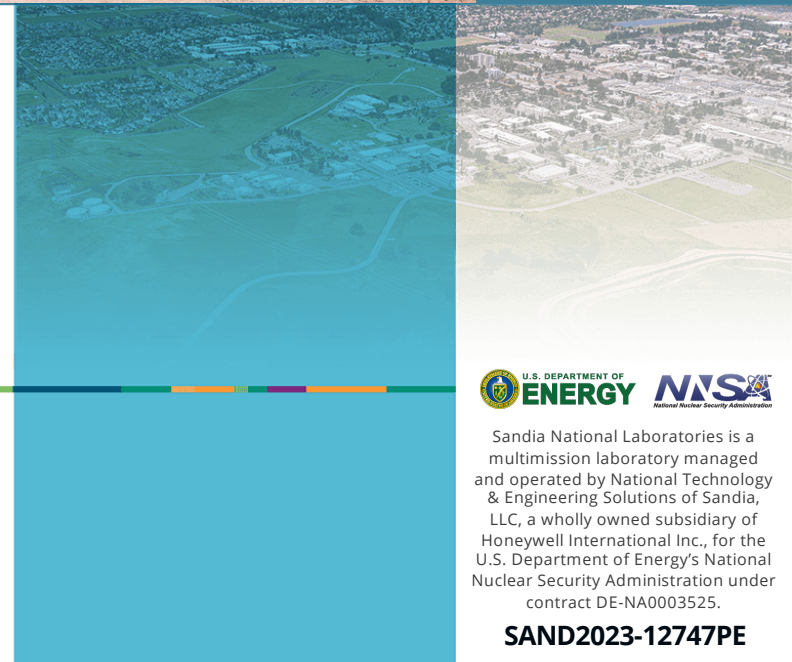




# Overview of Tribal Energy Research Work & Internship Programs



**Stan Atcitty, Senior Scientist / TCU Internship Lead**  
**Sandra Begay, PMTS / Indian Energy Lead**



Energy Sovereignty Workshop

Santa Ana Pueblo – Tamaya Hyatt Conference Center

**March 13, 2024**



Sandia National Laboratories is a multimission laboratory managed and operated by National Technology & Engineering Solutions of Sandia, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Honeywell International Inc., for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-NA0003525.

**SAND2023-12747PE**

# U.S. American Indian and Alaska Natives (AI/AN)

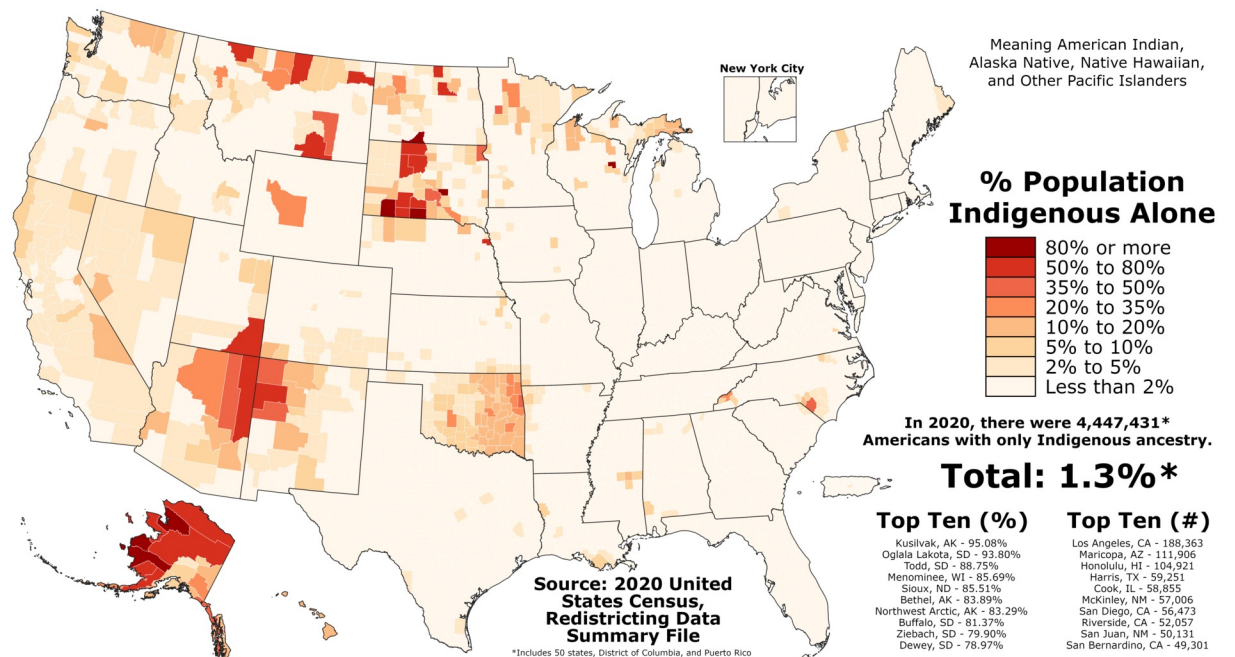


There are 574 tribal nations within the U.S.

**Sandia has built a trusted relationship with tribes for > 30 years**

- Sandia has a Tribal Government Liaison within its Government Relations team
- Sandia employs the largest number of AI/AN staff of any other national laboratories (200)
- Sandia staff / managers have received American Indian Science & Engineering (AISES) Professional Awards

<https://www.aises.org/professional-awards-program>



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Native\\_American\\_civil\\_rights#/media/File:Indigenous\\_Americans\\_by\\_county.png](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Native_American_civil_rights#/media/File:Indigenous_Americans_by_county.png)

# Indian Energy (IE) Technical Assistance



## Overview

For over 20 years, DOE's Indian Energy program funds TA, technical reviews & internship program at Sandia

TA requests directly from tribe to DOE IE, then sends to Sandia or NREL

40 hours per request, unique TA

***Established in 2002 EERE TEP/ 2005 Indian Energy***

POC: Sandra Begay [skbegay@sandia.gov](mailto:skbegay@sandia.gov)

<https://www.energy.gov/indianenergy/technical-assistance>

<https://energy.sandia.gov/programs/tribal-energy-security/>

## Unique Aspects

Sponsorship for Sandia / IE (TEP) Native American / Native Alaskan Internship program (20 year anniversary 2022)

- 50 interns, representing 24 different tribes
- 67% of the interns have been women

Past TA unique to Sandia – Community Strategic Energy Planning with subcontractor, Indigenous Collaborations – Native woman owned business

- 22 tribes completed SEP process with documented plans



Photo: Sandra Begay, Sarah LaValle, Rachel Herring at Agua Caliente Band Off Grid Trading Post, CA

# DOE OE Tribal Energy Storage and NNSA MSIP/Tribal Colleges & Universities



## Overview

### Office of Electricity - Tribal Energy Storage

currently six projects with five tribes

- Navajo Nation (AZ, NM, UT), Picuris Pueblo (NM), San Carlos Apache Tribe (AZ), Seminole Tribe (FL), and Levelock Village (AK) – Technical/Economic Assistance

*Established in 2014 TES/2016 MSIP-TCU*

*POC: Stan Atcitty [satcitt@sandia.gov](mailto:satcitt@sandia.gov)*

<https://energy.sandia.gov/programs/tribal-energy-security/>

### National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) - Minority Serving Institute Partnership Program targeting Tribal Colleges & Universities (TCUs)

- Hired 8 TCU summer interns in 2022 – highest for NNSA MSIP Program (14 total since 2016)



United Tribes Technical College-  
Summer Camp



Urban Electric Power, Navajo Tribal  
Utility Authority, Sandia - ZnMnO<sub>2</sub>  
battery deployment