

TRIBAL ENERGY

The third quarter of 2012 will see the completion of several Energy Group (The Group) projects and there are several activities planned for the later this year.

Jon Paisano has been working with Rural Community Innovations (RCI) consultants on completing the Strategic Energy Plan (the Plan).



The final draft outlines ways the Tribe can make individual and government green technology a part of everyday life. It defines the organization needed at both the government level and at the Energy Group level that will

help implement energy efficiency measures, conservation methods and community outreach. The Plan also explores the pros and cons of retrofitting Tribal structures, solar and wind power and biomass generation. It also looks at the entrepreneurial side of Green Technology and business possibilities.

Jon will also be working with RCI and Consortium of Northwest Energy Tribes (CNET) to set up strategy sessions with the NPTEC and the community so both the Tribe and the community members are thoroughly represented. Look for the announcement of upcoming community meetings on development of the strategic plan. Our aim is to develop a strategic energy plan that everyone can support.

ENERGY TIP: Cover liquids and wrap foods stored in the refrigerator. Uncovered foods release moisture and make the compressor work harder.

Jon is finishing up the work with TSS Consulting and the waste-to-energy feasibility study. The study was completed at the end of July and the final report presented to the NPTEC in August.

The study analyzed several available reservation sites for locating a biomass energy-generating plant. It also studied three types of local feed stock, their

availability and the cost to process and transport the product to either the Kamiah/Kooskia, Lapwai or Orofino area. The type of feed stocks studied were forest products, urban wood and wheat straw and their availability of each in the three areas. Other consideration included land use zoning, public health and safety, waste water treatment, geology/soils and power transmission assets. The team generally accepted that the site of the new waste water treatment plant was the most advantageous spot to locate the plant.

However, as we have seen in the past, the Inland Northwest's low cost hydroelectric power makes it hard for any other type of power generation to compete. At this time, the energy independence that such a plant would help the Tribe achieve, is its main advantage.

The energy conservation projects that included additional insulation, new windows and new lighting at five buildings were completed in late July. The work was funded jointly by the Department of Energy and the Nez Perce Tribe. Avista Corporation also contributed through their incentive program.

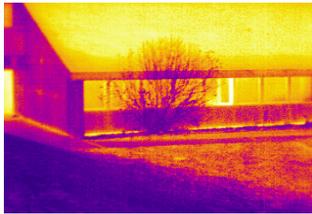
A representative of the Department of Energy's Tribal Energy Program, Jami Alley, visited in mid-August to evaluate the project. The Tribe's Avista account manager, Jayson Hunnel, visited at the same time. Rich Ramsey conducted a tour of the Veterans, NPTEC/OLC, PiNeeWaus, Water Resources and Boys and Girls Club buildings. Ms Alley praised the steps taken by the Tribe in establishing an Energy Group and the work the Group is doing to



make Tribal facilities greener. Ms Alley assured us that we are headed in the right direction and, while grant funding is very limited at this time, we should continue our work however possible. One suggestion she had was that we allocate the cost savings, which will result from this project, to a fund that can be used as matching moneys for future energy projects.

Mr. Hunnel offered ideas in ways to provide Tribal buildings with individual energy producing equipment at relatively low cost. Further investigation, by members of The Group, discovered several residential units currently available. The Group will be looking into this possibility. Ms Alley indicated that what limited funding may eventually become available will probably emphasize small scale, individualized energy production projects. Wind and solar energy are two strong possibilities.

Avista personnel will visit Lapwai again in late October and take another set of infrared photos that we can use to compare with those taken in 2005. We expect a vast improvement in heat loss. Besides the recently completed insulation, windows and lighting project, the Veterans Building and Water Resources buildings have received a new asphalt shingle roof and eave vents. The PiNeeWaus Gym has a new metal roof that required an additional layer of sheathing. It will be very interesting to see the before and after comparison.



In a report received from our Regional Economist, Kathryn Tacke, we were pleased to learn that the Nez Perce Tribe is the largest provider of green jobs in north central Idaho. We surpass the second largest, the National Forest Service, with a variety of jobs in energy, air quality, fisheries and agricultural land management. More than three hundred people work directly for the Tribe in green occupations and the Tribe contracts out additional work that involves green jobs.

ENERGY TIP: Periodically use the long nozzle of your vacuum cleaner to remove lint that collects in the lint screen slot of your clothes dryer. The air will move more freely and improve circulation.

At the end of the 2011/12 school year, Chelsea Leighton was selected by the Energy Group to be their Avista summer intern because of her commitment to her Tribe, high scholastic achievements and computer skills. Leighton is a

junior at Lewis-Clark State College majoring in elementary education.

Nez Perce Tribal programs want our future leaders to learn firsthand that the Tribal government is full of opportunities for employment and has a culture that wants to engage our bright and rising Tribal members. The internship program is committed to assisting enrolled Tribal members that are college students in professional career development. This is accomplished by providing scholarships, mentoring and employment opportunities.

In the spirit of the draft Energy Strategic Plan, Chelsea worked to establish a glossary of terms that are translated from the Nez Perce language and blend with the use of community-friendly energy terms to encourage best energy practices. She created twelve top tips for energy use and worked with the Language staff to translate them into Nimiipuutimt. This work will be presented, for approval, at the next Energy Group meeting. It is hoped that the Ta'c Titooqan News will post them in every issue for 2013.

ENERGY TIP: A lattice or trellis with climbing vines or a planter box with trailing vines shades the home while admitting cooling breezes to the shaded area.

Our loss is Water Utilities gain. Jon Paisano has applied for a job on the Water Utilities staff and will no longer be our "energy guru". Jon and his young family deserve a more stable form of income and, since the Energy position is grant funded, a full time job at Water Resources was the logical move. At the time of printing, the move was still in the hands of the Human Resource folks so we will have more information for our next edition. It is hoped that Jon will remain a member of the Energy Group.

Late breaking news: John Wheaton has secured the purchase of several hundred surplus recycling bins for his program. Washington State University has gone to an alternative method of gathering recyclables and made their bins available to the Tribe. Once the rest of the recycling equipment is in place, John will distribute the bins.



He hopes to have everything in place before the first of the year.