How will The Energy Transition Act Engage Tribal Communities?

What is The Energy Transition Act?
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Signed into law by Governor Lujan Grisham in March 2019, The Energy Transition Act (SB 489) sets statewide renewable energy standards for renewable resources that will make New Mexico a leader in renewable energy.

50% Renewable Energy by 2030
80% Renewable Energy by 2040
100% Renewable Energy by 2045

The Energy Transition Act & Tribal Communities
As part of the statewide transition effort, the ETA creates THREE FUNDS across three state departments: Workforce Solutions, Economic Development, and Indian Affairs. Each department will engage affected communities for input on how the funds should be spent as well as assist with the creation of a community advisory committee.

The Community Advisory Committee REQUIRES MEMBERSHIP from each Indian Nation, Pueblo, or Tribe in the affected community, as well as four appointees representing diverse economic and cultural interests.

As part of their direct engagement plan, The Indian Affairs Department (IAD) plans to VISIT EVERY CHAPTER within the affected community area for input and recommendations on how these funds should be spent.

Moving Forward With The Energy Transition Act
The ETA directs up to 450 megawatts of replacement power to be built in San Juan County. However, the San Juan Generating Station has the potential capacity to support over 2000 MW of solar PV power with redevelopment.

The ETA provides RESOURCES FOR WORKFORCE RE-TRAINING for plant and mine workers, with PRIORITY GIVEN TO COMMUNITIES DIRECTLY AFFECTED BY THE CLOSURE OF THE MINE. These resources are vital to Tribal communities given the high representation of Native American workers at the mine and generation station who will be directly impacted when the mine closes.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, please contact the Indian Affairs Department at (505) 476-1600 or by email at Energy.Transition@state.nm.us