Integrating a
Battery Energy
Storage
System into
the Grid

2024 Navajo Nation Energy Summit





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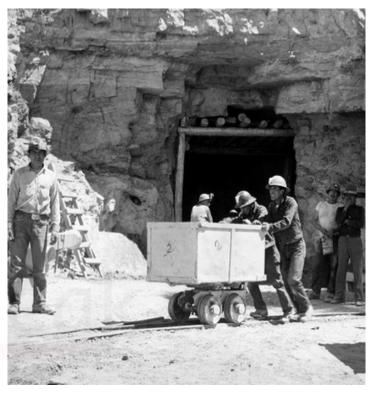
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# Navajo Nation Trends & Impacts

# Educating & Empowering. Respect, Honor & Protect

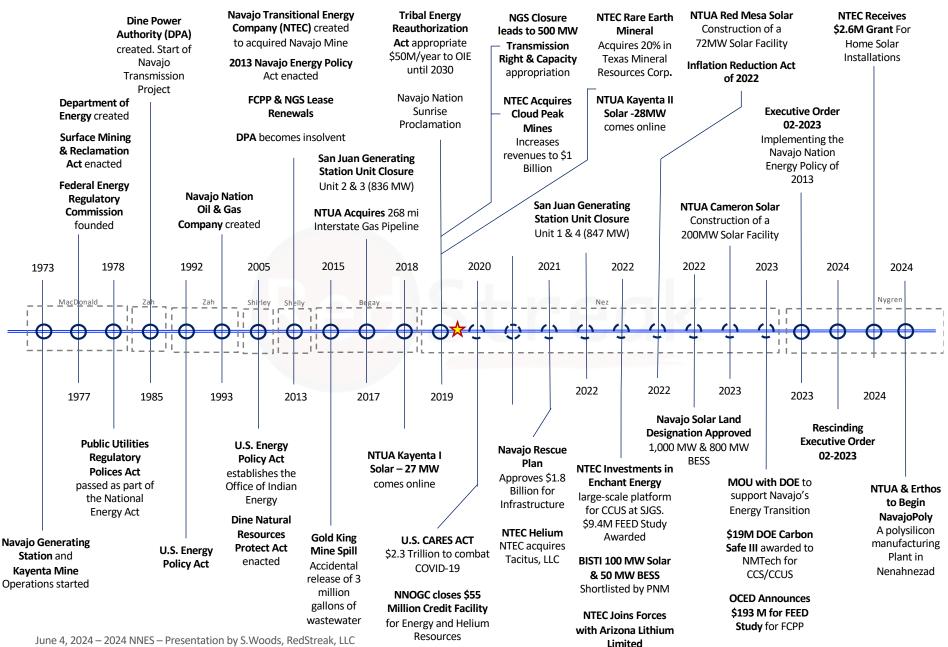




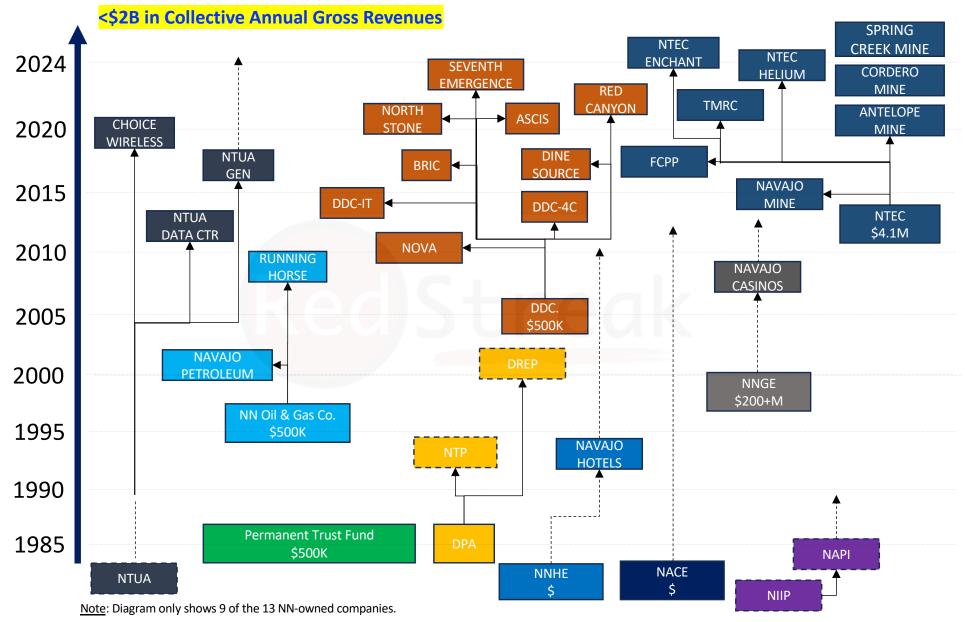




## Historical Energy/Resources Impacts (P. MacDonald to B. Nygren)



## Revenue Investments. Navajo Nation Companies



# Navajo Nation. Disparities and Deficiencies

#### Food and Agriculture

- The USDA has deemed the Navajo Nation to be a "Food Desert".
  - Only **10 grocery stores** serving 170,000+ people across the Navajo Nation.
- Rising costs for alfalfa & water scarcity for livestock.

#### Health & Wellness

- High rise in health disparities (Heart disease, diabetes, cancer, liver disease, etc.).
- Poor health and physical inactivity leads to most health and mental disparities.

#### Water Security

- Approximately 30% of the Navajo Nation population do not have access to clean reliable drinking water.
- Seasonal and long-term droughts and floods leads to deficiencies in health, economy, and welfare.

#### Energy Security

- More than 15,000+ homes still without electricity on the Navajo Nation. Long-term power outages causes reliability and resiliency issues.
- Navajo Nation buys its electric power from outside the Navajo Nation.

#### Fuel Security

- Nearly 80,000,000 million gallons of gasoline are consumed annually on the Navajo Nation.
- CO<sub>2</sub> equivalents: a) 1.5 M barrels of Oil, b) 744 M lbs. of annual coal burns, c) 28M trash bags of waste, etc.

#### Community Benefits

- Businesses engagement is top-down with communities. The planned workforce does not advance diversity, equity, inclusion, or justice into their business plans.
- Huge disparity between STEM education and the workforce.

# U.S. vs. Navajo. Today & Tomorrow

- ❖ A recent article found that 59% of Americans are looking forward to technological and scientific changes. While 30% think the new future will lead to being worse off than they are today.
- The next 100 years of Science, Technology, Medicine, and Engineering
  - Physical Internet, Mars Settlements, Uncovering Earth's Depths, STEM, Artificial Intelligence, Robotics, Smart Electric Power, Energy Storage Advances, 3D Printed Bones, 3D Printed Foods, Advanced Flights, Direct Air Capture, Self-Healing Technology, Artificial Neurons, Clean Fuels, etc.

#### Vs.

- What do Navajo's think of the future? Catching up with current times.
- Most political Navajo campaigns today are about:
  - Infrastructure
    - Water
    - o Electric
  - Jobs
  - Roads
  - Creating Economy
  - Education, Language, and Culture
  - Housing
  - Public Safety

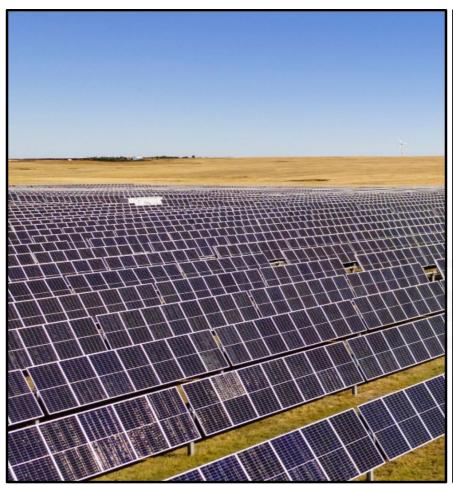
# **Battery Storage Basics**

# **Batteries.** Different Types & Storage Capacity



# **Battery Storage Facilities**

# Solar-Plus-Storage. State-of-the-Art System





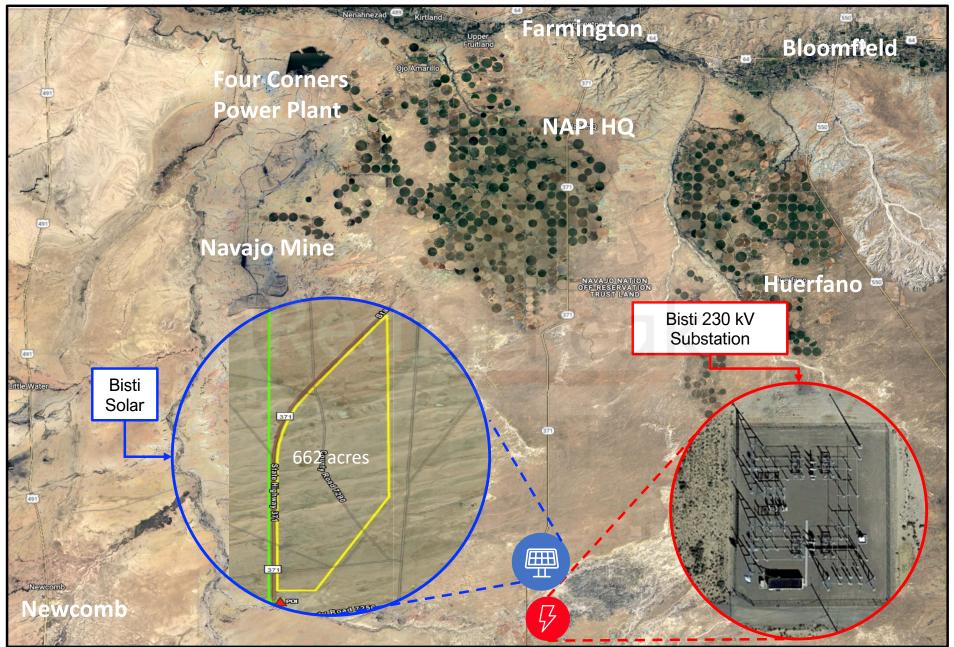
Solar PV Facility



Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)

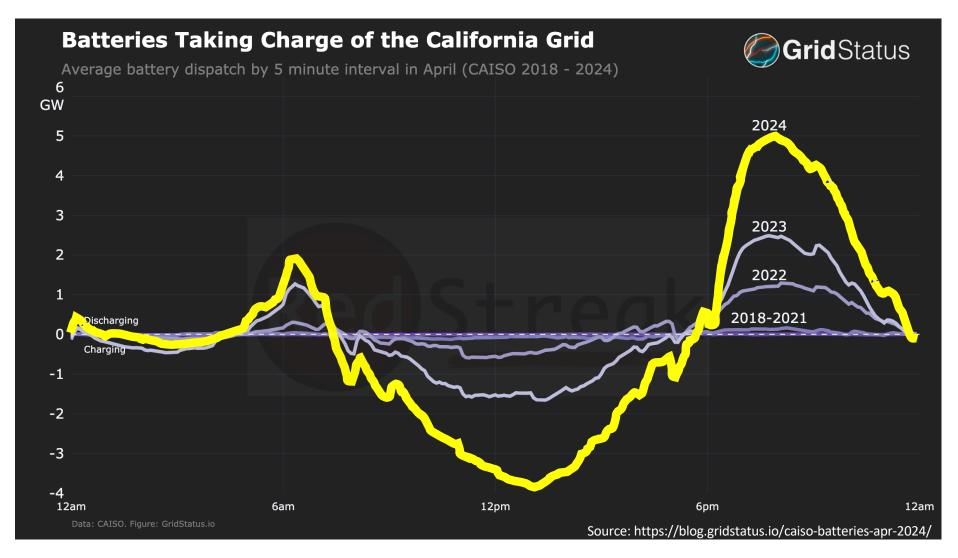
State-of-the-art Solar plus BESS integrated into the Transmission grid to power thousands of homes using Lithium-ion batteries.

# NextEra - Bisti Solar. 100 MW & 50 MW BESS



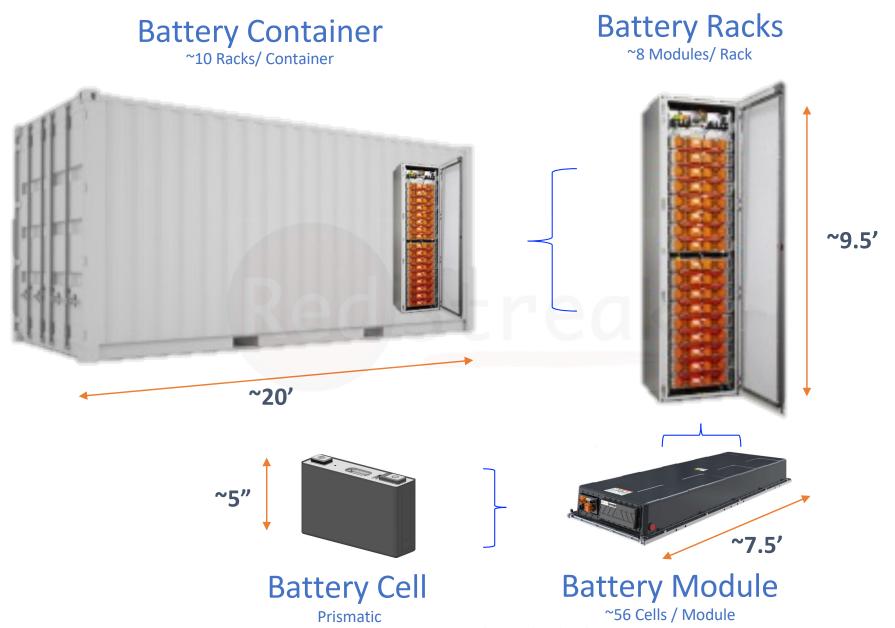
# **Battery Energy Storage Systems**

# Trends. Battery Storage Taking Charge in CAISO Grid



- Batteries discharged over 5GW at peak times.
- This battery discharged is eroding natural gas generation each evening.
- The shifting of batteries charged by solar is phasing out gas in the peak morning/evening times.

# **Utility-Scale.** Typical Battery Storage System



### How it Works?

# **❖** Facilities have large containers filled with racks of smaller battery cells.

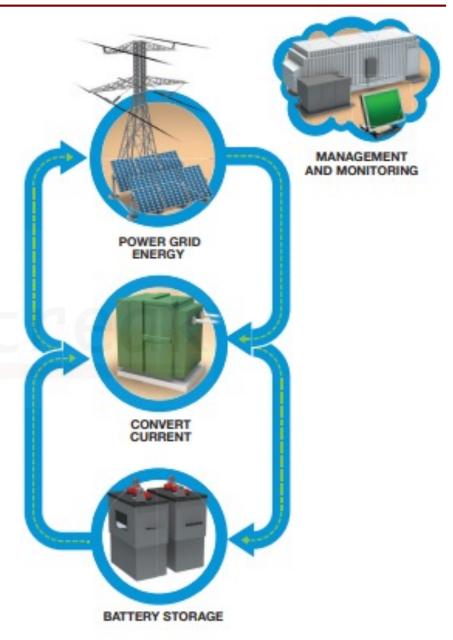
- Relatively small footprint and scalable.
- Most containers can provide energy for 770 homes for 4 hours daily.
- Large-scale facilities could have more than 200 containers, providing power to small cities.

#### Provides power when it's needed.

- Stores energy during low-demand periods and discharges when demand is high.
- Provides additional services to maintain reliability.

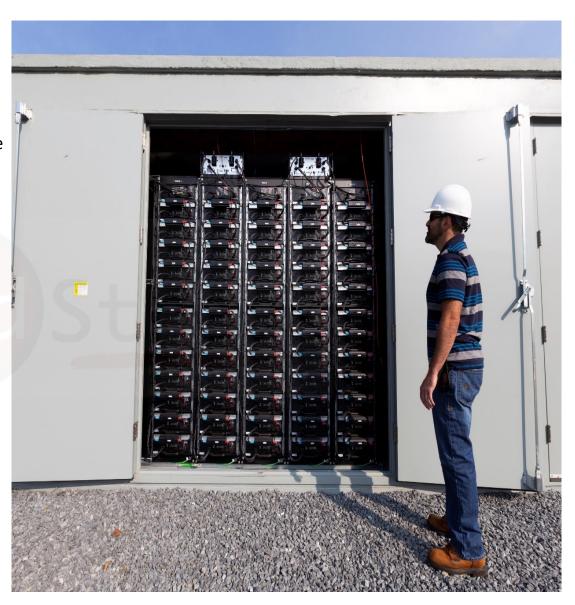
#### Battery energy storage facilities are longterm investments.

- Most commonly use lithium-ion batteries
- Lifespan can be over 25 years.



# State-of-the-Art Fire Safety Program

- ❖ Battery energy storage projects are engineered to meet the highest standards of safety and fire protection to minimize risk.
  - They are continuously monitored by on-site system and off-site 24-hr control room.
  - They undergo rigorous industry testing and certification related to fire safety.
  - They Equipped with cooling system to operate within ideal temperatures.
- Battery storage system are often coordinate with first responders and fire officials to develop appropriate emergency response plans.
  - Emergency action plans submitted with applications.
  - Training local responders includes multiple briefings: prior to construction, prior to start-up and upon request.



# Remote Operating Centers



#### **Performance Diagnostic Center**

- Detects small changes in voltage, current or temperature.
- Evaluates hundreds of million data points per second
- Uses AI to enable early-stage repairs
- Avoids potential maintenance/year



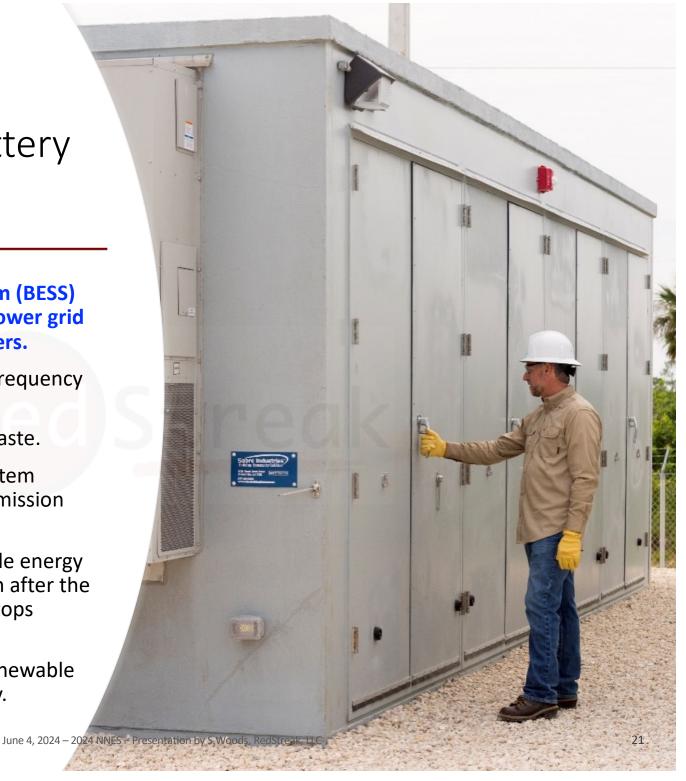
# Renewable Operations Control Center

- Staffed with energy experts 24/7/365
- Can shut down the system remotely and alert local support.
- Remotely operates Generation, Transmission, etc.

# Integrating Battery Storage into the Grid

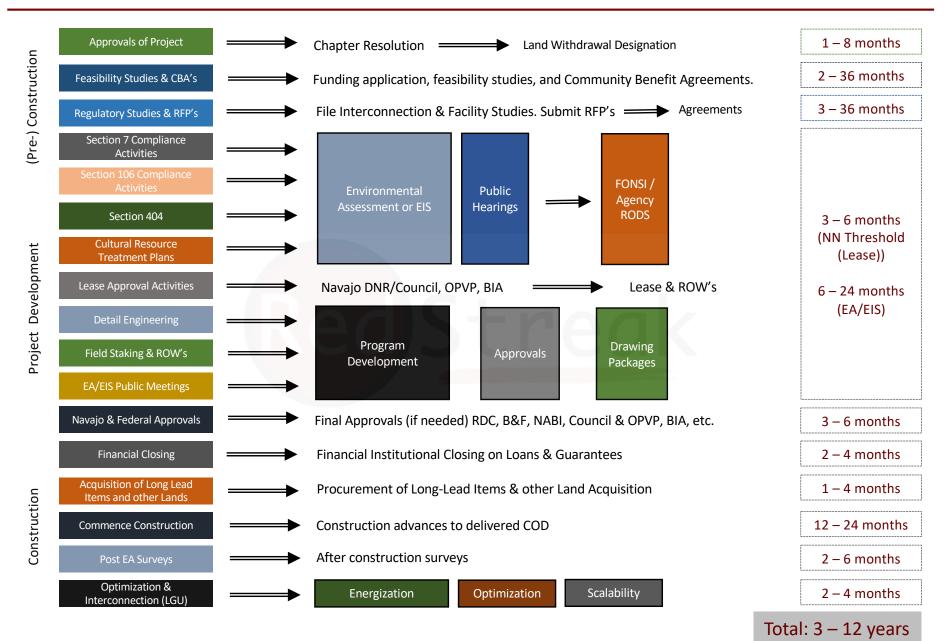
# Why Integrate Battery Energy Storage?

- Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) helps optimize the way the power grid delivers electricity to customers.
  - Smooths out fluctuations in frequency and voltage.
  - Reduces energy losses and waste.
  - Avoids the need for some system upgrades, including big transmission projects.
  - Extends the hours a renewable energy project can operate. i.e., even after the sun goes down or the wind stops blowing.
  - Allows customers to enjoy renewable energy more hours of the day.



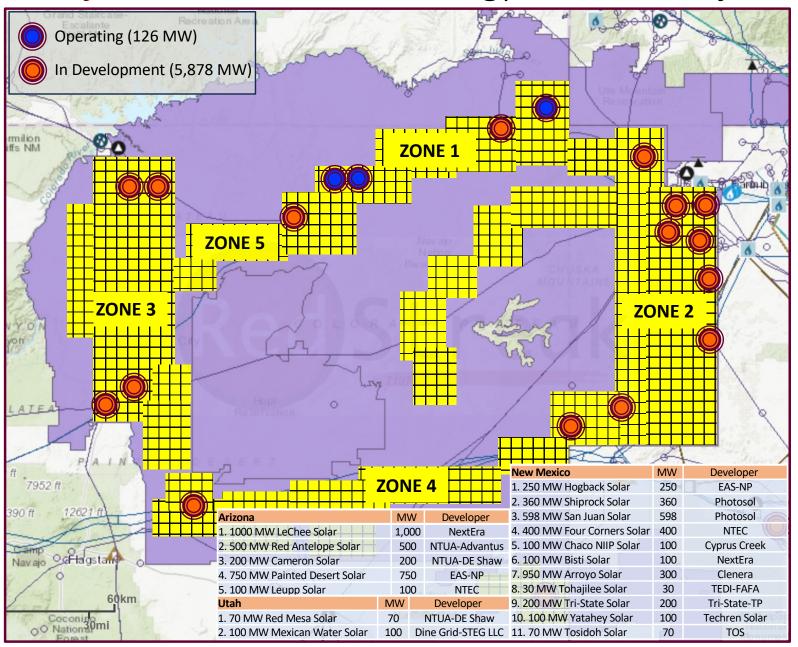
# **Project Approval Processes**

## **Processes.** Tribal & Regulatory Requirements



# Navajo Nation Clean Energy Potential

## Navajo Nation. Potential Energy Zones & Projects.



# Estimate Potential. Renewables & Battery Storage



#### **Renewable Energy Potential**

- Solar PV Utility: 6,000+ MW (measured), hypothetical (energy zones): 40,000+ MW.
- Solar CSP: 830,414 MW.
- Wind: 4,562 MW.
- Geothermal & Hydro: 160,372 MW & 84 MW
- Estimated Economic Potential: \$2B+ in Solar Modules (solar PV measured), \$3B+ in estimated annual revenues



#### **Battery Energy Storage**

- Storage size would typically match energy capacity size.
- \$4B+ for EPC (estimated, solar PV measured only)

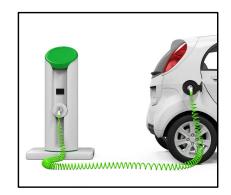
Source: Geospatial Analysis of Renewable Energy Technical Potential on Tribal Lands – E. Doris, A. Lopez and D. Beckley (NREL), Developing Clean Energy Projects on Tribal Lands – Office of Indian Energy (DOE)

### Final Thoughts. Educating & Empowering

#### Navajo Nation Deficiencies & Disparities

 Create jobs, energy security, commit to a clean energy program, added community benefits, Introduce more electric vehicles, support STEM related initiatives, potential horizontal/vertical growth (manufacturing, training, etc.)





#### Interconnecting to the Grid

 Grid stability, increase energy efficiencies, low-costs system impacts, supports zero-neutral programs, enjoy more renewable energy, etc.

#### Other Related Impacts

 Add strategic plans for the Navajo energy policy, Become a technology leader, develop a deeper technical workforce, create a thriving & regenerative economy, etc.



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