



The Nuclear Energy Tribal Working Group  
Homeland Security & Emergency Services Committee  
United South And Eastern Tribes  
March 27, 2024



# BACKGROUND



- ▶ The Nuclear Energy Tribal Working Group (NETWG) was chartered by DOE in 2014 to engage Federally recognized Tribes in discussions with NE leadership and senior personnel relating to DOE-NE activities
- ▶ NETWG serves as a conduit to foster communication, education and promote collaborative involvement with tribal governments.
- ▶ NETWG works in tandem with DOE-NE to strengthen government-to-government relationships consistent with DOE Order 144.1.
- ▶ NETWG convenes Quarterly meetings to discuss emerging technologies and other topics of interest.
- ▶ Staff support from the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) through a cooperative agreement with DOE-NE.



# Background: Topics of Interest

- Waste management, storage, disposal and transportation of nuclear fuel and materials;
- Nuclear research and development including advanced nuclear technologies;
- Emergency Management;
- Cultural Resource Management;
- Expand educational opportunities and interests in nuclear technology;
- Develop international relationships with Canada and First Nations.



# NETWG MEMBERSHIP

- Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, OR
- Consolidated Group of Tribes and Organizations, NV
- Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, MA
- Nez Perce Tribe, ID
- Omaha Tribe of Nebraska, NE
- Oneida Nation of Wisconsin, WI
- Prairie Island Indian Community, MN
- Pueblo of Jemez, NM
- Pueblo of Pojoaque, NM
- Sac and Fox Nation of Missouri in Kansas and Nebraska, KS/NE
- Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, ID
- Timbisha Shoshone Tribe, NV/CA





## Examples of Tribal locations relative to nuclear power plants

- **Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), NM** - Los Alamos National Laboratory is planning for nuclear expansion and is crossing Caja del Rio and disrupting the ceremonial sites of the Pueblo people, as well as diverting essential resources such as water, electricity, and land from local tribal communities.
- **Arctic Energy Office, AK** (potential impacts to Alaskan Natives) microreactors
- **Nevada National Security Site, NV**- CGTO is comprised of 16 tribes from Nevada, California, Utah, and Arizona that focus on expanding government-to-government interactions.
- **Pilgrim Nuclear Power Plant, MA**- decommissioning process may have potential impacts to the Mashpee Wampanoag.
- **Idaho National Laboratory, ID**- emergency management for transportation of radioactive waste/spent nuclear fuel and the tribal capacity building.
- **Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant**- is less than 700 yards from the community.

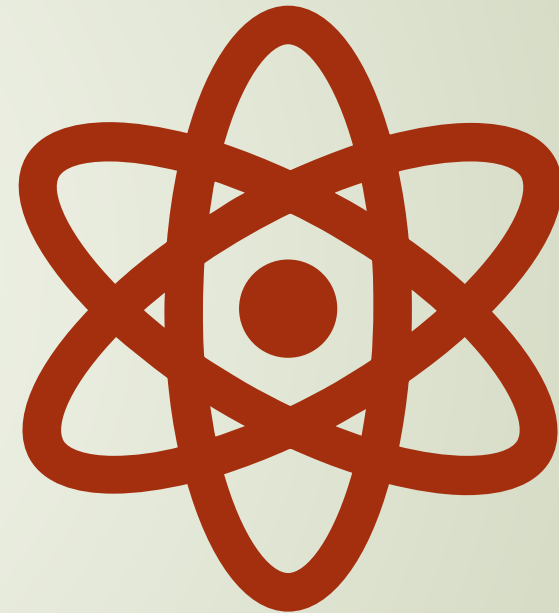


# CURRENT ACTIVITIES/priorities

- ▶ Work in partnership with DOE-NE and other DOE offices to ensure adherence to relevant Orders and Policies and the federal trust responsibility that will or may impact tribes.
- ▶ Ensure tribal/Alaskan Native (AN) perspectives are reflected in DOE-NE, Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations and other federal initiatives and policies.
- ▶ Monitor DOE activities specific to Consent-Based Siting and interim storage initiatives that will or may impact tribes.
- ▶ Support traditional ecological knowledge and workforce development activities that align with NETWG priorities.
- ▶ Provide tribal/AN feedback on environmental justice initiatives consistent with federal agencies' trust responsibility.
- ▶ Develop opportunities to support the capacity of NETWG member tribes/AN to discuss cultural resources as it relates to DOE-NE activities.
- ▶ Work with DOE and other federal agencies on advanced reactors including small modular reactors.

# Current activities

- ▶ White Paper Publications
  - ▶ STEM
  - ▶ Consent Based Siting
  - ▶ Tribal Engagement for Industry and Federal Agency Siting of Small Modular Reactors (SMR's)





Questions/Answers







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