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## Tribes, NARP enter working agreement

News

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Written by **Fort Peck Journal**

The Fort Peck Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with Native American Resources Partners, L.L.C., a company out of Salt Lake City, Utah, to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the Tribes natural resources on the reservation.

Native American Resource Partners L.L.C. (NARP) is a company designed to partner the development of Tribal Energy Companies providing Tribes greater control and broader economic participations in their lands and resources.

"The Tribes need better control of our resources and we see the value of the experience and professional skills provided by Mr. John Jurrius and his company NARP, LLC," said AT Stafne, in a press release issued by the Tribes this week.

Jurrius brings a successful track record of assisting Tribes in developing and building Tribal Energy Companies with him from his prior engagements with both the Southern Ute Indian Tribe of Colorado and the Ute Tribe of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation of Utah. These Tribes are in control of their resources today and now actively participate in the development of their lands, broadening their economic participation and associated revenues from that of a passive mineral owner to that of both a mineral owner and active resource developer, says the release.

Jurrius is credited with facilitating the Southern Ute's development of their Tribal Energy Companies now worth billions in value and initiating the Ute Tribe's energy company, Ute Energy LLC, already estimated to be worth \$100's of millions after only 3 years of operations.

"I am proud to have been associated with both Tribes and their respective development of Tribal Energy Resource Enterprises. The establishment of these companies has created not only real jobs for tribal members, broadened the economic revenues and asset base of the tribal organization as a whole, but provided tribes with direct control over and participation in the development of their lands and resources. Fundamentally, Tribes should use their natural resource estates to leverage into greater economic opportunity, thus providing greater social economic wellbeing for their membership," said Jurrius.

While the engagement is designed to ultimately identify opportunities that will support the development of a Tribal Energy Company, the first step is to complete a comprehensive assessment of the Tribes natural resources and associated opportunities within the hydrocarbon and renewable energy sector.

NARP will conduct the assessment and be responsible for 100 percent of all cost of the assessment. Once the assessment is complete, NARP will meet with the Tribal Council to discuss potential projects, structuring of a Tribal Energy Company and co-partnering opportunities with industry. Should the Tribe decide to proceed with the development of a Tribal Energy Company, agreements between NARP and the Tribe would be negotiated.

"We are excited about the opportunity to work with the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes and we would expect to encounter opportunities within both the hydrocarbon and renewable energy sector during our review, which would provide the impetus to build a very successful Tribal Energy Company," said Jurrius.

"We are looking forward to a long term relationship with Mr. Jurrius and NARP, a relationship where the true value of our resources is realized for the benefit of the Tribes," said Chairman Stafne.

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