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# TRIBE PLANS TO BUILD GEOTHERMAL PLANT

PRESTON — The largest single construction project in the history of Franklin County will begin this spring northwest of Preston when the Northwestern Band of Shoshone Tribe begins building a geothermal-powered electric generating plant.

Construction of the first phase of the estimated 100 megawatt facility is estimated to cost in excess of \$120 million. The value of the completed plant is estimated at more than \$400 million.

The facility is being developed through the tribe's wholly owned venture, Shoshone Preston Geothermal. It will take advantage of the heated water beneath the ground and use that trapped energy to produce electricity.

The location of the proposed plant is near the site of the largest Indian massacre in the American West. On Jan. 29, 1863, Col. Patrick Connor's "California Volunteers" killed about 500 Shoshone men, women and children. The Tribe purchased the heart of the Massacre site in 2003.