

Black Mesa Trust

Just and Equitable Transition (JET)

Project Manager



About Black Mesa Trust

Black Mesa Trust (BMT) is a Hopi non-profit whose mission is to safeguard, preserve, and honor the sacred land, culture, and water of the Hopi People—including the Grand Canyon, the Little Colorado River Basin, and surrounding areas for future generations to come. BMT was founded in 1999 to address the severe environmental and cultural destruction caused by Peabody Western Coal Company on Black Mesa.

With the current transition away from coal towards renewable energies, the Hopi Tribe must invest in transitioning to renewable energies and a sustainable economy that is consistent with Hopi values. Furthermore, the Hopi people must have a voice in the ongoing just transition developments at the state, tribal, and utility-levels. The JET Project Manager will help BMT meet these needs.

Duties and Responsibilities

The JET Project Manager will assist BMT in the following activities: 1) Just transition advocacy at the state, tribal, and utility levels; 2) Coordination and advocacy for a 20-megawatt pilot solar project (known as “Hopi Solar Project I”) on the Hopi Nation and; 3) Supporting a Hopi Engineering Student Apprentice’s involvement in the Hopi Solar Project I.

- Representing BMT in Just and Equitable Transition Development (30%)
 - Consistent involvement in state, tribal, and utility just transition work including:
 - Represent BMT in existing coalitions and before the Arizona Corporation Commission
 - Developing and implementing strategic communications (e.g., public comments, testimony, letters to government officials, press releases, etc.)
- Pilot Solar Project (“Hopi Solar Project I”) Advocacy (30%)
 - Coordinate with the Hopi Solar Project I technical staff, including informing staff about latest policy developments at the state, utility, and tribal levels (**Note that the JET Project Manager has no responsibility for the technical aspects of the Solar Project and no technical solar experience is required for the JET position.**)
 - Coordinate with the Hopi Tribal government and Hopi communities to conduct outreach about the Hopi Solar Project I
 - Advocate for the Hopi Tribe to develop, implement, and seek funding for the Hopi Solar Project I

- Community Outreach and Youth Engagement (30%)
 - Create public presentations and outreach materials (PowerPoints, newsletters, etc.) to educate Hopi communities about current developments related to just and equitable transition activities and about the Hopi Solar Project I
 - Coordinate with the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) at Northern Arizona University to recruit and hire a Hopi Engineering Student Apprentice
 - Mentor and manage the Hopi Engineering Student Apprentice to ensure their full involvement with Hopi Solar Project I development, community outreach, and other project needs
- Funding and Reporting (10%)
 - Regular communication and monthly update reports to BMT Directors and Board
 - Create all needed Grant Reports
 - Explore additional funding sources, particularly for Year 2 (2022)

Desired Qualifications

- Knowledge and experience in:
 - Energy policy in Arizona and on tribal lands
 - Collaborative project management
 - Community organizing and advocacy, particularly with Indigenous communities
- Commitment to and personal interest in:
 - Indigenous grassroots advocacy
 - The movement for just and equitable energy transition
 - Humility, humor, and open-hearted communication

Location

- Northern Arizona, although work will be conducted remotely until Covid-19 safety improves; Overall, the position is largely remote but candidate should be able to occasionally travel in Northern Arizona; Residence on Hopi or Navajo Nation preferred but not required

Time Commitment and Compensation

- Part-time (~20 hour/week)
- 9-10 month contract, depending on candidate's available start date. The anticipated start date is between March 1st and April 1st, 2021 and the contract end date is December 31st, 2021. As this is a contract position, it does not include benefits.
- \$2,400/month, paid monthly

To Apply

- 1-2 page Resumé and 1-2 page Cover Letter detailing why you are particularly qualified for and interested in this position; the position is open until filled
 - Email your Resumé and Cover Letter as attachments to:
 - Rachel Ellis at rme96@nau.edu

Questions

Rachel Ellis | rme96@nau.edu | 505-699-4746