

# The Challenges of Investing in Renewable Energy March 22, 2012

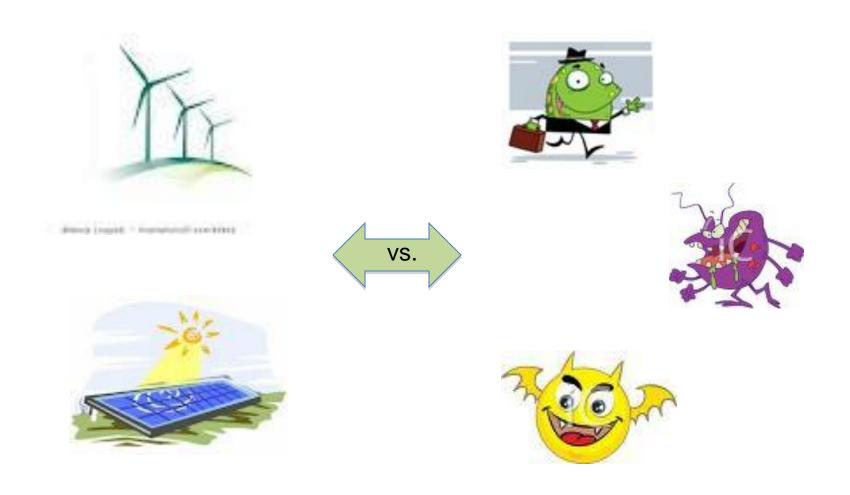
## **Project Profiles**



- All projects are different
  - They all have their benefits and risks, just a different set
  - The risks need to be:
    - Identifiable & Known
    - Actively Managed
    - Not present a Fatal Flaw to the Project
- ► The Banks, Transmission and PPA Providers want them to all look the same
- Economics are not very flexible within a given market
- Taxes and Jurisdictions vary widely
  - Tribal / Federal / State / Municipal

## Perceptions vs. Realities





#### **Death and Taxes**



- PTC / ITC / Grants
  - Most visible, but not as problematic
- Depreciation & Tribal Entity Ownership
  - Taxable Entities vs. Sovereignty
- ▶ Infrastructure
  - County Roads, Tribal Lands, Jurisdiction questions
- State Taxes
  - Excise vs. property taxes
  - Energy Production tax across jurisdictional lines
- ► TERO & other Tribal Taxes
  - Vary Greatly in size, shape and application

#### **Preventive Measures**



Push to understand and get ahead of the issues

## Project Economics

- Identify all taxes that might apply
- Push to clarify issues early and before jumping into the expensive work
- There are potentially trade-offs that take time to negotiate

## ► Tribal battles vs. Project battles

- Unknown territory
- Jurisdictional disagreements
- Tax Compacts, Fee Agreements

#### The Future?



- ▶ Non Tax-based incentives
  - Tax based incentives are inherently biased
    - For those who don't pay taxes
    - For those who don't make enough to pay taxes
- More consistent jurisdictional guidelines
  - New BIA leasing regs