

FEMA Awards More than \$872,000 to Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin for Infrastructure Protection Project

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CHICAGO – Through the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant program, FEMA has awarded \$872,894 to the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin (MITW) for an underground power line conversion project. The project will convert a series of overhead copper weld power lines to underground aluminum power lines. Since their installation in the 1950s, these lines have sustained repeated outages from natural hazards. By converting the overhead lines to underground lines, this project will ensure power to the reservation remains operable during severe weather, ice storms and extreme cold.

“FEMA’s BRIC program provides a critical opportunity for governments to invest in a more resilient nation, reduce disaster suffering and minimize future disaster costs,” said FEMA Region 5 Regional Administrator Tom Sivak. “This utility and infrastructure protection project is a proactive investment in risk reduction, supporting residents on the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin reservation.”

“MITW Emergency Management is very appreciative of the FEMA assistance. This project will provide electrical infrastructure protection in one of the most rural parts of our reservation,” said Ben Warrington, emergency management coordinator, Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin. “The team at Wisconsin Emergency Management, Mitigation Office and our Team in Menominee Tribal Administration worked very hard over the past year on this funding application. We look forward to completing this project as soon as possible.”

For this project, FEMA will pay 89% of the \$985,526 eligible project cost with the remaining 11% of the costs, \$112,632, provided by the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin. FEMA will also cover 100% of management costs at \$93,860.

BRIC, FEMA’s pre-disaster mitigation grant program, aims to categorically shift the federal focus away from reactive disaster spending toward research-supported, proactive investment in community resilience. The BRIC program



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provides funds to states, local communities, tribes and territories for eligible mitigation measures that support a more resilient nation, reduce disaster suffering, and avoid future disaster costs. To learn more about FEMA's BRIC program visit www.fema.gov/bric.



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