

DOE OFFICE OF INDIAN ENERGY

# Foundational Courses

## Energy Basics

### STRATEGIC ENERGY PLANNING

Presented by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

Office of  
Indian Energy

# Course Outline

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## What we will cover...

- About the DOE Office of Indian Energy Education Initiative
  - Course Introduction
    - What is Strategic Energy Planning
    - Developing a Strategic Energy Plan
  - Key Aspects of Successful Planning
  - Additional Information & Resources
-

# Introduction

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Indian Energy Policy & Programs is responsible for assisting Tribes with energy planning and development, infrastructure, energy costs, and electrification of Indian lands and homes.

As part of this commitment, and on behalf of DOE, the Office of Indian Energy is leading *education* and *capacity building* efforts in Indian Country.

# ■ Training Program Objective & Approach

Foundational courses were created to give tribal leaders and professionals background information in renewable energy development that:

- *Present foundational information on strategic energy planning, grid basics, and renewable energy technologies*
- *Break down the components of the project development process on the commercial and community scale*
- *Explain how the various financing structures can be practical for projects on tribal lands*

# Presenters on Strategic Energy Planning

**Lesley Kaboutie, Kaboutie Consulting**  
[ljkaboutie@gmail.com](mailto:ljkaboutie@gmail.com)

As a member of the Crow Tribe of Indians in Montana, Lesley Kaboutie received her undergraduate degree from Stanford and a Master's in non-profit management from Regis University. She brings 20 years experience working with Tribes and has her own consulting firm: Kaboutie Consulting. Ms. Kaboutie consults with Tribes in the areas of education, healthcare, technology, energy, environment, and community development. Kaboutie Consulting is a Native, woman-owned business.



# Presenters on Strategic Energy Planning

## Alexander Dane, NREL

[alexander.dane@nrel.gov](mailto:alexander.dane@nrel.gov)

Alexander Dane is a project leader at the Colorado-based National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) where he specializes in strategic energy planning and sustainable community development solutions for local governments. With graduate degrees in urban planning and public administration from the University of Colorado, Mr. Dane brings a broad perspective to energy design with community and environmental sensitivities. Currently, he works with a number of tribal governments in the American West and Alaska, implementing renewable projects and engaging in long-range planning efforts.



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# What is Strategic Energy Planning?

And what does it do for you?

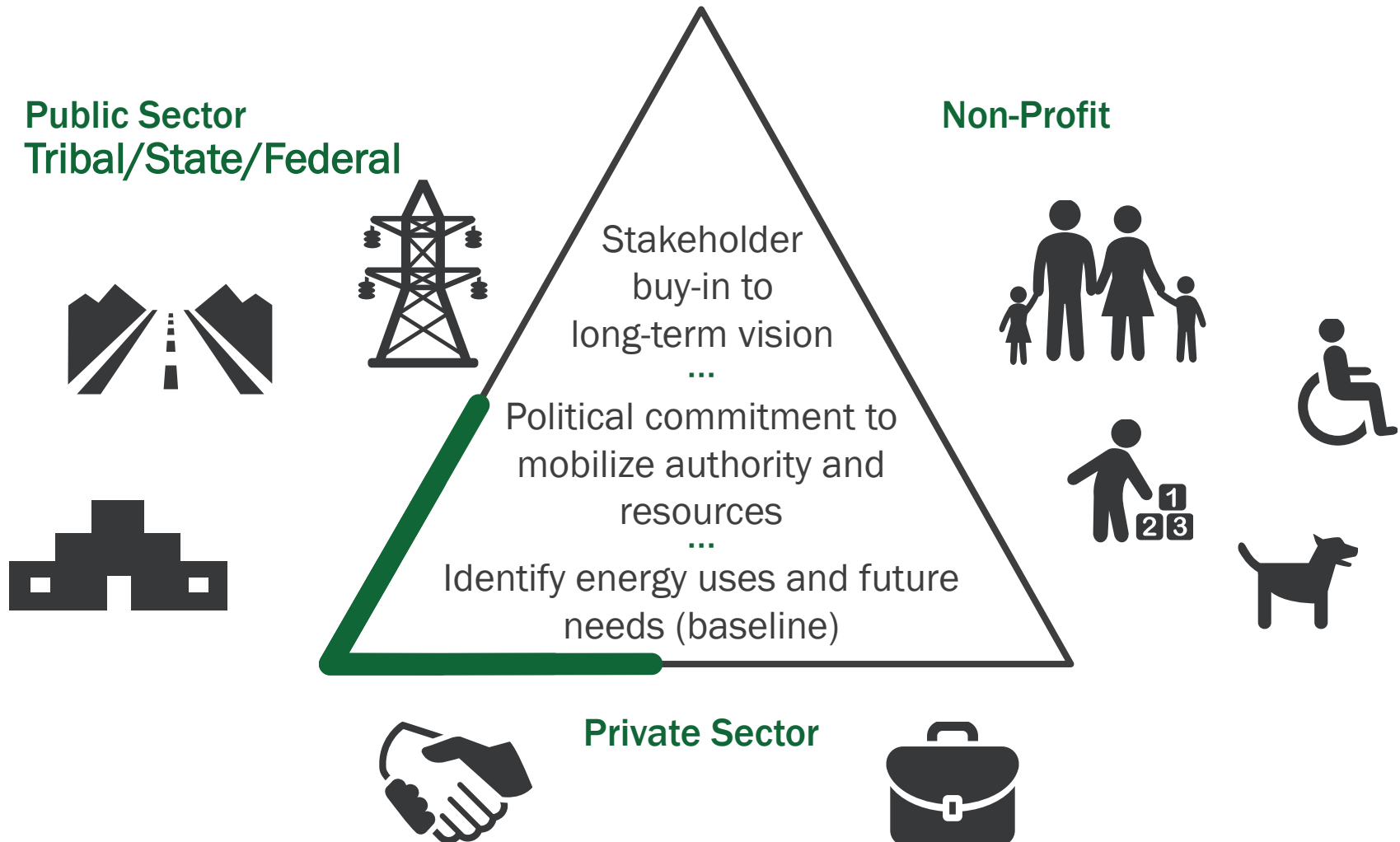


- Brings desired energy future into clear focus
- Considers current reality and leverages local resources
- Considers hurdles/challenges before you reach them
- Maps out efficient path to achieve your desired energy future
- Clarifies progress indicators
- Documents the game plan for short- and long-term success



# What Makes Energy Planning “Strategic”?

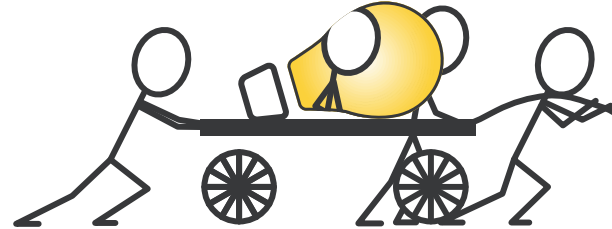
## Inclusive Energy Planning Process



# Strategic Energy Planning: Leadership Team



vs.



Not just people with the “right” idea, but those committed to the long-term task with personal and political influence

## ✓ Include

- Individuals with authority to direct resources
- Individuals with a passion for the “destination”
- Individuals with influence in the community and administrative abilities to keep the project alive
- Individuals with the technical ability
- Individuals who can “tell the story”

## ✗ Avoid

- Exclusively political appointees
- Exclusively technical staff
- Exclusively implementers

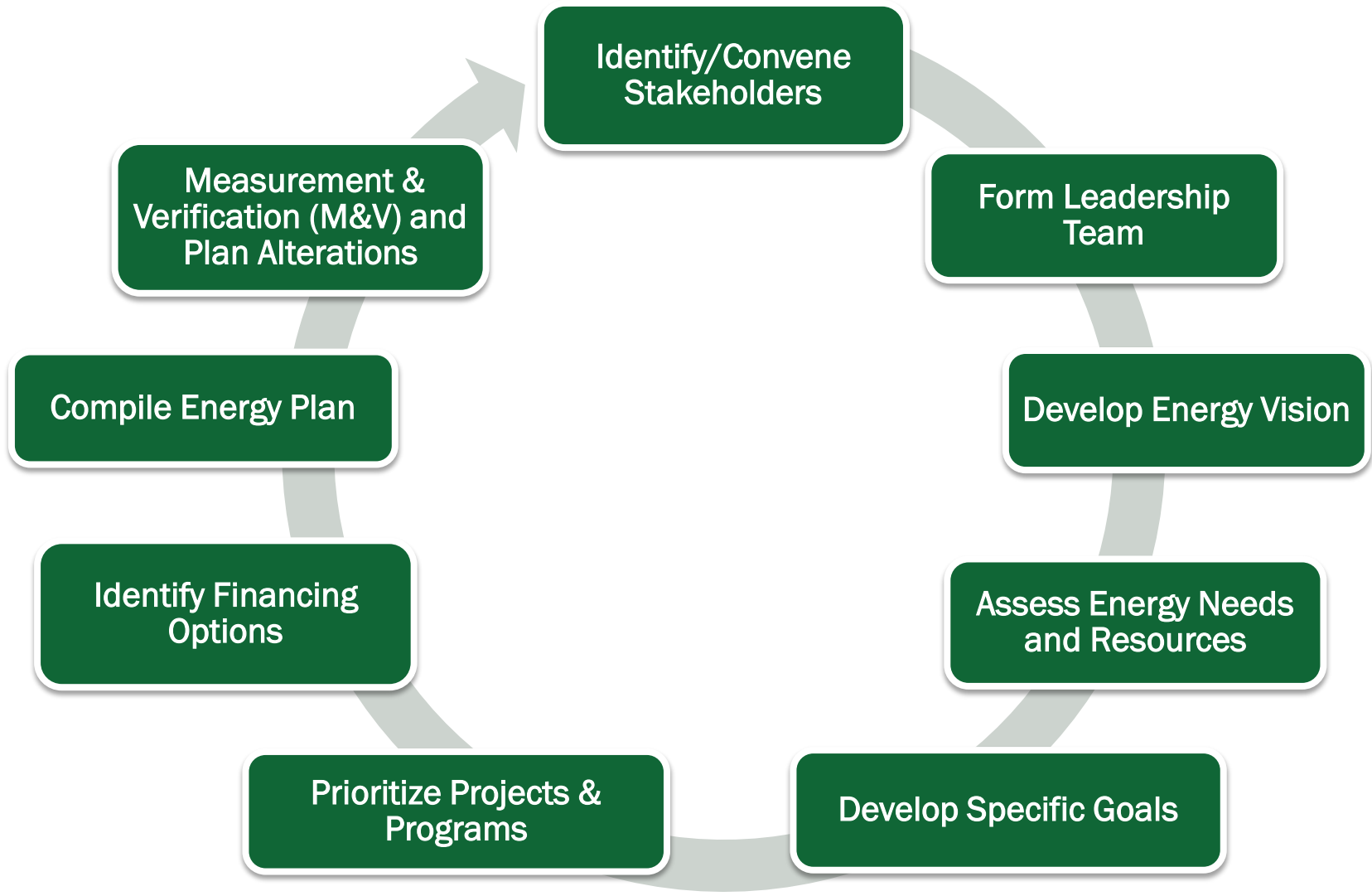
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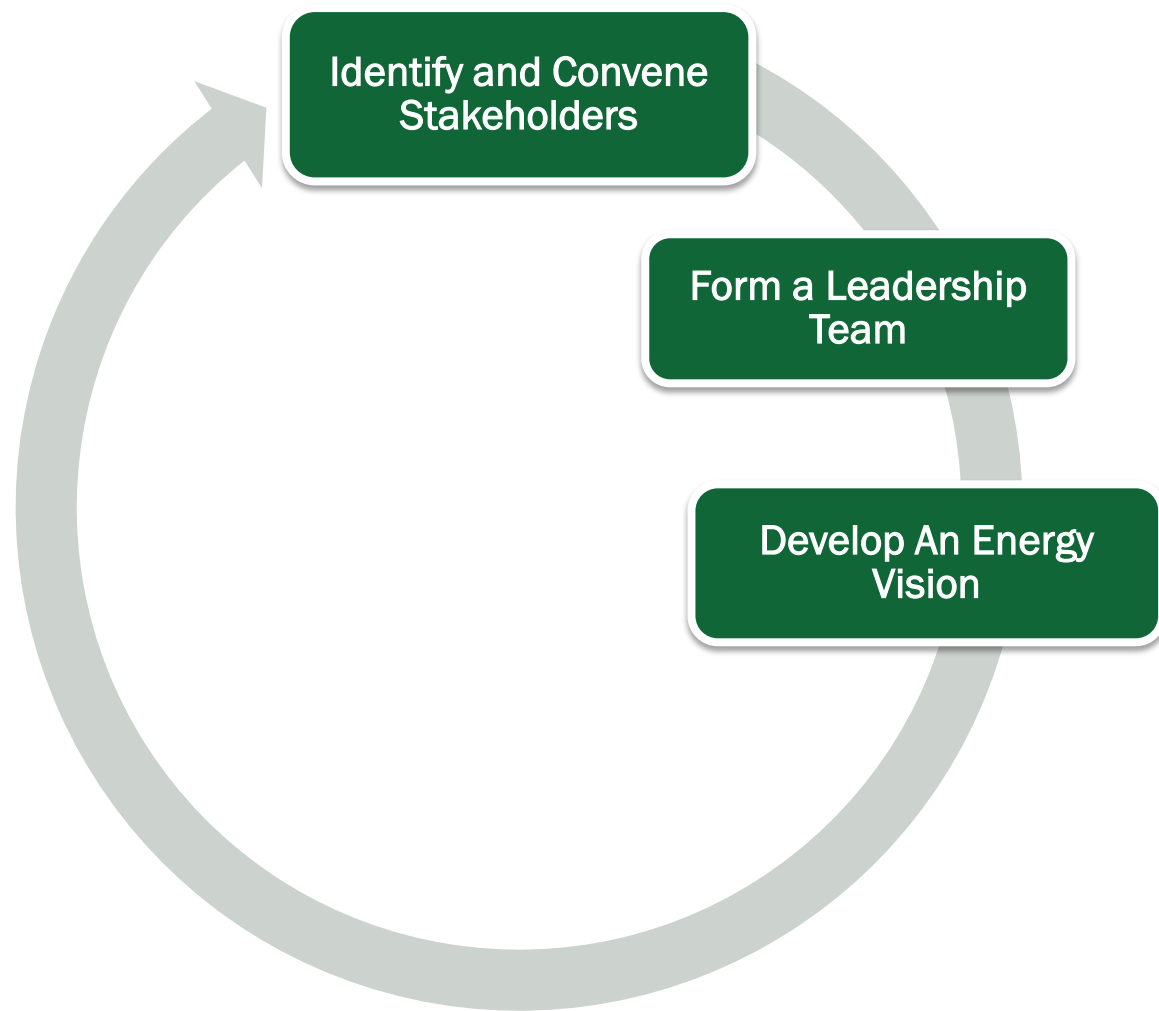
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# Steps in Strategic Energy Planning



# Strategic Energy Planning: First Steps



# First Steps: Identify and Convene Stakeholders

- Tribal Members
- Tribal Council
- Tribal Government
- Tribal Utilities
- Tribal Enterprises
- Large Energy Users
- Local Utilities

**Key success component:  
Identify and select an  
energy “champion” to  
shepherd the process**





# First Steps: Form a Leadership Team

## Draw from the stakeholders:

- Tribal council member(s)
- Tribal government executives
- Tribal member representative(s)
- Tribal enterprise leader(s)



# First Steps: Develop an Energy Vision

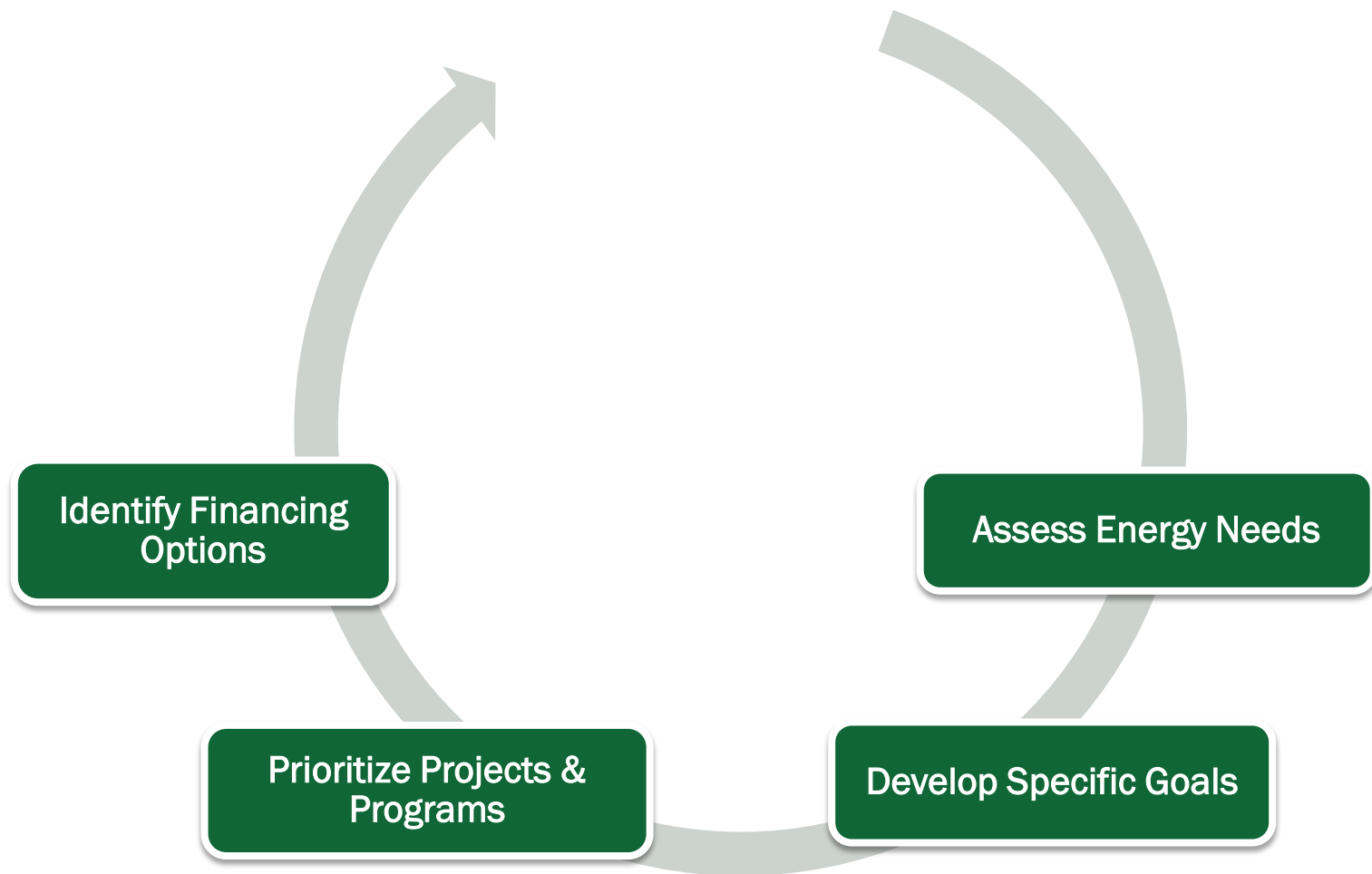
## Common objectives, such as:

- Increase and ensure energy reliability
- Minimize environmental impacts
- Diversify energy supply
- Use local, renewable resources
- Strengthen, support economic development
- Build workforce/jobs
- Ensure energy affordability
- Generate revenue for Tribe
- Energy security/self-sufficiency
- Off-grid electrification
- Save money (offset energy costs)
- Keep money in Tribe
- Stabilize energy costs for Tribe and tribal members





# Strategic Energy Planning: Priorities & Decisions



# Priorities & Decisions: Assess Energy Needs

## Document the community baseline:

- Determine energy use by “sector” including government, residential, school, commercial
- Use available tools:
  - Energy audits
  - EPA Portfolio Manager (non-residential buildings)
- Forecast future load
  - New housing
  - New government facilities
  - New/expanded enterprises
- Verify current service providers and rates for electricity, gas, propane, wood, and others



# Priorities & Decisions: Develop Specific Goals

## Examples:

- Reduce electricity use by \_\_\_\_% by 2022
- Obtain \_\_\_\_% of electricity from renewable sources within 10 years (similar to a renewable portfolio standard or RPS)
- Reduce energy costs by \_\_\_\_% within 5 years





# Priorities & Decisions: Prioritize Projects & Programs

- Develop a ranking system to understand cost-effectiveness of different projects
- Best practice models:
  - Total Resource Cost
    - Model considers life-cycle benefits for projects
  - Levelized Cost of Energy
    - Allows comparison across different technologies
- Tribal energy policy/program examples:
  - Incentives to reduce energy use
  - Incentives to promote renewable energy
  - Sustainable/green building codes, standards, or other requirements or guidelines





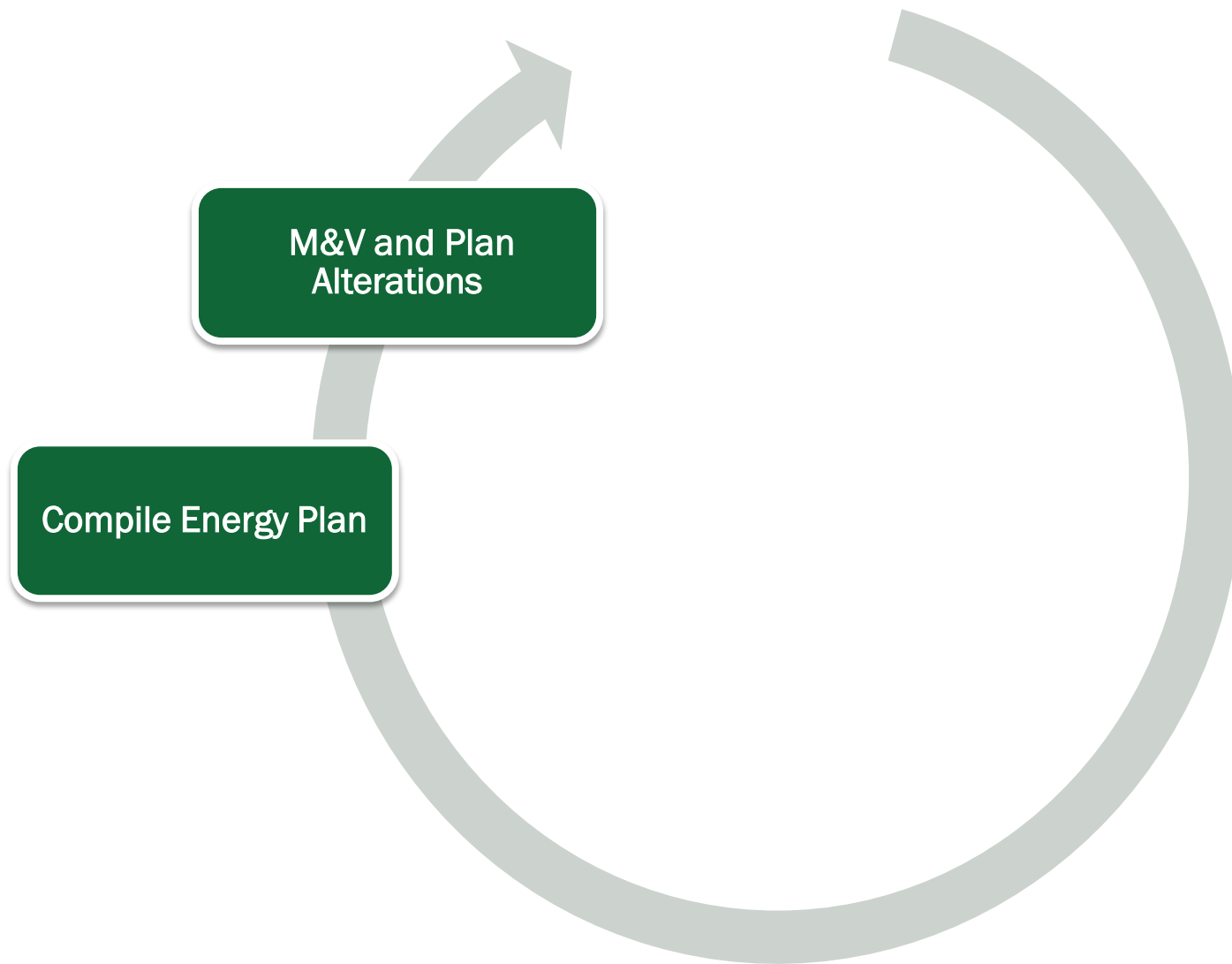
# Priorities & Decisions: Identify Financing Options

## Secure planning and project funding sources:

- Tribal funding
- DOE Technical Assistance (TA) Program
- Other federal agency TA and grant programs
- State programs
- Non-governmental organizations (NGOs)



# Strategic Energy Planning: Energy Plan



# Energy Plan: Purpose & Functions

## Purpose

- Document near-term goals
- Sustain momentum
- Achieve long-term goals

## Functions

- Creates “road map” to hold accountability to the destination
- Provides the means to consistently share the story with others
- Creates resources to help guide and filter priorities, providers, and decisions



# Energy Plan: Components

## Include:

- Vision
- Objectives
- Goals
- Baseline
- Barriers
- Program/project options
  - Demand side
  - Generation
- Recommendations
- Adoption by Tribal Council





# Energy Plan: M&V and Plan Alterations

- M&V
- Evaluate
- Fine tune



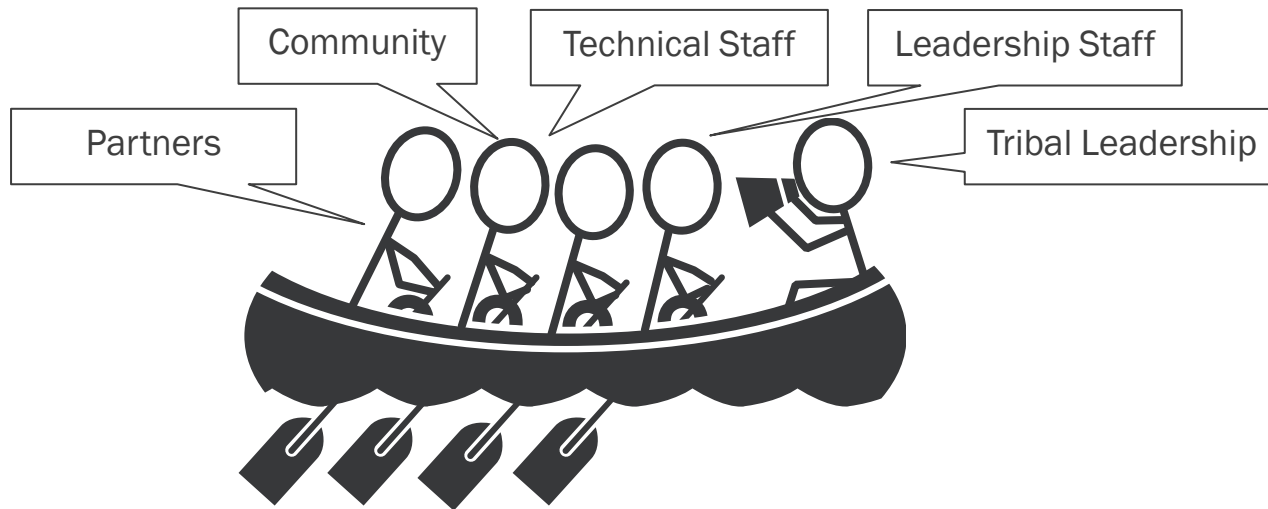
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# Planning is Coordinated & Collective Action



## Proper Planning and Strategic Energy Plan Development Helps:

- Direct action
- Sustain momentum
- Motivate involvement
- Reduce/minimize reactive decision-making
- Go the distance

# Why does Strategic Energy Planning Fail?



- Short-sighted predictions of the situation, timeline
- Unrealistic predictions of resources
- Uncoordinated implementation
- Narrow ownership
- Failure to follow the plan
- Poor, or casual, communication

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# Useful Resources

## Resource

- U.S. Department of Energy Office of Indian Energy Resource Library  
<http://energy.gov/indianenergy/resources/energy-resource-library>

## Technology

- “Community Greening: How to Develop a Community Energy Plan,”  
National Renewable Energy Laboratory  
<http://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy10osti/45652.pdf>

## Policy

- “Guide to Tribal Energy Development,” U.S. Department of Energy Office of  
Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Tribal Energy Program  
<http://www1.eere.energy.gov/tribalenergy/guide/>

# Thank You & Contact Information

For Technical Assistance:

[IndianEnergy@hq.doe.gov](mailto:IndianEnergy@hq.doe.gov).

DOE Office of Indian Energy Website:

[www.energy.gov/indianenergy](http://www.energy.gov/indianenergy)

NREL Renewable Energy Technology Basics Website:

[www.nrel.gov/learning/re\\_basics.html](http://www.nrel.gov/learning/re_basics.html)

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# INFORMATION ON THE CURRICULUM PROGRAM & OFFERINGS



# Curriculum Structure & Offerings

## Foundational Courses

- Overview of foundational information on renewable energy technologies, strategic energy planning, and grid basics

## Leadership & Professional Courses

- Covers the components of the project development process and existing project financing structures

# Foundational Courses

## Energy Basics

Assessing Energy Needs  
and Resources

Electricity Grid Basics

Strategic Energy  
Planning

## Renewable Energy Technology Options

Biomass

Direct Use

Geothermal

Hydroelectric

Solar

Wind

All courses are presented as 40-minute Webinars online at

[www.energy.gov/indianenergy](http://www.energy.gov/indianenergy)