
FY 2022 AWARDED IN TEDC GRANTS

# Success Stories



## SOLID MINERALS

### FORT INDEPENDENCE PAIUTE TRIBE

Independence, California

DEMD Solid Minerals and Business Services Teams assisted the Fort Independence Paiute Tribe in the establishment of an aggregate business operation branded as Grinding Rocks Aggregate (GRA). GRA is operating in a high demand market with limited competition for aggregates sales. This severe shortage of aggregate sources is expected to persist, due to the lack of mining operations in the 200-mile-long Owens Valley. The Tribe is capitalizing on a synergistic infrastructure development plan with assistance from four federal agencies, resulting in internal projects that will yield over 1 million tons of aggregate.

Economic analyses for the first five years project an Internal Rate of Return greater than 100%. In years two through five, projected net profits amount to more than \$3 million per year. GRA won a bid with the Los Angeles Division of Water and Power to provide ~\$3.5MM of aggregate material over 3 years, a \$10.89MM contract value. DEMD assisted with new land acquisition negotiations, which are ongoing. The Business Services Branch helped GRA to vertically integrate and start up a trucking business to service lucrative hauling contracts that GRA requires to deliver aggregate. Last year DEMD awarded the Tribe funds for an EMDP aggregate assessment grant to firm up future aggregate resources for GRA plant feed.

## RENEWABLE AND DISTRIBUTED GENERATION

### PUEBLO OF SANTA ANA

Santa Ana Pueblo, NM

The Pueblo of Santa Ana was awarded \$93,645 through the FY 2020 EMDP grant to pursue a solar-microgrid feasibility study. Through the grant, the Pueblo successfully analyzed the solar resources, electric consumption, energy infrastructure, and available land to identify feasible projects the Pueblo could pursue. The study, which has since been completed, gathered electric data from eight of Santa Ana's electric accounts and found that the Pueblo purchases approximately 18 million kWh from Public Service Company of New Mexico (PNM). That understanding of the Pueblo's energy usage was used to help identify facility-scale project alternatives that could offset the usage of those facilities. While several facility-scale projects were identified as feasible, it became apparent that community-scale projects present the best opportunity for the Pueblo to use solar PV to reduce its environmental footprint while decreasing energy expenses.

In March 2024, the U.S. Department of Interior, Tribal Electrification Program (TEP) announced \$72 million in funding for 21 Tribal electrification projects. The Pueblo of Santa Ana was among the Tribes selected for award, and the EMDP solar-microgrid study significantly influenced the Pueblo's TEP application. With the \$14,500,000 TEP funding, the Pueblo will construct a community solar project that will generate approximately 12.6 million kWh per year. This will reduce the electric costs and will offset the usage of about 1,813 homes providing the Pueblo with zero-emission energy.

## SOLID MINERALS

### CHEMEHUEVI TRIBE

Havasu Lake, California

With EMDP grant assistance from DEMD, the Chemehuevi Tribe has discovered a significant new critical mineral resource on the Reservation. A drilling and surface sampling project was completed in February 2023, resulting in the discovery of high-grade manganese over minable thicknesses and with good continuity. Preliminary metallurgical leach testing returned very favorable results, suggesting ores could be processed using inexpensive methods.

There are currently no producing manganese mines in the U.S., and manganese is a fundamental component of electric vehicle (EV) batteries, comprising a larger content than lithium in a typical EV battery. Based on the Biden administration's Executive Order 14017, there is substantial support in Washington DC for this type of domestic critical minerals operation. The Tribe is preparing another EMDP grant proposal to continue exploration of this unique find.


























































## FLUID MINERALS

### SOUTHERN UTE PROJECTS

Ignacio, Colorado

The DEMD awarded a 2020 EMDP grant to the Southern Ute. This grant studied and modeled the feasibility to capture natural methane emissions from coal outcrops on the Reservation. From this work, a test was conducted, and the initial results are positive. Upon further observations and results, this grant will result in an expansion of the project, capture of one of the most potent greenhouse gases, and significant economic benefit to the Tribe.

# SERVICES PROVIDED TO TRIBES

Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma			
Ahtna Inc., Alaska Native Regional Corporation			
Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas			
Apache Tribe of Oklahoma			
Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation, Montana			
Bad River Band of the Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians of the Bad River Reservation, Wisconsin			
Bay Mills Indian Community, Michigan			
Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria, California			
Blackfeet Tribe of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation of Montana			
Bristol Bay Native Corp., Alaska Native Regional Corporation			
Caddo Nation of Oklahoma			
Calista Corp., Alaska Native Regional Corporation			
Chemehuevi Indian Tribe of the Chemehuevi Reservation, California			
Cherokee Nation			
Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, Oklahoma			
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe of the Cheyenne River Reservation, South Dakota			
Chippewa Cree Indians of the Rocky Boy's Reservation, Montana			
Chitina - Community Corp.			
Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Oklahoma			
Coeur D'Alene Tribe			
Colorado River Indian Tribes of the Colorado River Indian Reservation, Arizona and California			
Comanche Nation, Oklahoma			
Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation			
Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon			
Cook Inlet Region Inc., Alaska Native Regional Corporation			
Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana			
Crow Creek Sioux Tribe of the Crow Creek Reservation, South Dakota			
Crow Tribe of Montana			
Delaware Nation, Oklahoma			
Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma			
Eklutna - Community Corp.			
Elk Valley Rancheria, California			
Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe of South Dakota			
Fort Belknap Indian Community of the Fort Belknap Reservation of Montana			
Fort Independence Indian Community of Paiute Indians of the Fort Independence Reservation, California			
Fort Mojave Indian Tribe of Arizona, California & Nevada			
Fort Sill Apache Tribe of Oklahoma			
Gila River Indian Community of the Gila River Indian Reservation, Arizona			
Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, Michigan			
Hoopla Valley Tribe, California			
Hopi Tribe of Arizona			
Hughes Village			
Iipay Nation of Santa Ysabel, California			
Inupiat Community of the Arctic Slope			
Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma			
Jicarilla Apache Nation, New Mexico			



BUSINESS SERVICES







































































FLUID MINERALS



SOLID MINERALS



# SERVICES PROVIDED TO TRIBES

Kaw Nation, Oklahoma				
Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma				
Kiowa Indian Tribe of Oklahoma				
Kuskokwim Corp.				
Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin				
Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Michigan				
Lower Brule Sioux Tribe of the Lower Brule Reservation, South Dakota				
Lummi Tribe of the Lummi Reservation				
Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin				
Mentasta Traditional Council				
Mesa Grande Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of the Mesa Grande Reservation, California				
Mescalero Apache Tribe of the Mescalero Reservation, New Mexico				
Miami Tribe of Oklahoma				
Minnesota Chippewa Tribe - Fond du Lac Band				
Minnesota Chippewa Tribe - White Earth Band				
Modoc Nation				
Morongo Band of Mission Indians, California				
Muckleshoot Indian Tribe				
Native Village of Elim				
Native Village of Port Heiden				
Navajo Nation, Arizona, New Mexico & Utah				
Navajo Nation, Arizona, New Mexico & Utah				
Nez Perce Tribe				
Nooksack Indian Tribe				
Northern Cheyenne Tribe of the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation, Montana				
Oglala Sioux Tribe				
Omaha Tribe of Nebraska				
Organized Village of Kwethluk				
Otoe-Missouria Tribe of Indians, Oklahoma				
Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma				
Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah - Kanosh Band				
Paskenta Band of Nornlaki Indians of California				
Passamaquoddy Tribe - Indian Township				
Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma				
Pechanga Band of Indians				
Penobscot Nation				
Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma				
Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma				
Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation				
Pueblo of Isleta, New Mexico				
Pueblo of Jemez, New Mexico				
Pueblo of Nambe, New Mexico				
Pueblo of Picuris, New Mexico				
Pueblo of San Ildefonso, New Mexico				
Pueblo of Sandia, New Mexico				
Pueblo of Santa Ana, New Mexico				
Pueblo of Zia, New Mexico				
Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe of the Pyramid Lake Reservation, Nevada				
Quapaw Nation				
Quinault Indian Nation				






















































RENEWABLE AND DISTRIBUTED GENERATION



NIOGEMS

# SERVICES PROVIDED TO TRIBES

Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians, Minnesota				
Reno-Sparks Indian Colony, Nevada				
Rosebud Sioux Tribe of the Rosebud Indian Reservation, South Dakota				
Round Valley Indian Tribes, Round Valley Reservation, California				
Sac & Fox Nation, Oklahoma				
Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan				
Santo Domingo Pueblo				
Seminole Tribe of Florida				
Seneca Nation of Indians				
Seneca-Cayuga Nation				
Shinnecock Indian Nation				
Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate of the Lake Traverse Reservation, South Dakota				
Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians, California				
Southern Ute Indian Tribe of the Southern Ute Reservation, Colorado				
Spirit Lake Tribe, North Dakota				
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe of North & South Dakota				
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe of North & South Dakota				
The Chickasaw Nation				
The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma				
The Muscogee (Creek) Nation				
The Osage Nation				
The Seminole Nation of Oklahoma				
Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation, North Dakota				
Tohono O'odham Nation of Arizona				
Toksook Bay - Community Corp.				
Tonkawa Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma				
Tule River Indian Tribe of the Tule River Reservation, California				
Tunica-Biloxi Indian Tribe				
Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians of North Dakota				
Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah & Ouray Reservation, Utah				
Ute Mountain Ute Tribe				
Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah)				
Wichita and Affiliated Tribes (Wichita, Keechi, Waco & Tawakonie), Oklahoma				
Wind River Inter-Tribal Council				
Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska				
Wiyot Tribe, California				
Wyandotte Nation				
Yankton Sioux Tribe of South Dakota				

 BUSINESS SERVICES

 FLUID MINERALS

 SOLID MINERALS

 RENEWABLE AND DISTRIBUTED GENERATION

 NIOGEMS

To request additional information on the summary Tribal grant activities included in this report, please email BIA's Division of Energy and Mineral Development at [demd@bia.gov](mailto:demd@bia.gov).

### GRANTS NOTICE

EMDP & TEDC grant notices are posted annually and are accompanied by online webinars and Q&A sessions. To attend and learn more about these grants.

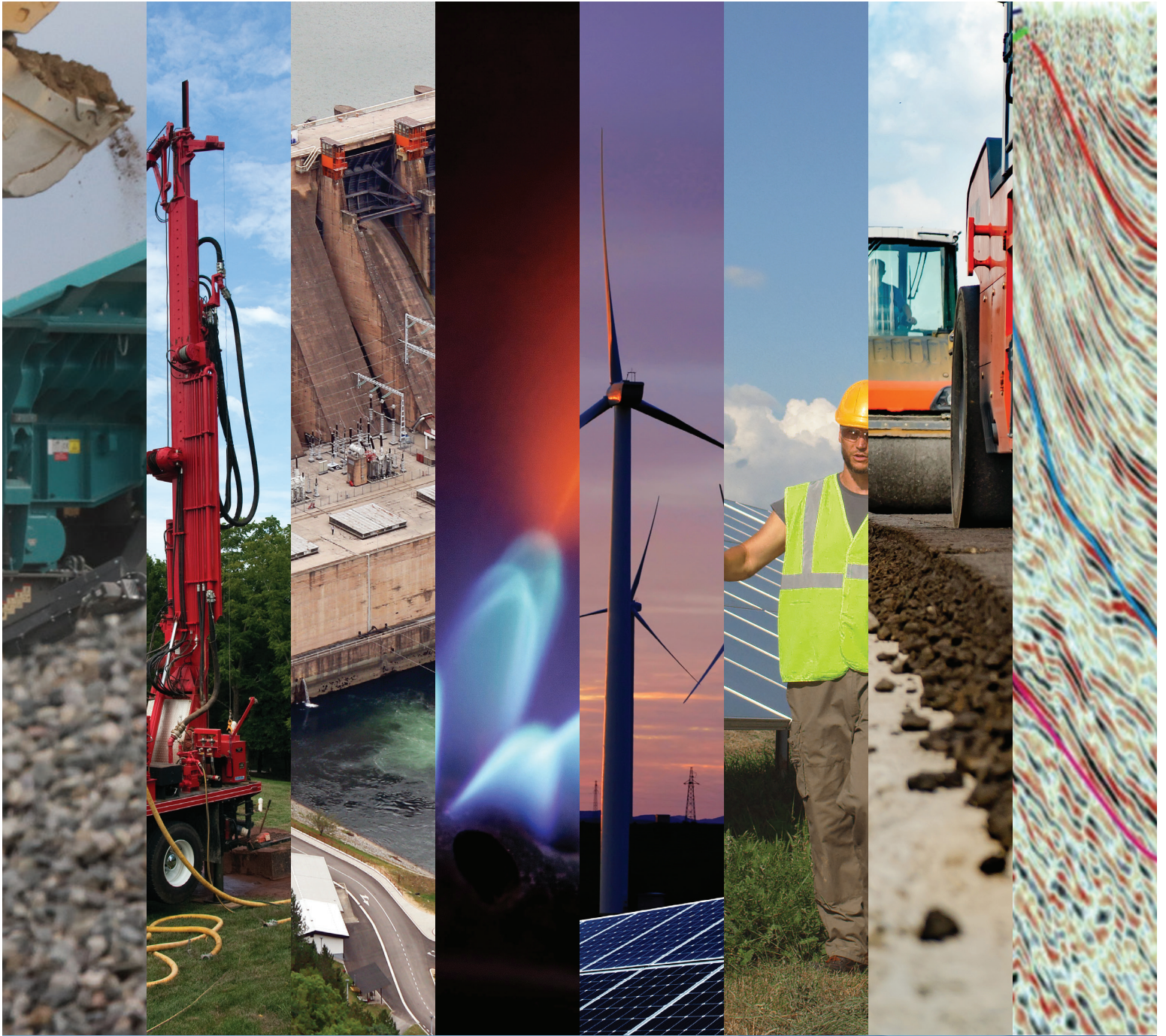


### NIOGEMS NOTICE

DEMD administers the National Indian Oil & Gas, Energy, and Mineral Systems (NIOGEMS) application to facilitate energy and minerals development on Indian lands.

Email: [ia\\_niogems\\_helpdesk@bia.gov](mailto:ia_niogems_helpdesk@bia.gov)





**DIVISION OF ENERGY AND MINERAL DEVELOPMENT**

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