

Abstract

Cedarville Rancheria Geothermal End Uses Challenge: Working with Indigenous Communities on Sustainable Development Solutions

Many native American tribes are sitting atop lands that hold natural resources and other precious metals. Whereas many these groups of people choose to take a more traditional linear approach of the development of extractive industries, the Northern Paiute Tribe has chosen to take a different approach that resonates with the circular economy. Instead they have chosen to develop a renewable geothermal source located on the reservation. In a partnership with the Division of Energy and Minerals Extraction (DEMD), my Senior Design group at the Colorado School of Mines is working to assist the tribe in their efforts to further develop this renewable resource. The major goal of this project is to ensure that end product will work to directly benefit the people of the Cedarville Rancheria. In order to tackle this goal, our methodology included stakeholder mapping, site visits to meet the tribe, iterative design practices with tribe feedback, and presentations of final solutions. This poster serves to highlight team GEOPamaka's ongoing efforts to work with the tribe in an attempt to ensure maximum benefit their community and people.