

LEVERAGING GREEN HYDROGEN OPPORTUNITIES AT STANDING ROCK

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As Native American communities continue to strengthen sovereignty through economic diversification, clean energy development continues to provide a viable path help to achieve many objectives.

All Tribes, including the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, continue to find ways to strengthen and enhance sovereignty, the inherent right to govern itself and make laws for its members. This includes small scale clean energy development all the way to massive utility scale energy development requiring investment in the billions.

Tribes also have unique regulatory ability to adopt and implement Tribal Energy Resource Agreements (TERAs). TERAs are agreements between a Native American tribe and the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI), specifically the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). They provide a framework for Tribes to assume greater control over the regulation and management of their energy resources on tribal lands.

This combination of sovereignty and TERAs potentially enables a strategic advantage for Standing Rock to take the lead in managing their energy resources, fostering economic development, and exercising greater control over their energy futures. Without question, this could provide important differentiating factors to help leverage opportunities for green hydrogen as a long-term strategy for economic growth and prosperity where clean wind is abundant but connecting to the grid has many challenges.

These opportunities have only increased with recent awards by the Dept. of Energy to H2 Hub teams which now includes the Heartland HUB Team in North Dakota. This award proposes to support the expansion of green hydrogen to produce ammonia to serve the fertile agriculture sectors of the upper Midwest.

A strong business case can be made for the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe to leverage its strategic position geographically to be the green hydrogen producer for this process, leveraging valuable hydrogen production tax credits in the process now part of the Inflation Reduction Act.

