



State, Local, and Tribal Program

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) State, Local, and Tribal Program partners with communities of all sizes to support development of efficient, affordable, equitable, and resilient energy systems.




With broad support from the U.S. Department of Energy, NREL provides many forms of technical support that enable communities to make informed clean energy decisions that address local priorities and challenges—including economic development, infrastructure planning, energy justice, and climate change.

Leveraging deep cross-disciplinary expertise throughout its world-class facilities, NREL applies decades of experience in leading-edge technologies, social sciences, policy, and finance to inform everything from energy system design to comprehensive community energy transitions.

With more communities establishing ambitious energy goals, actionable analysis and data is needed to support effective decision-making. Prioritizing equitable and just energy solutions, NREL empowers local communities and decision makers with tools, data, and knowledge to set—and achieve—their energy goals.

Program Capabilities

NREL provides a suite of resources and tailored assistance that equips decision makers to assess, analyze, and optimize energy solutions at project, local, or regional scales, including:

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 • Robust **modeling and analysis** of future scenarios for energy systems and infrastructure.
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 • **Technology validation** and energy project **de-risking** to implement energy plans.
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 • Accessible and adaptive **data, tools, and training** to help plan and implement energy projects.
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 • Direct **technical assistance**, considering energy strategy, project financing, policy design and development, data analysis, and social equity.
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 • Expert **decision support** and guidance in system design and energy resilience planning, climate strategies, relocation, and disaster recovery.

Co-Developed Energy Solutions

NREL has partnered with thousands of communities across the United States and its territories, providing data-driven solutions to help address local energy and infrastructure challenges. A few success stories include:



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Kingston, New York

The city partnered with a foundation and NREL to explore equity-centered pathways to increase resilience and job opportunities in achieving their 100% clean energy goals.



Photo from iStock 519545349

Navajo Nation, Arizona

NREL provided analysis and technical assistance to support a clean energy transition and maintain economic development of the Navajo Nation Generating Station, the largest coal-fired plant in the western U.S.



Photo by Werner Slocum, NREL 74136

Unalakleet, Alaska

NREL partnered with the Alaska Native village of Unalakleet to implement a new model of housing that reduces construction costs, keeps job in the community, and combats the accelerating effects of climate change.



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New Mexico

The state of New Mexico used the State and Local Planning for Energy (SLOPE) Platform tool to plan for a more affordable, clean, and equitable energy future while prioritizing opportunities for residents to participate in the clean energy economy.



Learn more about NREL's State, Local, and Tribal partnership and technical assistance opportunities at nrel.gov/state-local-tribal/

Contact State, Local, and Tribal Laboratory Program Manager
Sherry Stout at sherry.stout@nrel.gov

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