

Sen. wants to develop projects on American Indian land

April 2 -- U.S. Senator Tim Johnson, D-S.D., plans to introduce legislation that would encourage development of wind and solar energy projects on American Indian owned land.

Existing federal tax law includes production tax credits that encourage renewable energy producers to launch new projects by decreasing their costs associated with producing renewable energy, which can be more expensive than electricity produced from fossil fuels. The tax credits don't benefit American Indian tribes that have land available for clean energy projects because the tribes don't have federal tax liabilities, Johnson said.

"Our tribal lands hold enormous potential for the production of commercial scale wind and solar energy, but development to date has been limited, he said.

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