

# Energy Engagement Project Overview



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With diverse resources and land base, Hupacasath First Nation (HFN) needs to be aware that situates us to be prime partners in energy-based projects. It is essential to increase our understanding of potential impacts and benefits and weigh those critically against our values, goals and business plans identified within existing HFN guiding documents (i.e. our Comprehensive Community Plan and Land Use Plan etc.)

Our leadership, administration and membership need to understand our own guiding documents and how proposed projects relate to the goals we have established as a community. We need to ensure strategic alignment between economic development opportunities within the energy sector and our vision for our community.

### Highlights of the Project:

- Both informational dialogues and meaningful engagement with all membership
- Build community capacity by training our members on energy sector topics and
- Supporting the Energy Engagement Team in gaining facilitation and engagement skills to reach our broader membership and community neighbors.

### Goals of Energy Engagement Process:

*Increase Indigenous capacity to engage in dialogue on energy infrastructure development:*

- We will create an Energy Engagement Team comprised of a minimum of 1 youth, 1 adult and 1 Elder to engage with the full membership on the topic of Energy Infrastructure.
- We will provide skills development in the areas of facilitation and community engagement to support the team in reaching out to the broader community.
- We will work with Huu-ay-aht First Nation and the Kwispaa Project to co-host events within our community to assist in increasing knowledge and capacity related to LNG generally and the Kwispaa Project specifically.

*Increase Indigenous capacity to address environmental priorities:*

- We will conduct an inventory of current energy sources and review those sources against our recently completed Comprehensive Community Plan (2018). We will also review, compare against and update our Land Use Plan (2002), Community Land Management Framework (2009), our Consultation and Accommodation Policy (2010) and existing Traditional Use Studies.
- We will invite guest speakers to community engagement sessions to help educate membership on the energy sector and potential opportunities for economic development within our territory.

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*Increase knowledge and understanding of energy infrastructure development:*

- We will work with the Kwispaa team to increase our knowledge about the Project and potential impacts to our resources within our territories.

*Increase Indigenous capacity to participate in and realize economic benefits from energy infrastructure development:*

- We will work with our local Nuu-chah-nulth Economic Development Corporation, business advisors and energy sector professionals to explore existing and future opportunities for HFN participation

## Benefits of the Project

- We will develop a plan for updating and strategically aligning our guiding documents (i.e. Land Use Plan, Community land Management Framework, Energy Plan etc.).
- Our membership will have an increased understanding of these documents and how they relate to existing and future economic development opportunities within the energy sector.
- Employment and Training: we will have a minimum of 3 trained community members to carry out engagement activities. They will develop both theoretical and hands on experience in engagement, facilitation, note-taking, and summary report writing. They will also increase their energy literacy and share this information back to the broader membership.
- When we are fully informed we are better equipped to meaningfully participate in engagement dialogues and economic opportunities.

HFN is in a great position to explore new energy projects to add to our current capacity of the Micro-Hydro project. These opportunities and benefits also come with risks and impacts. It is crucial for HFN citizens to be educated and involved to ensure informed decisions can be made. Short and long term plans and impacts need to be assessed to sustain our people, lands, resources and culture.

## How you can be involved:

- ✓ Join our engagement sessions
- ✓ Connect with team lead Nene Kraneveldt if you have questions, comments or concerns [nenekraneveldt@gmail.com](mailto:nenekraneveldt@gmail.com)
- ✓ Apply to be part of the Energy Engagement Team
- ✓ Participate in Energy activities
- ✓ Follow our website and Facebook page for project information, fun facts and upcoming activities
- ✓ Be informed – have your own treasure hunt for energy information and build your energy knowledge.