Innovations for Great Lakes Marine Renewable Energy

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The Marine Renewable Energy Innovations for Great Lakes is a multidisciplinary team consisting of researchers and experts from University of Michigan and Michigan State University that are working to promote marine renewable energy in rural or remote areas. With many years of experience in Marine Renewable Energy as well as Community Sustainability, our team aims to assist Native American Tribes in the Great Lakes region towards developing clean renewable energy projects. In this project, we are committed to partner with two Native American Tribes in order to enhance their energy resilience and reliability by integrating one or more renewable energy technologies into their energy grids. Through this partnership, we seek

- to identify the current status and energy requirements of the community;
- to evaluate the feasibility of implementing marine renewable energy including offshore wind and ocean wave;
- to engage members of the community in decision making processes associated with development of the renewable energy projects;
- to propose renewable energy solutions that address remote community needs and expectations.

The primary focus for this project will be on the Bay Mills Indian Community, MI and the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, MI. However, we have ongoing collaborations and discussions with the Native American Tribe of Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, WI, as well as the remote community of Eagle Harbor, MI. The efforts conducted in this project can potentially be implemented for these communities as well.

Link to video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Ct1oep1vks