

Assess Community Capacity to Engage



Purpose

Use this worksheet to organize and track your evaluation of the capacity of your fence-line community members to engage. These questions are not designed as Go or No-Go type questions. Once you have a clear vision of your strengths and weaknesses, you can develop a negotiation strategy that aligns with and mitigates weaknesses.

Information Category	Resources	Key Research Questions
Resources to Support Community Negotiations Local Elected Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Government department specialists, technical experts, and other communities with experience - Talks with the company - Internal assessment of coalition strengths and weaknesses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What funds and resources can be directed our way? - What are the resources, support, and expenses we anticipate? - Can any publicly stated company values, guidelines, policies, certifications, or commitments be used to strengthen the community position?
Project and Commodity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Internal assessment of coalition strengths and weaknesses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What relationships do community coalition members have with this project or the company? - If this type of project or activity occurred before, what happened, and did community coalition members engage? Did Tribal nations receive free, prior and informed consent? - Do workers in the region have experience with the company or the technologies used to construct or operate the project? - Who are the regulatory bodies that will be involved in this project during its life cycle, and do community coalition members have any prior experience or existing relationships with them?
Community Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Internal discussions - Other communities with experience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is there a self-government agreement, or governance and consultation structures in place? - What structures are likely to be needed to manage negotiations?