### **Energy on Tribal Lands**

2021 North Dakota Law Review – Energy Law Symposium National Energy Center of Excellence Bismarck, ND ~ April 15, 2021



MARK N. FOX, CHAIRMAN

MANDAN, HIDATSA AND ARIKARA NATION (MHA NATION)

## Fort Berthold Indian Reservation Historical Land Base and Economic Impacts

- Aboriginal Trade Center "Riverine Tribes"
- Arikara War of 1823/Treaty of 1825
- ▶ Fort Laramie Treaty of 1851 Land Base 13+million Acres
- Reduction in Land Base Executive Orders
- The Pick Sloan Flood Control Act of 1944

#### President Biden Administration

 Orders 3395 and 14008 – Temporary Suspension of Delegated Authority

New Administration Opens Opportunity

### Difference Between Indian Trust Lands and Federal Public Lands

- ► Indian Trust Land:
  - ► Federal-Tribal Trust Relationship
  - Primary benefit for tribal governments and individual tribal members
  - Treaty, Self-Government, Self-Determination and Court Cases
- Federal Public Land:
  - Primary Responsibility of the Federal Government generally for public purposes

### Fort Berthold Indian Reservation Today

#### **Current Land Base**

- ▶ 1 Million+ Acres
- Nearly 17,000 members
- 6 Geographical/Political Segments
- 7 Member Tribal Business Council



### Fort Berthold Indian Reservation Today

### **Economic Impacts**

- Bakken, Three Forks, and Other Shale Plays
- ► FBIR is located in the heart of the Formation: Strong Well Production
- One of the Highest Producing Fields in the World – 300,000 bpd on FBIR Alone
- Over 2,500 Active Wells
- ▶ 500,000+ MCF/Day of Gas Captured



# Impediments to MHA Nation Receiving Full Benefits from Trust Resources

► Dual Taxation of Trust Resources

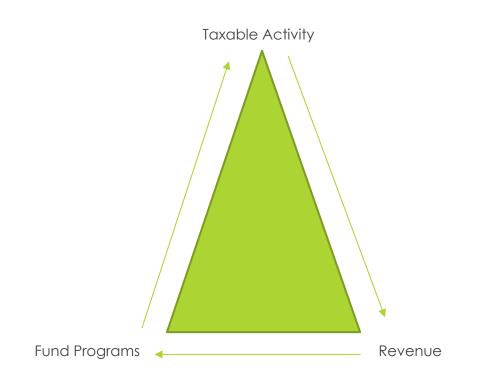
Access to Capital

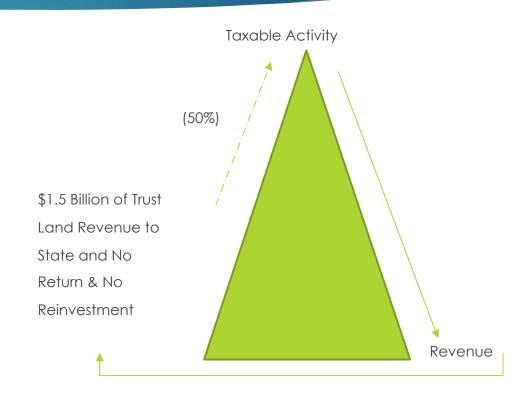
► Inequitable Tax Structure

### Tax structure Concern

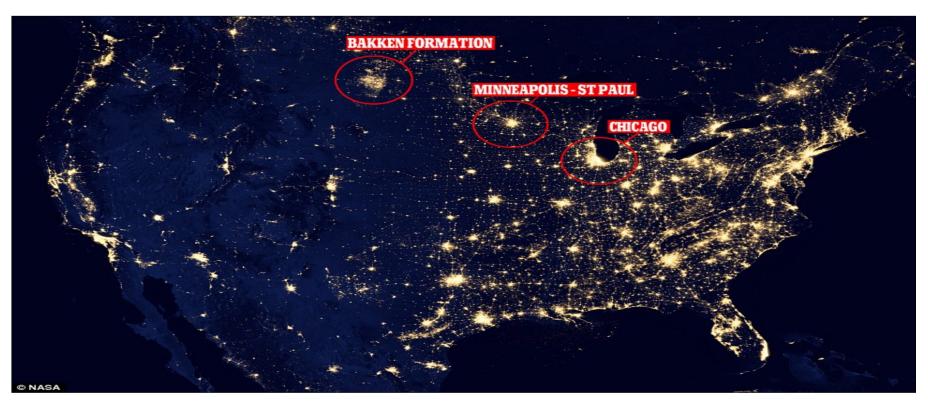
HOW TAX SYSTEMS SHOULD WORK

RESULT OF DUAL TAXATION





### Impacts of Energy Development – Flaring



The picture from space that shows how one U.S. oil field is burning off enough gas to power Chicago AND Washington because it's cheaper than selling it | Daily Mail Online By SIMON TOMLINSON PUBLISHED: 07:55 EDT, 28 January 2013 | UPDATED: 09:01 EDT, 13 May 2015

### Impacts of Flaring on Energy Development

► Impacts to Environment

► Loss of Revenue

▶ Today, estimated 50,000 MCF/day Flared

### Successes in MHA's Energy Development

- Health Care and Ambulatory Services
- Good Road Recovery Center & Wellness and Outreach
- Child Safety Center
- Tourism and Cultural Center
- New Schools
- Veteran Center
- Assisted Living Centers
- Benefits to Non-Tribal Members Schools, Medical, Emergency Support, etc.
- Economic Develop in Other Areas, e.g. Agriculture, Private Business
- Major Contributions to State's Economy/3B+

### Other Economic Development Opportunities

- Aggressive Agricultural Program
- Facilitate and Support Intertribal Economic Development
- Infrastructure and Water Development
- Foreign Trade

# Native Green Grow (NG2) - Gas Capture Greenhouse Project



MHA Chairman Fox at TomatoWorld (Native Business Magazine)

MHA Nation Chairman Mark N. Fox is spearheading a food sovereignty initiative on the



# Goals of MHA Nation's Energy Development

- Maximize Trust Assets
- Regain A Strong Economy
- Increase Standard of Living For Membership and Generations to Come
- Lessen Federal Dependency



Thank
You
and
God
Bless!