Applicability:

This policy applies to all Oregon Department of Energy employees.

Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to promote government to government relations between the Oregon Department of Energy and Oregon’s nine federally-recognized Indian tribes.

This policy is adopted pursuant to ORS 182.162-168, which requires state agencies to develop and implement tribal relations policies.

Policy:

ODOE recognizes and respects the sovereign status of Oregon’s federally recognized tribes and their respective authorities on tribal lands. It is the policy of the Oregon Department of Energy to promote positive government to government relations, communications and cooperation with Oregon’s federally recognized Indian tribes in areas where development and implementation of agency programs may affect tribal lands, activities, or interests.

The Government Relations, Tribal Liaison, is designated as the key agency contact with tribal governments.

ODOE promotes strong government to government relationships at the leadership, manager, and staff levels with Oregon’s federally recognized Indian tribes. ODOE will demonstrate its commitment to positive government to government relations with Indian tribes through such practices as follows:

- The ODOE Director, the Government Relations, Tribal Liaison and designated division administrators will meet regularly with each of Oregon’s federally recognized tribes to discuss issues of mutual interest, and explore opportunities for greater state/tribal partnership and collaboration.
- ODOE will identify managers and employees who are responsible for developing and implementing agency programs that affect tribes.
- ODOE will make a reasonable effort to cooperate with tribes in the development and implementation of agency programs that affect tribes.
- ODOE will support and participate in cooperative efforts between tribal governments and federal, state, and/or local governments through its Hanford Clean-Up Board and the Energy Facility Siting Council, through the safe transportation of radio active waste through the state, through the allocation of
petroleum during times of shortages and disruptions, and through the development and implementation of energy policies and programs, including energy incentive programs.

- ODOE will seek tribal representation on ODOE advisory boards and working groups that are of interest to the tribes.
- ODOE will support the exchange of relevant data collected by ODOE staff or by tribal governments.
- ODOE will consult with the Legislative Commission on Indian Services on matters concerning tribal government.
- ODOE staff who have regular communication with tribes will be trained annually on the legal status of tribes, the legal rights of members of tribes and issues of concern of tribes through training provided by the Department of Administrative Services and/or other learning opportunities.
- ODOE will disseminate this policy to all ODOE employees and to new employees through new employee orientation, and will maintain the policy on the Intranet.
- ODOE will submit an annual report to the Governor and the Commission on Indian Services on the activities of the agency that support ORS 182.162-168.
- Any other identified activity.

**History:**

Policy Established November 30, 2016.

**References:**

ORS 182.162–182.168
ORS 190.110
Executive Order 96-30

**Attachments:**

None