

# Thank you Amp Energy for your support in New Mexico!



The group of NTU trainees and instructors pose in front of a system they installed in Ojo Encino, New Mexico.

## Learning Solar Skills

The GRID Alternatives' National Tribal Program has worked since 2010 to help tribal communities across the United States achieve their renewable energy goals. Every GRID project is an opportunity for tribal members to learn about solar installation and related energy issues. GRID partners with tribal colleges and workforce development programs to provide hands-on solar training and connections to local solar companies.

In early 2022, the GRID Alternatives Tribal Program partnered with the Navajo Technical University in Crownpoint, New Mexico to teach a handful of students about small grid-tied and off-grid residential solar photovoltaic systems. Students were able to gain valuable hands-on training while participating in solar installations across New Mexico.

[Link to Flickr album.](#)

Thank you to **Amp Energy** for sponsoring this opportunity!

### NEW MEXICO IMPACTS SINCE 2017:

**Total Projects Completed: 39**  
**Total Trainees: 120**  
**Total Tribal Partners: 8**  
**Total System Sizes: 499.27 Kw (DC)**





NTU Trainees laying the groundwork for a solar PV system.

## Helping People Live Affordably

Nearly 30 percent of owner-occupied households are considered low-income, and these families have to make hard decisions every day about how to spend their limited resources. Solar power helps people live more affordably in their homes, and contributes to long-term financial security. By leveraging public resources and private donations, GRID Alternatives is bringing the benefits of solar to families that need it most.



## Interview with Yulissia, Navajo Technical University Trainee:

Major: Energy Systems

### What are some of the things you learned while working with the GRID Tribal Program?

"I learned how to assemble and wire Photo-voltaic Solar systems, both grid-tied and off-grid. It was my first opportunity to work with clients to provide them with solar which was really exciting. I was also able to apply what I learned in school with GRID, which was a great experience."

### Do you see yourself working on similar projects in the future or pursuing a career in renewable energy?

"Yes absolutely. I would love to pursue a career in renewable energy, especially after working with GRID. I love seeing clients get excited about having solar and benefit from electricity. I would like to pursue a career specifically in solar. It is a great experience to learn as you go, and rewarding once you feel confident installing the solar systems. It was also so fun working with everyone on the project."

### In what ways can solar be beneficial to communities?

"I am from a rural reservation community called Pine Hill, and we have to go through a lot of steps to advocate for basic resources, such as power. There are constantly power and water outages, and solar can help to solve these issues in my community and similar communities, and make electricity more accessible. Organizations like GRID are doing this, and it can really benefit communities."



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