

## **Tribal Energy Sovereignty Initiative:**

1. Pinoleville Solar Port Installation and Renewable Energy Workforce Development Program
2. Red Hills Bioenergy Facility & Central Wood Processing Plant

### **(1) Pinoleville Solar Port Installation and Renewable Energy Workforce Development Program**

<b>Project Title:</b>	Pinoleville Solar Port Installation and Renewable Energy Workforce Development Program
<b>Lead Applicant:</b>	Pinoleville Pomo Nation
<b>Collaborator(s):</b>	GRID Alternatives Bay Area North Coast
<b>Project Phase:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Exploratory <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Last-mile
<b>Region(s) Served:</b>	Tribal Lands
<b>Location of Headquarter:</b>	Pinoleville Pomo Nation, Mendocino County
<b>Primary Sector:</b>	Renewable and Resilient Energy
<b>Secondary Sector:</b>	N/A

#### **Project Summary (~250 words):**

The Pinoleville Solar Port Installation and Renewable Energy Workforce Development Program, led by the Pinoleville Pomo Nation (PPN), seeks to address two critical challenges facing Native Americans in Tribal service areas: energy independence and employment opportunities. The project combines sustainable infrastructure development with workforce training, serving PPN's 350 citizens while creating a model for future Tribal initiatives.

Key infrastructure components include:

- Installation of a 42 KW solar system on a carport (44.3ft x 90ft)
- Two electric vehicle plug-in stations
- 12 covered parking spaces

- Projected 25% reduction in annual utility costs for the Tribal government complex

The workforce development component will create 10 internship positions:

- 4 positions in renewable energy
- 6 positions in Tribal traditional skills, agriculture, and social services
- Average 150 hours per internship
- Focus on Tribal youth (16–26) and adults

The project builds on PPN's existing partnerships with GRID Alternative, which has already completed three phases of roof-top solar systems. Additional collaborators include local Tribes (Potter Valley, Redwood Valley, Sherwood Valley, and Coyote Valley), Ukiah Unified School District, Consolidated Tribal Health Clinic, NCO, and Mendocino College.

This "last-mile" part of the project, supported by a completed feasibility study from 2022, aligns with PPN's 5-year Strategic Energy Plan. The initiative emphasizes culturally sensitive decision-making and community participation, ensuring that project benefits are equitably distributed throughout the Tribal community.

## **(2) Red Hills Bioenergy Facility & Central Wood Processing Plant**

<b>Project Title:</b>	Red Hills Bioenergy Facility & Central Wood Processing Plant
<b>Lead Applicant:</b>	Scotts Valley Energy Corporation
<b>Collaborator(s):</b>	Pinoleville Pomo Nation Vocational Rehabilitation Program, Tribal EcoRestoration Alliance
<b>Project Phase:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Exploratory <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Last-mile
<b>Region(s) Served:</b>	Lake County and Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians Tribal Land
<b>Location of Headquarter:</b>	Lakeport, Lake County
<b>Primary Sector:</b>	Renewable and Resilient Energy
<b>Secondary Sector:</b>	Workforce Development

**Project Summary (~250 words):**

The Scotts Valley Energy Company (SVEC), a Tribal subsidiary of the Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians, seeks to develop a bioenergy facility to convert agricultural and forest waste into renewable energy while producing carbon-neutral biochar. This project addresses multiple needs in Lake County and surrounding areas by transforming non-commercial forest material into electricity and biochar for agricultural use, while simultaneously reducing wildfire risk and generating Tribal revenue. The technology's dual-purpose approach seeks to address both environmental challenges and economic development needs in the region.

Key operational targets include:

- Generating 200 net kW of clean energy per hour
- Reducing 2,140 tons of biomass annually
- Producing 360 tons of biochar
- Generating \$325,000 in annual revenue
- Creating 10-12 full-time operational positions

The project focuses on workforce development, community resilience, and clean energy production. Primary beneficiaries include the Scotts Valley Band of Pomo

Indians and its members, local agricultural businesses, and disadvantaged communities in the region. The facility aims to contribute significantly to regional sustainability efforts by providing clean energy to the grid while addressing critical biomass management needs.

During the pre-development phase, SVEC will focus on finalizing design plans, securing funding, and recruiting workers. The project maintains equity by prioritizing employment for Tribal members and Indigenous communities while ensuring community participation and culturally sensitive operations throughout all phases of development and implementation. This comprehensive approach aims to ensure long-term sustainability and community benefit.