

Community Power Accelerator Prize

Team Name:	Tebughna Foundation (TF)
City and State:	Tyonek, AK
Submission Title:	Tribal Community Solar for the Native Village of Tyonek



Organization Overview

Mission

TF's mission is to preserve and perpetuate the Tebughna Dena'ina Athabascan traditions.

Background

TF was founded in 2007 and serves the Native Village of Tyonek, a tribal community in rural and remote Alaska. TF's solar program was initiated in 2023 to realize NVT's renewable energy goals.

Project Overview

Three tribally-owned community solar arrays are slated for development.

1. **Tribal Center:** 25 kW, located in Tyonek, AK
2. **Solar Farm:** 1.2 MW, located in Tyonek, AK
3. **Kalooa Buildings:** 300 kW, located in Anchorage, AK

Meaningful Benefits

TF's solar programs will provide the following top five benefits:

1. **Greater Household Savings:** Currently, monthly electricity bills are hundreds or thousands of dollars for Tyonek residents. Community solar will result in lower electrical bills.
2. **Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) Household Access:** Community solar will allow for LMI and Alaska Native households to take part in the renewable energy transition.
3. **Increased Resilience, Preparation, and Grid Benefits:** Community solar would improve the resilience of the grid in the face of natural disasters and natural gas shortfalls.
4. **Community Ownership and Wealth-Building Opportunities:** Tribally-owned community solar will generate revenue for the disadvantaged tribal community of Tyonek.
5. **Equitable Workforce Development:** TF's solar program will identify vocational education opportunities to empower the local workforce to work in renewable energy.

“Solar energy ties back to our Native values of taking care of our land.”

-Elizabeth Standifer, NVT Tribal council member
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HQflvjF5Svc>

