

2025-07-17 - HWBT EP04 - Wahleah Johns

Title Ideas (final title in bold)

1. Wahleah Johns on Power, Justice, and Just Transition
2. **From Coal to Clean: A Navajo Leader's Vision for Just Transition**
3. How Wahleah Johns Is Reclaiming Power—Literally and Politically—for Indian Country
4. **Wahleah Johns and the Movement to Replace Extraction with Regeneration**
5. From Black Mesa to the DOE: Wahleah Johns and the Fight for Energy Justice

Episode Description

Host May Boeve welcomes visionary climate leader Wahleah Johns—former Director of the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Indian Energy.

Episode Notes (longer description of show):

In this timely episode of *How We Build This*, host May Boeve sits down with visionary climate leader Wahleah Johns—former Director of the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Indian Energy and co-founder of Native Renewables. A member of the Navajo (Diné) Nation, Wahleah shares how growing up without running water or electricity shaped her life's work: bringing clean, resilient energy to tribal communities. She recounts her organizing roots at Black Mesa, explains the meaning of a "just transition," and reflects on what it means to lead with ancestral wisdom inside one of the most powerful institutions in the country.

How We Build This is created and hosted by **May Boeve**

Producer: **Phil Surkis**

Theme music: 'Within', composed by Ruthie Dineen, and performed by **Negative Press Project.**

Instagram & Bluesky: @hwbtpod

can find us on Instagram and Bluesky at HWBT Pod, and on Linked in and Substack at How We Build this Pod.

Thank YOU for taking the time to tune in and helping build the movement!

(relevant links)

More on Trump’s Big Bad Bill and how it hurts the climate and communities:
<https://www.rollingstone.com/politics/politics-features/trump-big-beautiful-bill-fossil-fuel-gifts-1235382436/>

New York Times oped from Wahleah Johns:
<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/13/opinion/sunday/navajo-nation-coronavirus.html>

More on David Morris:
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1t8Ryib6errGGSgCs_pfKIDOqp_q3XkP1o_fd59snZRE/edit?tab=t.0

(credits):

Show Description:
[overview of show that doesn’t change]

Episode Art	
YouTube Thumbnail	

Links to social media assets:

QC Notes:

At 40:44 I say the word 'so,' before she comes in with "I do think," can you cut the "so"?

100% fixed.

PROMO:

SUBHED:

INSTAGRAM:

BLUESKY:

TIK TOK:

THREADS:

FACEBOOK:

NOTES: