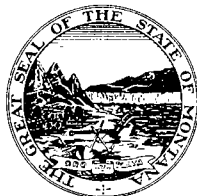


OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

STATE OF MONTANA

JUDY MARTZ
GOVERNOR



STATE CAPITOL
PO BOX 200801
HELENA, MONTANA 59620-0801

April 17, 2003

Ms. Lizana Pierce
U.S. Department of Energy
Golden Field Office
1617 Cole Boulevard
Golden, Colorado 80401-3393

Re: DOE Solicitation Number DE-PS36-03G093002: Renewable Energy
Development on Tribal Lands

Dear Ms. Pierce:

I am writing this letter, in support of the proposed Wind Energy Demonstration Project on the Ft. Peck Reservation. I understand that this is a collaborative project among the Ft. Peck Tribes, Assiniboine & Sioux Tribal Enterprise Community, Ft. Peck Community College, and the Foundation for the American Indian to address the needs of the Tribes and to build capacity and sustainability at the Ft. Peck Reservation.

While the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes at Fort Peck are leaders in education and community development, its high rate of unemployment and high costs of electricity pose challenges for the future of the tribe. To address the above challenges to the community's capacity and sustainability, they have identified the following objectives:

- Lower electricity costs at the Fort Peck Community College, and the Assiniboine & Sioux Tribal Industries by 75% in 2004;
- Increase employment at Assiniboine & Sioux Industries by 50% in 2003, 2004;
- Improve economic development by increasing Tribal revenue by 15% in 2004;
- Increase Tribal energy self-sufficiency by 30% in 2004.

The approach to accomplish these goals is to buy, install, and operate a 660-kilowatt wind turbine in close proximity to the Fort Peck Community College and the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribal Industries. Fort Peck Community College has


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agreed to support this project: providing teachers and Project Coordinators for the Project and providing classrooms in which to hold the Renewable Energy Learning Center Classes. The Learning Center will include, but will not be limited to the following courses of study:

- Site – specific renewable resources assessments;
- Tribal electrical load management and export markets;
- Transmission and inter-connection considerations;
- Technology and equipment analysis;
- Economic impact analysis;
- Environmental assessment (e.g. benefits and impacts)
- Benefit assessment (e.g. employment, cultural, and social);
- Business planning for implementing a sustainable renewable energy development projects.

This project will provide a comprehensive approach for Ft. Peck Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes to: reduce unemployment, lower the cost of electricity, and create an educational and capacity building opportunities for tribal members. This project will create a unique partnership through which everyone will prosper.

Sincerely,



JUDY MARTZ
Governor