

**DOCKETED**

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<b>Docketed Date:</b>	10/13/2025



# WELCOME

**Regional Roundtable 2: CEC Order Instituting  
an Informational Proceeding on Tribal Affairs  
and Tribal Energy Sovereignty  
September 17, 2025**



# Meeting Logistics

- Public Comment Opportunities
- Principles of a Respectful Meeting

GAVIN NEWSOM  
GOVERNOR



CHRISTINA E. SNIDER  
TRIBAL ADVISOR

**CALIFORNIA TRUTH & HEALING COUNCIL**

**PRINCIPLES FOR RESPECTFUL MEETINGS**



# Agenda for Today

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- Morning Registration
- Welcome and Opening Remarks
- Tribal Consultation
- Tribal Energy Sovereignty
- Tribal Cultural Resource Considerations Regarding Clean Energy Development
- Best Practices for Tribal Energy Grants
- Lunch Break
- Tribal Energy Equity Indicators
- Improving Energy Project Development Processes
- Engaging with Tribes on Clean Energy
- California Tribal Gap Analysis Draft Report
- Closing Remarks





# **Welcome & Opening Remarks**

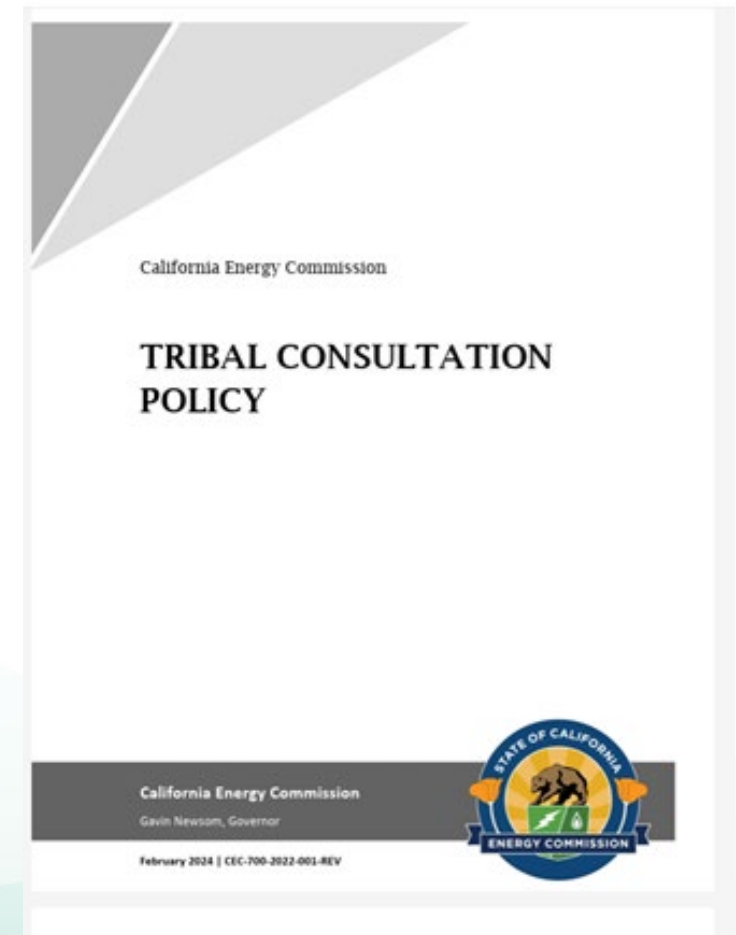


# **Tribal Consultation Policy**



# CEC Consultation Policy

- Adopted 2014
- Administrative Update February 2024
- California Natural Resources Agency Tribal Consultation Policy November 2012
- Assembly Bill (AB) 923





# CEC Tribal Consultation Policy Overview

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- Identifies the responsibilities and organization of the CEC
- Designation of the CEC Tribal Liaison and Assistant Tribal Liaisons
- Affirms CEC Tribal Liaison participation in the Tribal Liaison Committee
- Outlines CEC's tribal consultation process
- Mechanisms for exchanging confidential information
- Stipulates filing and disclosure requirements concerning CEC tribal communications
- Suggests ways for fostering long-term relationships





# Examples From Other Consultation Policies

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- Adequate preparation
- Mutual respect
- Relationship building
- Co-management
- Traditional Ecological Knowledge
- Importance of cultural resources and restoration
- Transparency and on-going communication



# What Would Tribes Like to See in CEC's Consultation Policy (Slide Co-Developed 9/17/25)

- Consultation should be consequential; show how consultation has influenced the process, project design, treatment of tribal cultural resources and mitigation that benefit the tribal communities, such as a tribal benefits agreement. How can tribes share in the benefits?
- Develop consultation plan and consultation record in coordination with tribes – agency must show analytical data in record and how tribal input was applied.
- Burden of proof that there is a tribal cultural resource should not be so arduous for tribes. Process should ensure tribes are heard. Defer to tribal expertise and knowledge; respect confidentiality with minimal sensitive cultural information collected. Current requirements for evidence of tribal cultural resources far exceeds other types of historic properties– beyond substantial evidence.
- Leave meetings and forums with a sense of being heard; develop balanced projects and ensure cultural resources are being protected, culture not being erased.
- Better expansion of AB 52 (county or city); include tribal representation on local agency boards and commissions, with approval and permitting authority over projects. Give tribes more decision-making power over projects that affect traditional areas.
- More benefits going back to tribes; tax revenue from projects should be shared with tribes when they are on traditional territories.
- Address dual taxation for projects on tribal lands (for projects not fully owned by tribe): when county asserts taxing authority, the tribe cannot tax the project or it becomes uneconomical.
- Information sharing and energy training to better understand issues and energy language
- Support training so that each tribe can have energy “champion” on their staff.
- Two-way consultations
- Funding for information sharing
- Balancing affordability, sovereignty and equity. Ensure that tribes without shovel ready projects can also benefit.
- Looking ahead at projects through an environmental lens; thinking about how the environment is impacted. Provide support for clean up at the end of life of these projects so that tribes are not burdened, as they have been with other industries.
- Support tribes' private enterprises and recognize tribes' roles in the energy space. Additional advocacy to support competitive markets so that utilities to not overly infringe on tribal enterprise profits. Tribes can be key in helping address affordability issues.
- Valuing tribal expertise when it comes to tribal cultural resources rather than overly relying on non-tribal experts to validate claims, or requiring tribes to share sensitive cultural information.



# How to Implement CEC's Tribal Consultation Policy (Slide Co-Developed 9/17/25)

- Understanding each tribe is different.
- Understanding competing tribal priorities
- Knowing how each tribe likes to communicate; practice patience.
- Developing relationships; important to show up in person
- Attend site visits; see the land and area.
- Attend community events beyond the business setting, where appropriate
- Prioritizing hiring Native workers. Include Native-owned businesses in opportunities. Understanding importance of inclusion and creating opportunities for Native workers
- Not extracting from communities and tribes
- Change happens quickly; important to revisit sites and communities
- Evaluate how our land is being impacted by development
- Understand the importance of history and cultural resources
- Expansion of opportunities
- It's crucial to have decision-makers/senior leadership in the room and part of the conversation during consultation so that they can hear directly from tribes, rather than information passed on through staff
- Dedicated tribal energy fund from legislature is needed
- Intervenor compensation



**Ahe'hee' - Thank You!**





# **Tribal Energy Sovereignty**



# History of Resolution Committing to Support Tribal Energy Sovereignty





# Components of Resolution Committing to Support Tribal Energy Sovereignty (Goals)

- **support** tribal self-determination, self-government, and **energy sovereignty**;
- **enhance tribal consultation** and participation in decision-making related to clean energy planning and development in California;
- **improve the protection of sacred sites**, cultural resources, and access to ancestral lands;
- **increase tribal access** to federal and state energy funding opportunities;
- **provide opportunities** for economic diversification, career development; and investment in renewable energy for California tribes;



# Components of Resolution Committing to Support Tribal Energy Sovereignty (Actions)

- enter into memoranda of understanding (MOUs) with interested California tribes to establish **frameworks for collaboration** on key energy policy and planning initiatives;
- develop **capacity building** and technical assistance resources to support clean energy transitions, advance the development of tribal energy enterprises, and increase access to clean energy programs;
- increase **tribal set-asides** within State programs and funding opportunities;
- partner with California tribes to pursue **federal funding** opportunities;
- prioritize **community benefits** within programs, policies, and planning initiatives;
- enhance **land-use considerations** in clean energy planning for the protection of tribal cultural resources;
- increase cultural awareness and **knowledge of tribal priorities** among Commission staff to better inform the development of programs, policies, and planning initiatives.





# Components of Resolution Committing to Support Tribal Energy Sovereignty (Actions Related to Land)

- provide assistance to facilitate California tribal government access to existing **information concerning land that may be of interest** to California tribes, including the environmental condition of the land;
- encourage and support opportunities for entities with whom the Commission conducts business with or otherwise regulates or interacts, including, but not limited to, publicly owned utilities, to provide California tribes **access, use, and co-management of lands** and to work cooperatively with California tribes that are interested in acquiring lands in excess of State needs; and
- encourage and support local agencies, as defined by Government Code section 54221(a), with whom the Commission interacts, to **transfer ownership of surplus lands** with which California tribes have a cultural connection or are within a California tribe's ancestral land.



# Where we are today...

## State Funding Eligibility Expanded

- Energy Conservation Assistance Act (ECAA)

## Capacity Funds

- California Clean Energy Policy and Planning Program (CCEPP)
- Offshore Wind Capacity Fund

## Tribal Set-Asides

- Tribal Specific Equitable Building Decarbonization Program (Tribal EBD)

## Removing Funding Barriers

- Tribal Electric Vehicle Infrastructure, Planning, and Workforce Training and Development

## Tribal Engagement in Planning

- Offshore Wind
- SB 100



# **What does tribal energy sovereignty look like for your tribe? (Slide Co-Developed 9/17/25)**



# **When you reach your energy sovereignty goals, what does energy work with the state look like? (Slide Co-Developed 9/17/25)**





# **What Would Be the Most Critical Thing to Include in the Draft Tribal Energy Sovereignty Policy?**

## **(Slide Co-Developed 9/17/25)**



# Morning Break



# **Tribal Cultural Resource Considerations Regarding Clean Energy Development**



# Introduction

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- Power plants can affect tribal cultural resources
- Project planning: limits time, consultation, flexibility
- Advance planning: encourages time, consultation, flexibility
- Two examples of advance planning



# Background on DRECP

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- Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan
- Lead Agency: Bureau of Land Management
- Cultural Resource Assistance: California Energy Commission
- Resource Management and Energy Development (10.8M Acres)
- Driven by federal laws and regulations
- Needed to assess cultural resource sensitivity



# Summary of Data-gathering Initiative

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1. One-mile grid over the DRECP area
2. 10% random sample of 1-mile squares
3. Records searches within the sampled squares
4. GIS: archaeological resource locations and attributes
5. Total archaeological resources in sample squares: 4,057



# Summary of DGI Methods (Cont.)

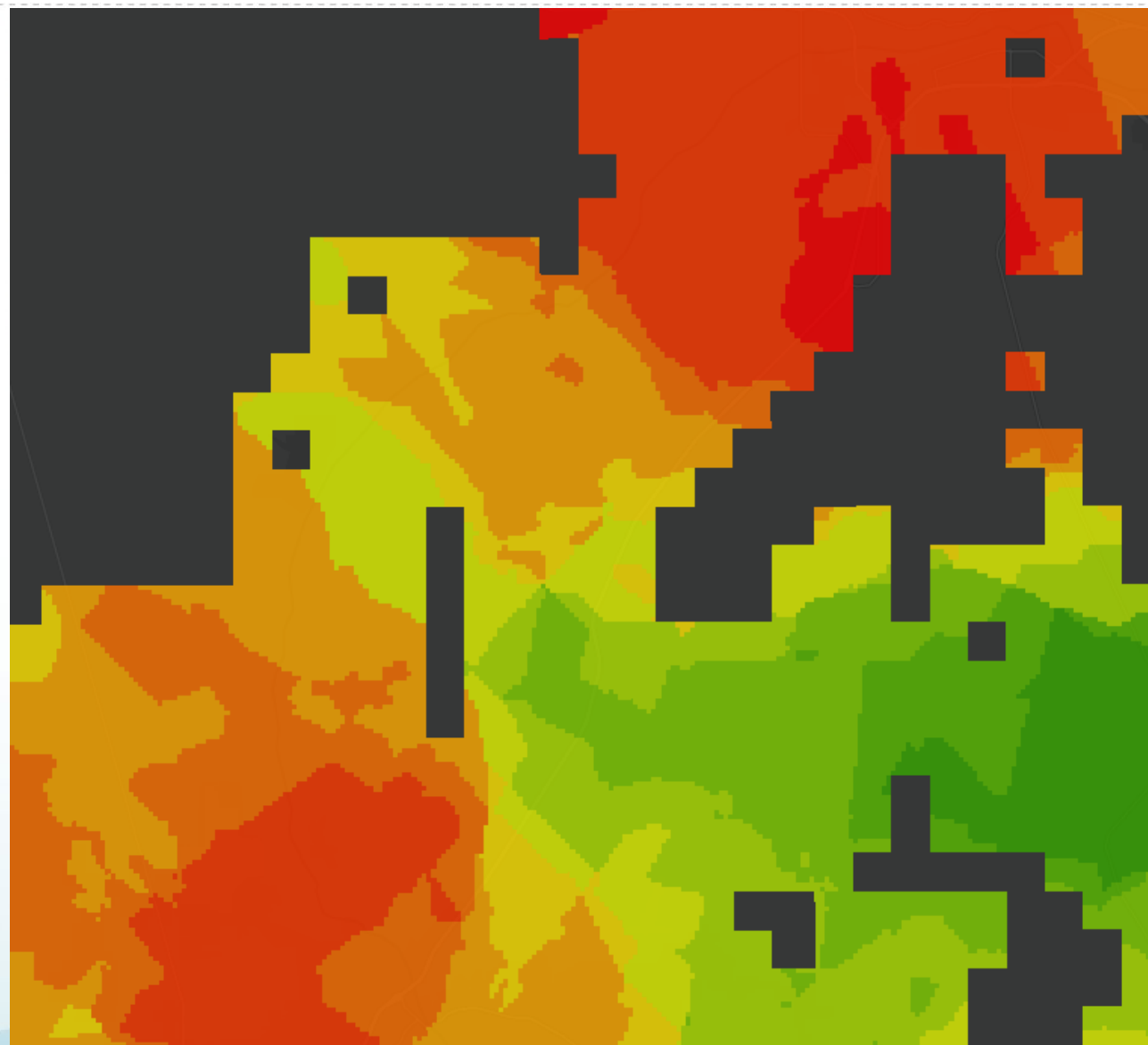
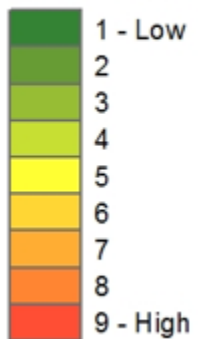
6. Square sensitivity based on frequency and density
7. Kriging estimated archaeological sensitivity of unsampled squares
8. GIS processing abstracts resource locations
9. GIS: mapped places in public ethnographies
10. Compiled other supplementary GIS layers





# DGI Archaeological Sensitivity Map

Archaeological Resource Sensitivity





# San Joaquin Valley Solar

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- **Least-Conflict Areas for San Joaquin Valley Solar**
- Agencies, agriculture, bio & tribal conservation, industry
- Covered 9.5M acres across eight counties
- Not driven by laws or regulations
- Tribes affected and steward important knowledge

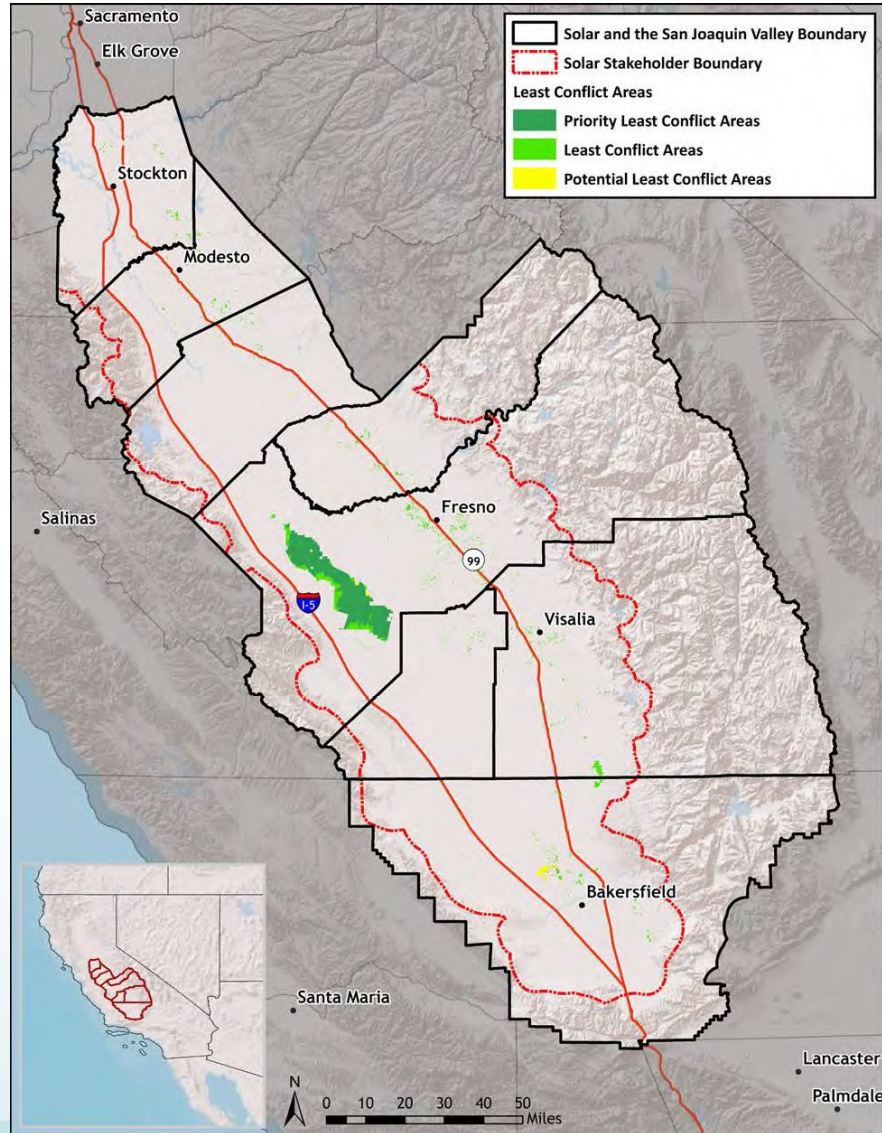


# San Joaquin Valley Solar: Cultural and Tribal Cultural Resource Methods

1. Initiated tribal consultation
2. Convened virtual and in-person meetings
3. Documented written and verbal comments
4. Tribally led information-gathering and GIS mapping
5. Integrated tribal data into other data
6. Tribal review of the outcome
7. Published approved results (*A Path Forward*)



# San Joaquin Valley Solar: Tribally Identified Least-Conflict Areas





# Comparing Approaches: Status Quo

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## Typical Project Planning Sequence

- Developer's due-diligence planning: variable tribal outreach
  - Developer often options project site
- The developer prepares an application
  - Sometimes the first agency viewing
- Permitting agencies conduct their environmental impact review
  - Tribal consultation is most intense here



# Comparing Approaches: Advance Planning

- Can reduce schedule-related pressure
- Can increase consultation frequency and quality
- Reduces pressure associated with optioned land
- Fewer conflicts about confidential information
- Can reduce risks for tribes and developers
- Question: How about landscape-level approaches?



# **Best Practices for Tribal Energy Grants**





# CEC Tribal Grants Working Group

## Goals:

- ▶ Inform OIIP Process
- ▶ Identify Challenges
- ▶ Share Solutions
- ▶ Coordinate Implementation
- ▶ Collaboration Across Divisions to Build Capacity



# EXAMPLE GRANT STRUCTURES



# Example 1: Equitable Building Decarbonization Program, Tribal Direct Install

**Overview:** Retrofits to buildings and homes owned by tribes, tribal members, or tribal organizations.

## Structure of grant:

- Tribal formula allocation with option for additional funding:
- Choice between direct grant administration or community-based organization as “implementer.”





## Example 2: Clean Transportation Program Tribal Electric Vehicle Infrastructure, Planning, and Workforce Training and Development

**Overview:** provided funding for Tribes, Tribal Organizations, and Tribally-owned businesses for:

1. EV Charging Infrastructure
2. EV Infrastructure Planning
3. EV Workforce Training and Development

### **Structure of grant:**

- Supporting planning and building capacity
- Direct apply or apply with a partner organization





## Example 3:

# Fifth Climate Change Assessment Tribal Research Grant Program

**Overview:** supports tribally led research, implementation of resilience projects, and information sharing amongst tribes. Tribal Research Grant Program focused on climate research, Indigenous Knowledges, and similar projects deemed a priority by California tribes.

### Structure of grant:

- Two rounds of funding
- Intended to encourage tribally led research to address California-specific tribal research needs
- Application office hours

# Example 4: Funding Tribal Microgrids

**Overview:** Over \$130 million towards Tribal Microgrids funded through:

- Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC)
- Long Duration Energy Storage (LDES)
- California Energy Commission's Energy Conservation Assistance Act (ECAAA)





# DISCUSSION





# How can CEC better reduce the barriers to applying for grants?

(Slide Co-Developed 9/17/25)

- To find out about upcoming grants: CA state grants portal, CEC Tribal Program listserv and newsletter. Suggestion that there should be a one-stop-shop for funding opportunities for tribes
- More funding for technical assistance for tribes
- More focus on workforce development, support Native entrepreneurship
- Funding for tribes to train and hire Native workers
- Design, build and construct as well as maintenance trainings. Funding for long-term maintenance of projects.
- Opportunities for tribes to train with CEC on energy
- Adjust scoring process – rely less on cost-savings metrics and more on sovereignty and resiliency benefits (scoring metrics)
- Consider ways to protect funds for long-term sustainability over political cycles.
- Reassess grant application process to simplify and make less burdensome.
- Avoiding stringent requirements that dictate the contractor and partners that tribes work with.
- Develop pre-vetting system to determine if the grant would be viable (pre-authorization with help of CEC staff)
- Look at scoring process and how it can be adjusted to rate energy resiliency benefits.



# What challenges have you experienced in grant administration?

## (Slide Co-Developed 9/17/25)

### Barriers – continued

- For Clean Transportation Program– would be good to have a two phase program to be able to plan and apply for enough funding.
- Not requiring a limited waiver of sovereign immunity
- Have funding from legislature dedicated to tribal energy. Create additional programs
- Have a dedicated tribal set aside for each new grant opportunity.
- CEC to continue to work with tribes and use existing funds available
- Expand eligibility on existing CEC funds
- Application windows are too short; extend the window for tribes to recognize unique challenges they face.
- Setting aside funds in smaller pools to be able to provide funding specifically for more rural, smaller tribes
- Customize grant funds to meet tribes where they are
- Tier level system to provide funds determined by need (Tier 1-5), with more funding prioritized for tribes with the greatest needs.
- Eliminate grant matching funds requirement – this is a barrier especially for smaller tribes
- Expand the tribal newsletter distribution list to include additional tribal departments that should be part of conversation (environmental, cultural)
- Additional directed outreach re: grant opportunities (leverage relationships, have a trusted contact call when there is a new opportunity)
- Cut down on invoicing back and forth; make systems more efficient
- Hold-backs – are these necessary?
- Surprise reporting is burdensome
- Condense, streamline, or eliminate authorization process. Could there be a wider pre-authorization?
- Tech support to tribes and provide correct, tailored forms the first time
- Include dialogue with IOU in the application process; open communication lines before grant is submitted
- Create a mechanism to share feedback between tribes and outreach possibilities.
- Prioritize tribal set asides whenever possible. Require that divisions must offer a tribal set-aside whenever possible when setting up new funding



# What would you like to see in terms of the structure of CEC grant opportunities?

(Slide Co-Developed 9/17/25)

Forum or mechanism to continue holding conversations



**THANK YOU**



# LUNCH BREAK

We will resume at 1:30 p.m.



# **Tribal Energy Sovereignty**



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# What does tribal energy sovereignty look like for your tribe? (Slide Co-Developed 9/17/25)

- Having a tribal utility authority
- Tribe's ability to define their own goals and needs
- Be able to have the independence to be self-sustaining energy structure but part of grid
- Ability for tribe to supply energy to its enterprises and a community
- Ability to plan ahead and provide options
- Self-sustaining and resilient energy
- Less dependency on the utility to provide power, who structurally treat tribes as customers
- Becoming an independent energy producer; owning energy infrastructure and bringing down prices
- Leveraging the renewable of right of ways to own transmission lines
- Increasing capacity
- Leveraging the fact that tribes may fewer permitting requirements than cities or counties to put projects on tribal lands. Streamlining tribal permitting authority
- Resiliency
- Open lines of communication with community members and IOUs. Having IOUs respect tribal sovereignty
- Right to do what they need and want when it comes to energy to serve the tribe
- Prioritizing tribes during public safety power shutoffs
- Ability to obtain funding with fewer restrictions
- Understand the risks and responsibilities associated with energy sovereignty
- Have the right people and processes in place for any planning
- Sovereignty means different things for different tribes; Find out what the specific needs are for the community
- Protecting critical infrastructure
- Cleaner process of how to turn power on (permitting process)
- Distributed energy systems, virtual power plants
- Specialized programs for landless tribes
- Any mechanism to strengthen sovereignty of tribes, whether through strengthening zoning to being a market participant and selling power



# **When you reach your energy sovereignty goals, what does energy work with the state look like? (Slide Co-Developed 9/17/25)**



# **What Would Be the Most Critical Thing to Include in the Draft Tribal Energy Sovereignty Policy?**

## **(Slide Co-Developed 9/17/25)**

- Build off items mentioned in Resolution on Tribal Energy Sovereignty and put them into practice
- Report card to show how goals from current policy are being met
- Scorecard completed by tribes to assess CEC success and measurement on its goals
- Metric to show improvement, changes in legislation
- Tall Grass Institute – tribal benefits report (for reference)



# Improving Energy Project Development Processes





# Purpose of discussion

- Explore potential approaches to improve coordination and consultation on energy related projects
- Identify and strengthen roles for participation in both tribal and non-tribal energy related project development
- Improve consideration of cultural resources on non-tribal land
- Identify non-process issues that impact effective communications and coordination



# Example Approaches for Energy Project Development Process

- Project development is **iterative**
- Unexpected variables may result in **changes to a project**
- **Communication** should occur throughout all processes
- Project **data transparency and accessibility** needed throughout all processes



# Project Process Example

## 1. Project Potential

- Preliminary assessment of opportunity
- Data collection

## 2. Project Options

- Determine ownership structure
- Permitting and environmental compliance considerations

## 3. Project Refinement

- Planning and development
- Engineering and design

## 4. Project Implementation

- Financing
- Construction

## 5. Project Operations and Maintenance (O&M)

- Post-construction management of project



# 1. Project Potential

## Determine if basics met for project development

- Possible site locations, restrictions, and conflicts
- Feasibility studies
- Need or demand for project or resource

## Below co-developed 9/17/25

- Qualified tribal monitors on initial pedestrian surveys to identify tribal cultural resources
- Be mindful of consultation plan and record – ensuring early records are included later in process. How are you capturing the information and including in environmental reviews and documents?
- Developer cultural resource management consultants are RoPA certified, so data privacy ethics and standards apply; so records of early consultation should be carried forward
- Also, CEQA allows for confidential consultation record (including AB 52), which helps protect privacy around tribal cultural resources
- Incentives for developers to consider partnering with tribes. Not all tribes will want to partner, but developer should ask
- Example: utility puts out RFO only for projects supporting tribal co-ownership
- Education on what is needed from a tribe and what is involved for a specific project – support technical assistance
- “Developer fatigue” – projects take a lot of time. Developers often overpromise and underdeliver.
- Navigating tribal politics and changes can be challenging
- Make tribe the lead agency on environmental and cultural studies; will help with confidentiality and ability to retain control
- IOU perspective – needs customer information sheet to know what projects are being proposed
- Optional survey may be needed



## 2. Project Options

### Determine roles, ownership structure, and regulatory considerations

- Understand tribal roles and business structure
- Explore opportunities for tribal partnerships
- Identify permitting other use considerations

### Below co-developed 9/17/25

- Developer should proactively seek consultation, partnerships, and agreements with tribes
- Alternatives could be considered at this stage; what are the design options and alternatives?
- Interconnection is a challenge for all developers. Could there be some additional help for tribes and prioritize interconnection on tribal land? Could CAISO and CEC have preferred interconnection areas?
- Energy champion at each tribe.
- Regulatory mandates are challenging; CEC should support tribes with understanding regulations and incentives to participate if they want. Increased education and outreach on regulatory mandates that impact tribes
- Sub-area for interconnection; sub-area for ownership



# 3. Project Refinement

## Finalize project structure and decisions

- Finalize ownership structure i.e. tribal, community, or developer
- Determine regulatory requirements, technology, and costs
- Environmental studies, CEQA, NEPA

## Below co-developed 9/17/25

- Having a tribal cultural monitor present
- Off-reservation projects, this is where tribes are typically brought in, but this is too late. Tribes should be brought into the process sooner.
- Encourage early direct engagement approach, early agreements with tribes (AB 52 is the floor)
- Checklist to monitor steps needed before coming to state with CEQA applications



# 4. Project Implementation

## Project contract and construction

- Finalize pre-construction agreements and finances

## Below co-developed 9/17/25

- IOU perspective – plan a kick-off meeting and include key partners (including planners, tribes, engineers, utility); schedule periodic check-ins
- Continued communication through all phases
- Ribbon-cutting ceremonies; celebrate milestones throughout the project
- Find ways to avoid “developer fatigue”
- Hold standing meetings with partners
- Ensure tribes are fully engaged with process and understand time commitments
- Implement adopted mitigation measures in a timely manner. Sometimes there is just an effects analysis and mitigation measures are never actually implemented.



## 5. Project O&M

### Conduct or ensure ongoing O&M including repair and replacement of items as needed

- Warranties and O&M agreements
- System performance and monitoring

### Below co-developed 9/17/25

- Implement new mitigation measures for items that are found, in consultation with tribe
- Decommissioning and restoration requirements should be addressed up front and bonded
- Address impacts through the life of the project
- Adaptive management to address the unanticipated
- Work cooperatively with CPUC to get utility poles removed from cultural sites (realignment)





# Thank you

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## Useful links:

- DOE reference slides: [The Five-Step Process Framework for Project Development](#)



# Afternoon Break





# **Tribal Energy Equity Indicators**



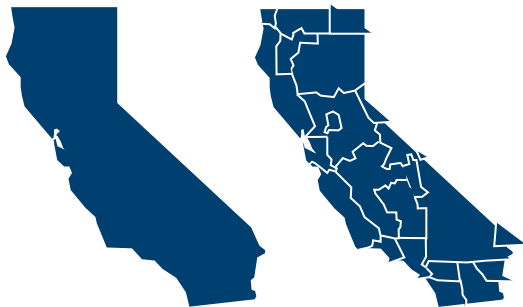


# Energy Equity Indicators Tool

## Data Visualization and Mapping



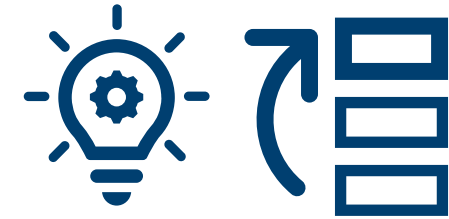
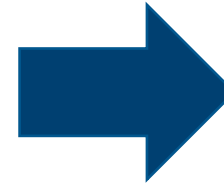
Database of Equity Data



Geographic Data Layers



Data Access and Analysis



Insights to Help  
Prioritize CEC Efforts  
and Investments for  
Tribes



# Relevance to Other OIIP Efforts

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## Energy Resources

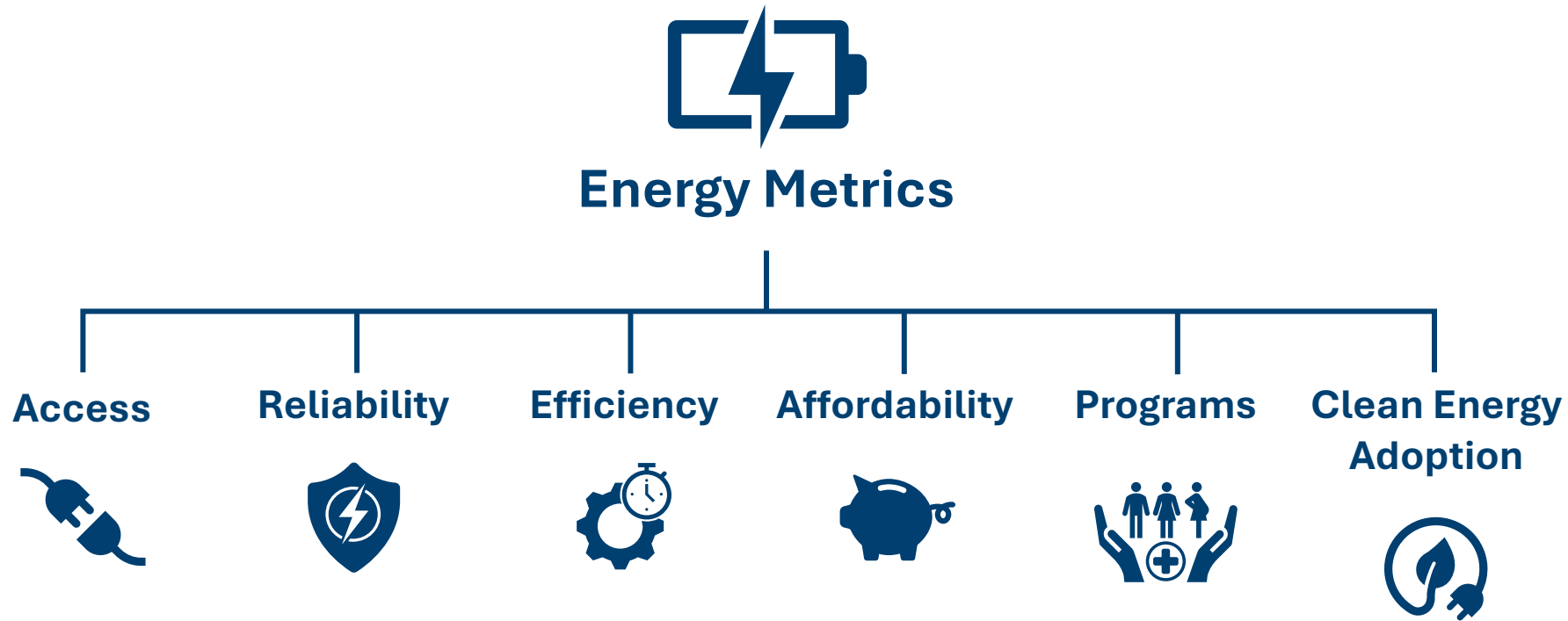
- Motivate equitable distribution of clean energy resources by increasing transparency
- Track progress over time to measure impact of CEC efforts

## Energy Grants

- Help identify communities that could use support to tackle their energy challenges
- Provide quantitative metrics to help strengthen grant proposals



# Energy Equity Metrics Categorization



## Supplementary Metrics



**Health**



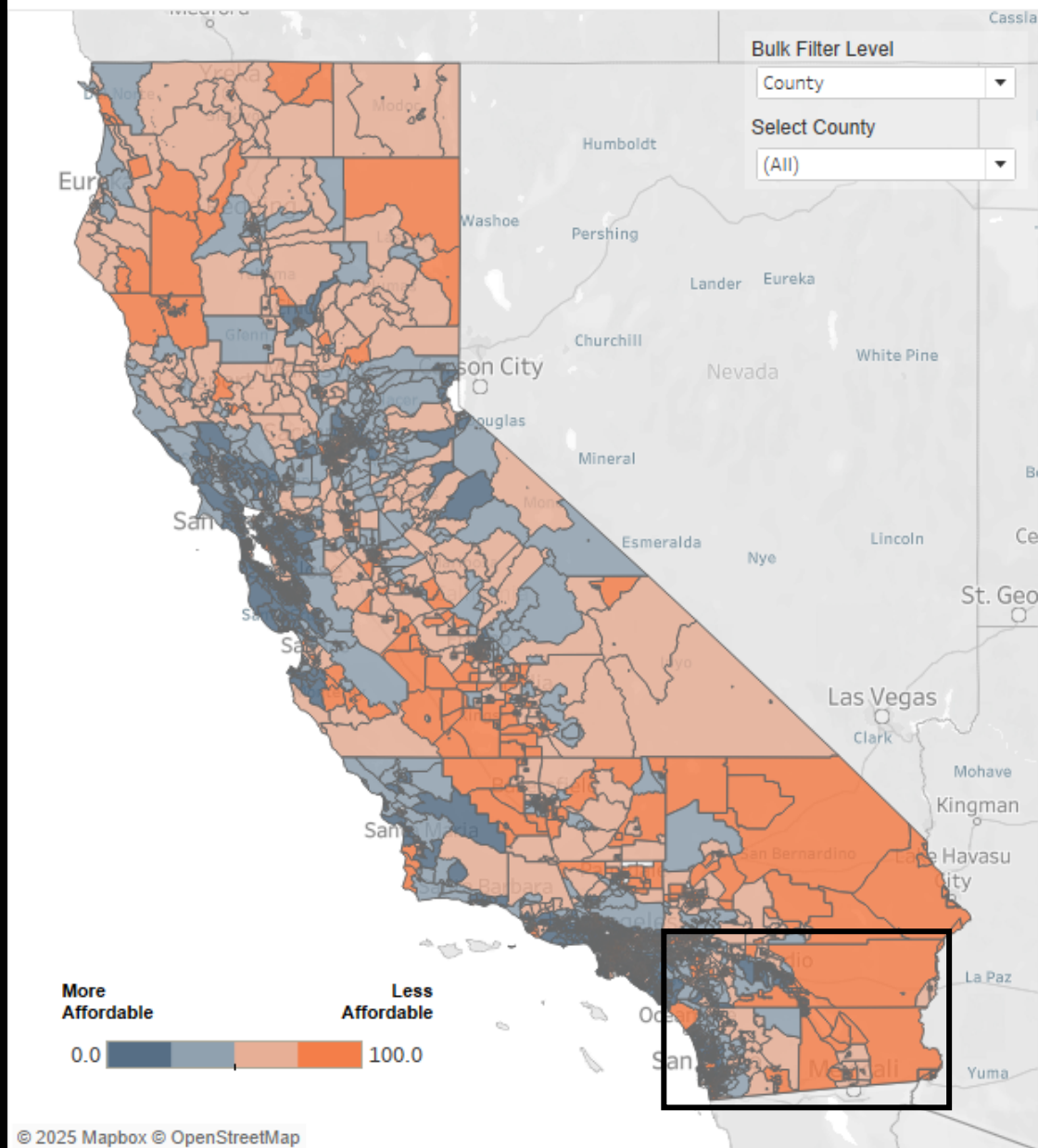
**Safety**



**Socioeconomics**

# A Deep Dive into Energy Affordability

## Energy Affordability Index by Census Tract



## Pearson Correlation Tool

Independent Variable:

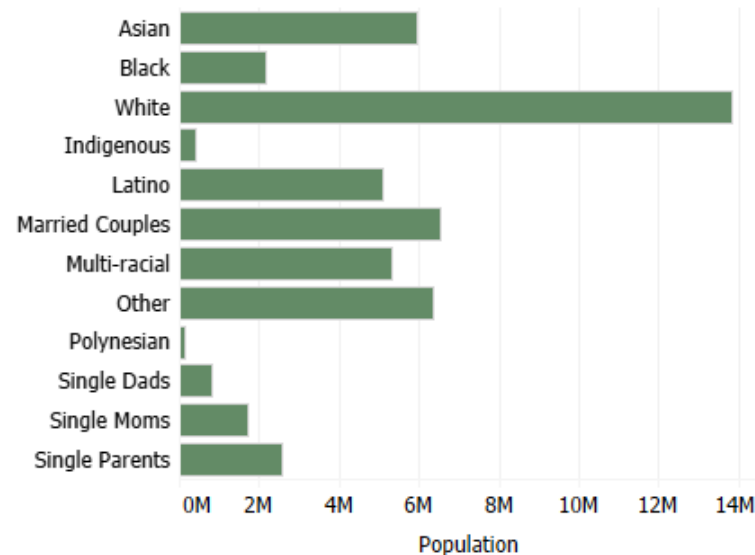
Energy Affordability Index

Vulnerability Variable:

Energy Affordability Index

$r = 1.00$

## Community Characteristics



Population Selected

39,234,926

Average Household Size

3.0

Average Energy Affordability Index 50.00

Average Energy Burden 2.1%

Total Energy Affordability Gap 59,216.8M

## Filters

Geographic Level:

- ☒ Census Tract
- ☐ ZIP Code
- ☐ City
- ☐ County
- ☐ State Assembly District
- ☐ State Senate District
- ☐ Natural Gas Provider
- ☐ Electric Power Provider

Metric:

- ☒ Energy Affordability Index
- ☐ Energy Affordability Gap
- ☐ Energy Burden

Home Ownership Type:

- ☒ Combined
- ☐ Owners
- ☐ Renters

Energy Affordability Index:

- ☒ Show All
- ☐ Filter Top 25%

SB 535 DACs Filter:

- ☒ Show All
- ☐ DACs

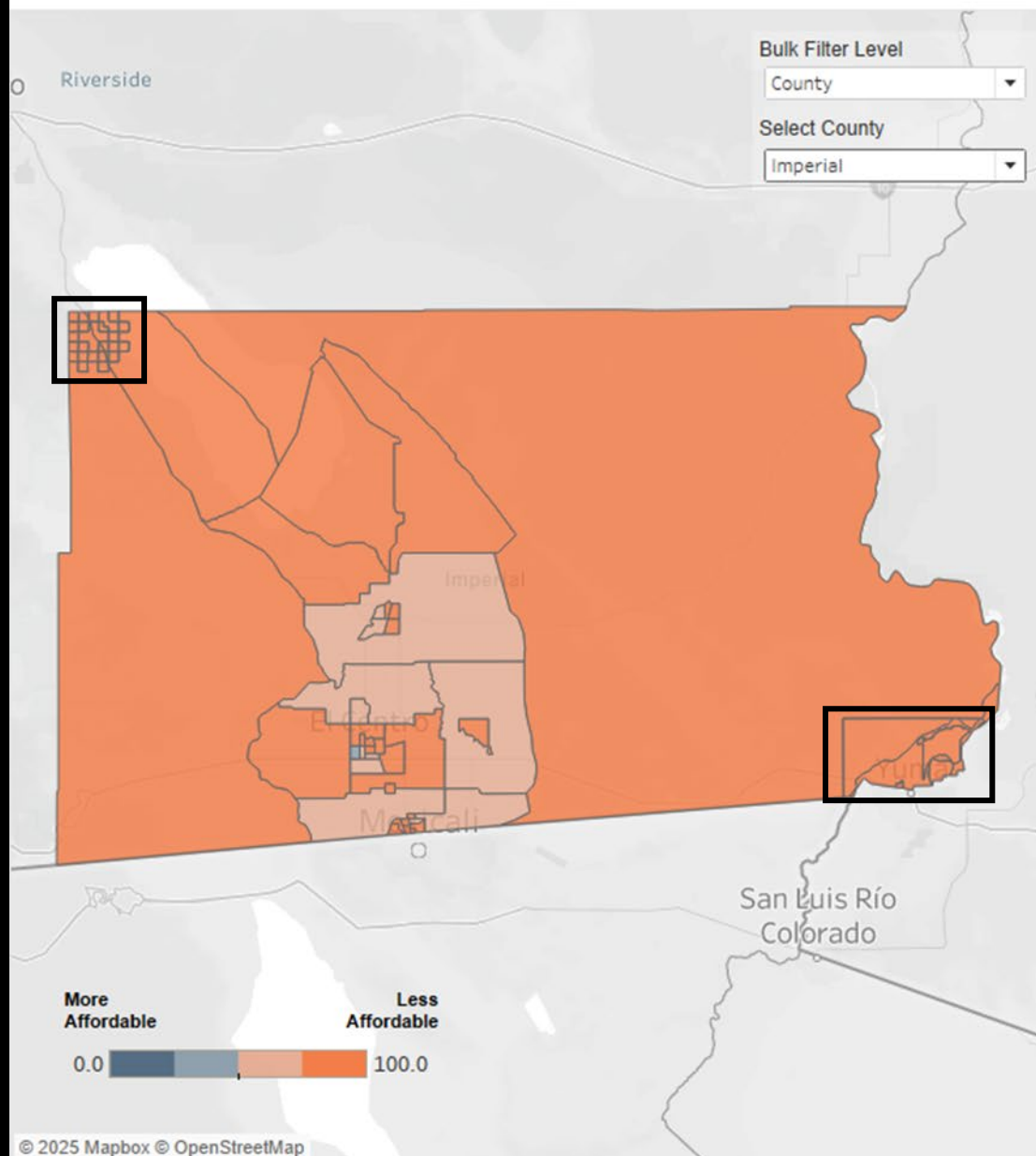
Justice Census Tract Filter

- ☒ Show All
- ☐ Justice Census Tracts



# A Deep Dive into Energy Affordability

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## Pearson Correlation Tool

Independent Variable:

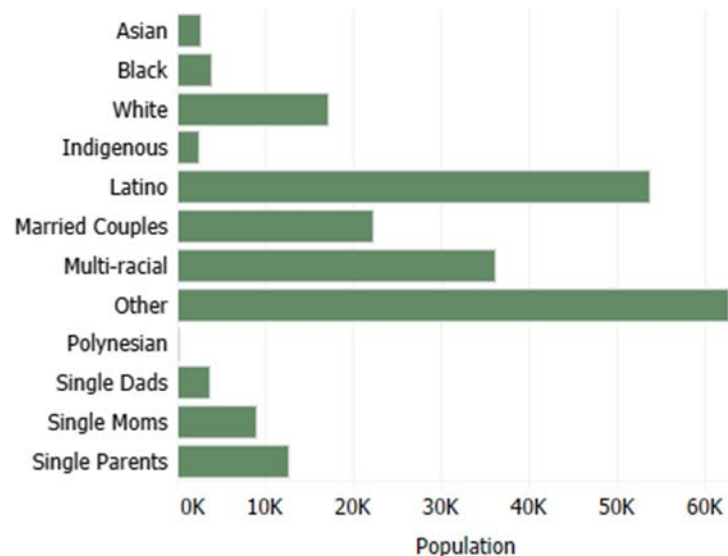
Energy Affordability Index

Vulnerability Variable:

Energy Affordability Index

$r = 1.00$

## Community Characteristics



Population Selected

178,682

Average Household Size

3.7

Average Energy Affordability Index 81.63

Average Energy Burden 3.7%

Total Energy Affordability Gap 85.0M

## Filters

Geographic Level:

- ☒ Census Tract
- ☐ ZIP Code
- ☐ City
- ☐ County
- ☐ State Assembly District
- ☐ State Senate District
- ☐ Natural Gas Provider
- ☐ Electric Power Provider

Metric:

- ☒ Energy Affordability Index
- ☐ Energy Affordability Gap
- ☐ Energy Burden

Home Ownership Type:

- ☒ Combined
- ☐ Owners
- ☐ Renters

Energy Affordability Index:

- ☒ Show All
- ☐ Filter Top 25%

SB 535 DACs Filter:

- ☒ Show All
- ☐ DACs

Justice Census Tract Filter

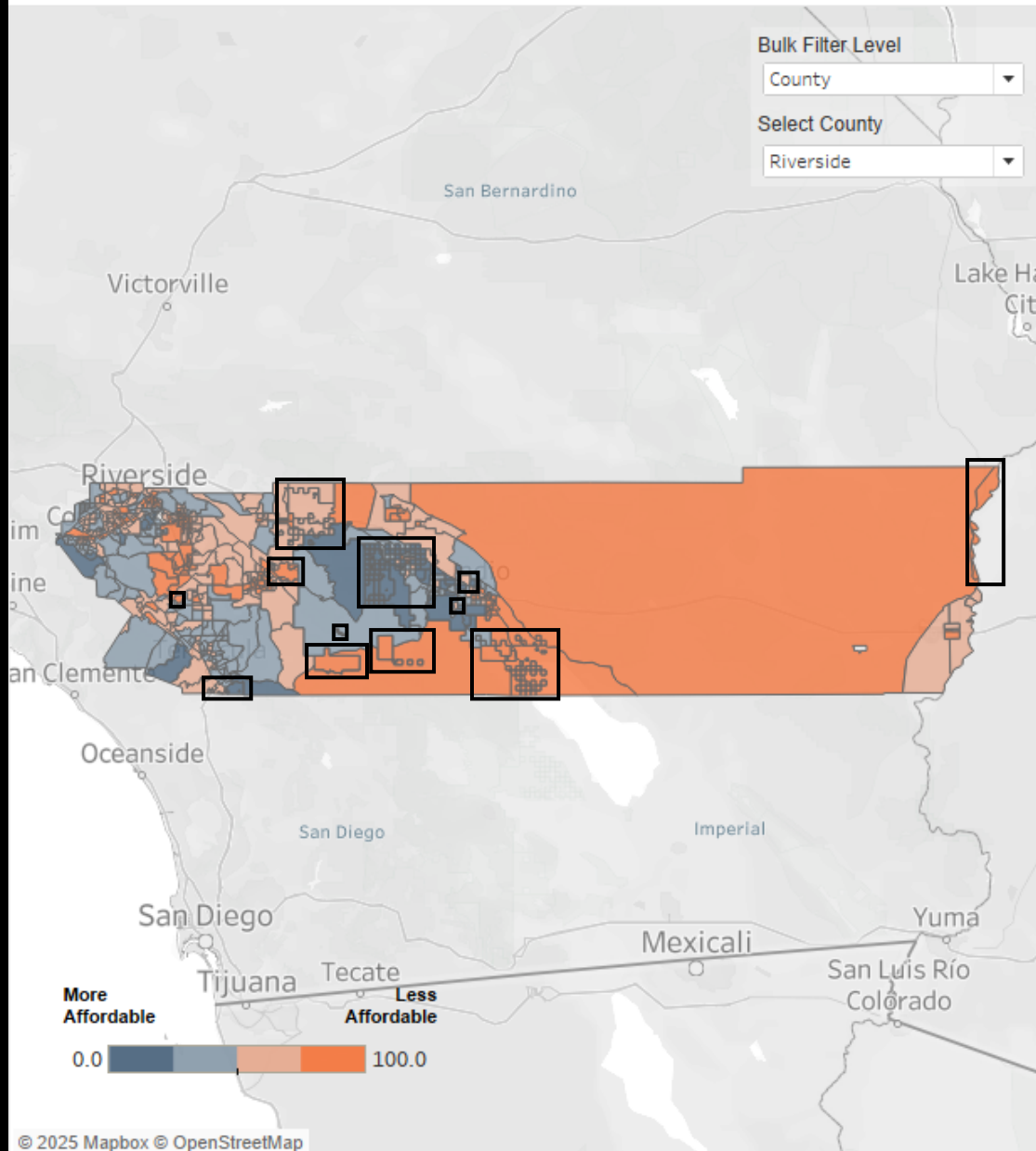
- ☒ Show All
- ☐ Justice Census Tracts





# A Deep Dive into Energy Affordability

## Energy Affordability Index by Census Tract



## Pearson Correlation Tool

Independent Variable:

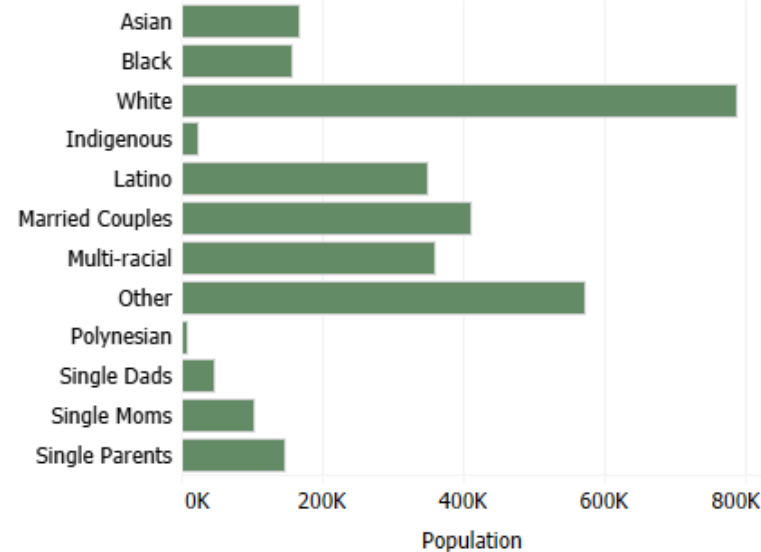
Energy Affordability Index

Vulnerability Variable:

Energy Affordability Index

$r = 1.00$

## Community Characteristics



Population Selected

2,422,415

Average Household Size

3.3

Average Energy Affordability Index

58.73

Average Energy Burden

2.7%

Total Energy Affordability Gap

1,084.7M

## Filters

Geographic Level:

- ☒ Census Tract
- ☐ ZIP Code
- ☐ City
- ☐ County
- ☐ State Assembly District
- ☐ State Senate District
- ☐ Natural Gas Provider
- ☐ Electric Power Provider

Metric:

- ☒ Energy Affordability Index
- ☐ Energy Affordability Gap
- ☐ Energy Burden

Home Ownership Type:

- ☒ Combined
- ☐ Owners
- ☐ Renters

Energy Affordability Index:

- ☒ Show All
- ☐ Filter Top 25%

SB 535 DACs Filter:

- ☒ Show All
- ☐ DACs

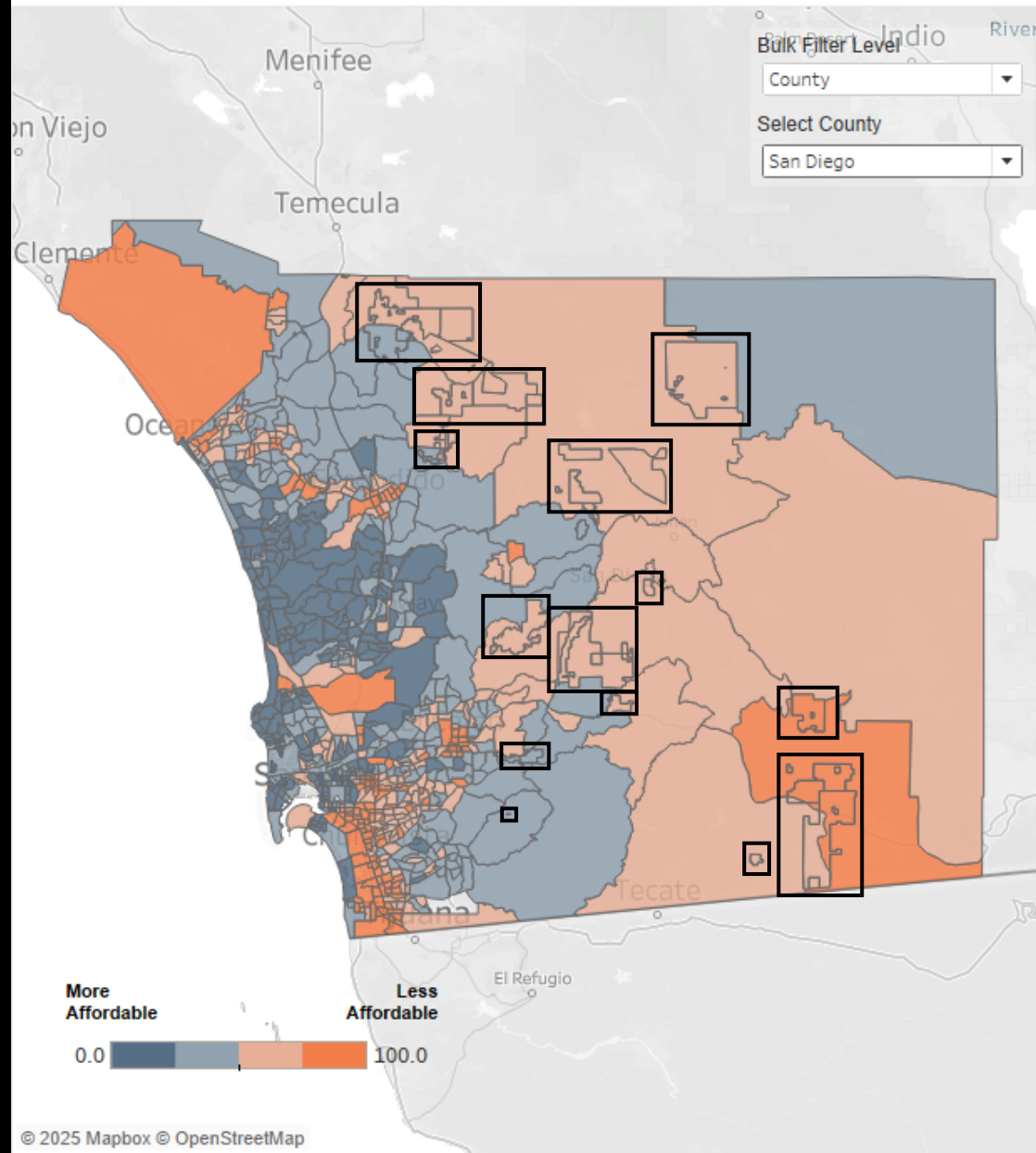
Justice Census Tract Filter

- ☒ Show All
- ☐ Justice Census Tracts



# A Deep Dive into Energy Affordability

## Energy Affordability Index by Census Tract



## Pearson Correlation Tool

Independent Variable:

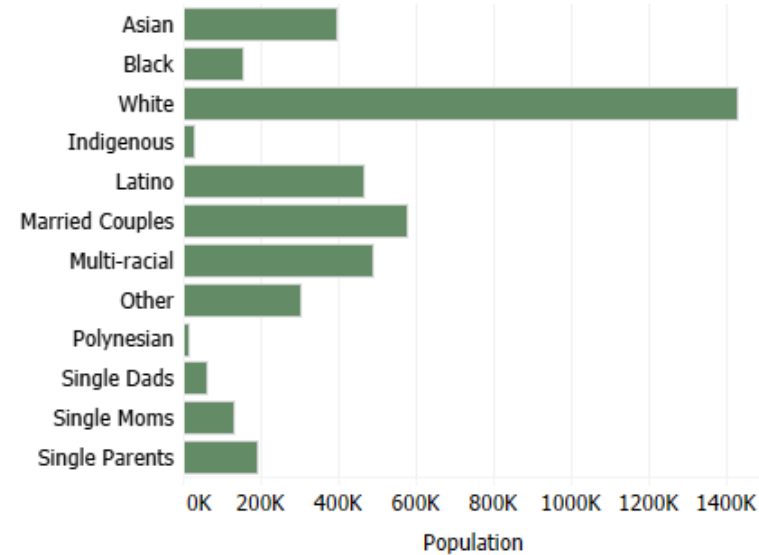
Energy Affordability Index

Vulnerability Variable:

Energy Affordability Index

$r = 1.00$

## Community Characteristics



Population Selected  
**3,273,354**

Average Household Size  
**2.9**

Average Energy Affordability Index  
**46.65**

Average Energy Burden  
**1.7%**

Total Energy Affordability Gap  
**7,741.2M**

## Filters

Geographic Level:

- ☒ Census Tract
- ☐ ZIP Code
- ☐ City
- ☐ County
- ☐ State Assembly District
- ☐ State Senate District
- ☐ Natural Gas Provider
- ☐ Electric Power Provider

Metric:

- ☒ Energy Affordability Index
- ☐ Energy Affordability Gap
- ☐ Energy Burden

Home Ownership Type:

- ☒ Combined
- ☐ Owners
- ☐ Renters

Energy Affordability Index:

- ☒ Show All
- ☐ Filter Top 25%

SB 535 DACs Filter:

- ☒ Show All
- ☐ DACs

Justice Census Tract Filter

- ☒ Show All
- ☐ Justice Census Tracts





# Discussion-Guiding Questions

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- How could your tribe utilize these metrics or this tool?
  - Would it be useful for energy planning?
  - Would it be useful for grant funding?
- Are there any other uses that your tribe would find beneficial?
  - Are there features or metrics you would like to see added?
- Do you have any other thoughts on how Energy Equity Indicators can better meet tribal needs?

# Thank You!



Quenby Lum, Energy End Use Survey Specialist  
Martín Flores, Energy Equity and Energy Modeling Specialist



# **California Tribal Gap Analysis Project (Draft Report)**

# California Tribal Gap Analysis Project

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DRAFT REPORT RELEASE

[CALTRIBALGAPANALYSIS.ORG](https://caltribalgapanalysis.org)



## BACKGROUND

- 2018 Tribal Energy Summit → Leftover ARRA funds → Tribal Government Challenge Statewide Gap Analysis
  - 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)
  - Same fund source used for Tribal Government Challenge grants (aligned w/ ARRA guidelines for Local Government Challenge)
- Tribal Government Challenge Statewide Gap Analysis = California Tribal Gap Analysis
- Partnership with SGC → inclusion of climate change

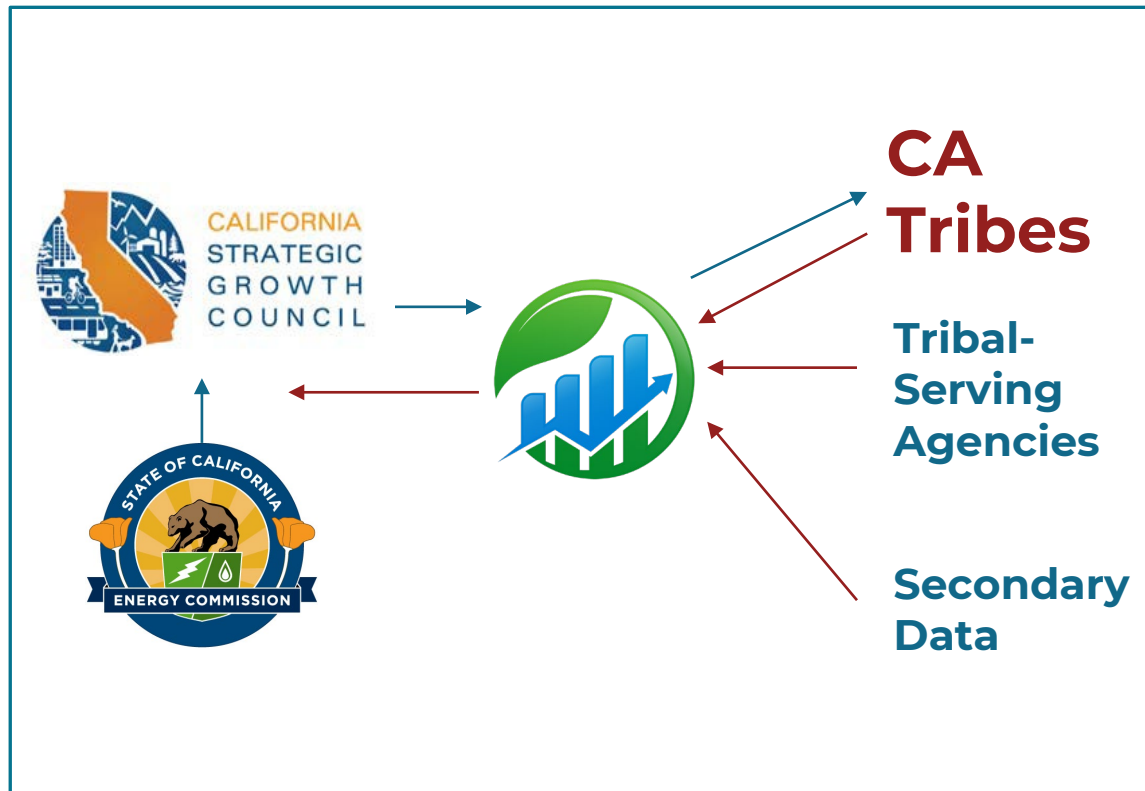
## SCOPE

- Tribal gap analysis focused on: Clean Energy, Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience
- All California Native American Tribes
  - Including those without federal recognition or land holdings

# CTGAO

## CALIFORNIA TRIBAL GAP ANALYSIS

COLLABORATING ON CLEAN ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE



### GOALS

- Identify tribal priorities, needs, and barriers in clean energy and climate change adaptation and resilience
- Provide recommendations for State programs, funding, technical assistance, etc. to address needs
  - Primarily informed and shaped by Tribal input
- Advance collaboration and build relationships between Tribes and State
- Inform future State clean energy and climate change programs for Tribes (funding, etc.) to address needs



# CTGA Project Team

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## STATE COMMITTEE

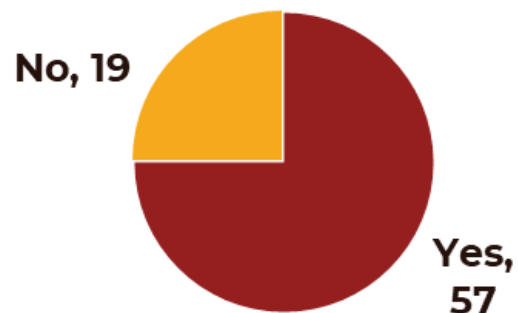


## CONTRACTOR TEAM

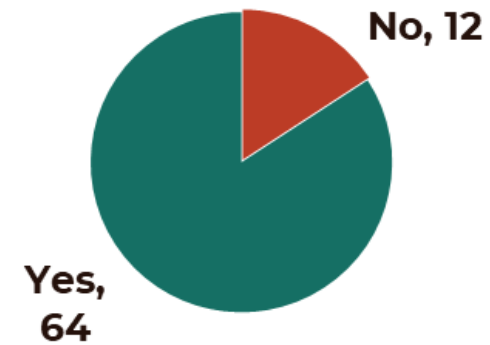


Respondent Titles/Roles	#
Environmental	30
Natural Resources	11
Energy or Utilities	3
Other Administrative Position	30
Council Member or Executive	25

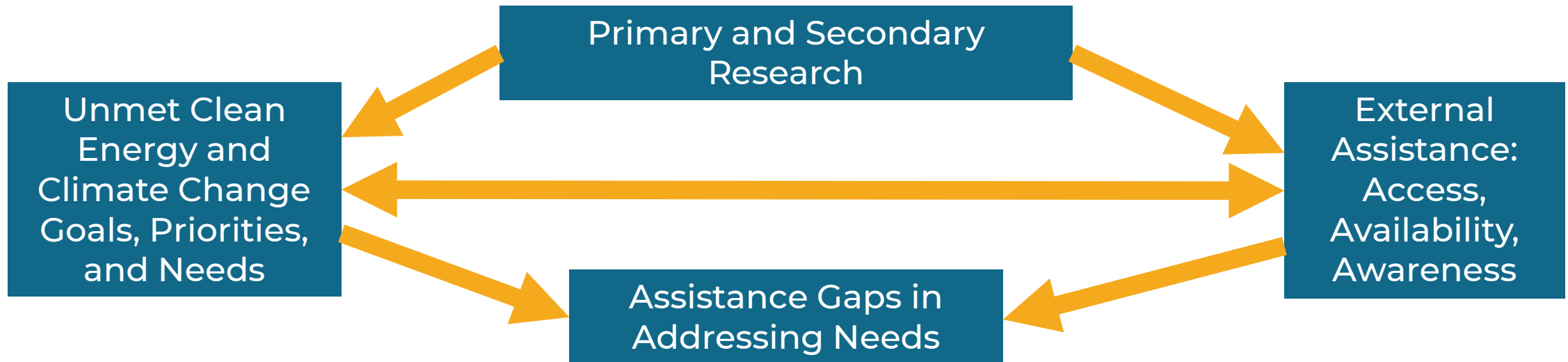
**Is your Tribe Federally  
Recognized?**



**Does your Tribe have  
any land holdings?**



*What assistance gaps do California Tribes face in advancing goals and meeting needs?  
How can the State address those assistance gaps?*



## RECOMMENDATIONS

- I. Improve Tribal Outreach, Communication, and Engagement
- II. Improve Tribal Access and Utilization of Existing State Programs
- III. Increase State Investments to Create/Expand Tribal Assistance Programs

# CTGA Report Outline

Foreword

Executive Summary

Introduction

Methodology

Results and Analysis

- Survey Sample and Respondent Characteristics
- Tribal Clean Energy and Climate Change Needs
- Barriers and Assistance Gaps

Recommendations and Conclusions

Terms

# CTGA Report Appendices

Appendix A: CTGA Tribal Questionnaire

Appendix B: CTGA Tribal Questionnaire Dropdown Response Options

Appendix C: CTGA Key Outreach Activities

Appendix D: CTGA Quality Control Statement and Plan

Appendix E: Scoring Methodology for Multi-Part, Closed-Ended Questions

Appendix F: CTGA Tribal-Serving Organization Questionnaire

Appendix G: Map of California Tribes by 4th California Climate Change Assessment Region

Appendix H: Climate and Natural Hazard Risk Factors for California Native American Tribes

# CTGA Report Appendices

Appendix I: Summary Statistics for CTGA Tribal Questionnaire Closed-Ended Questions

Appendix J: All Response Scores for all Clean Energy and Climate Change Activities

Appendix K: Subsets of Need Scores for all Clean Energy and Climate Change Activities – Federally Recognized Tribes, Non-federally Recognized Tribes, Tribes with Land, Tribes without Land, and All Tribes

Appendix L: Climate Change Results by Region

Appendix M: Research Recommendations

Appendix N: Preliminary Assessment of Assistance Gaps in Top Need Areas

Appendix O: Bibliography of Secondary Sources

# Recommendations Areas

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**IMPROVE STATE-LED TRIBAL  
OUTREACH, COMMUNICATION,  
AND ENGAGEMENT**



**IMPROVE TRIBAL ACCESS AND  
UTILIZATION OF EXISTING STATE  
PROGRAMS**



**INCREASE STATE INVESTMENTS  
TO CREATE AND EXPAND TRIBAL  
ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS**

# Improve Tribal Outreach, Communication, and Engagement

Increase Tribes' knowledge and awareness of assistance programs

Maintain Tribal clean energy and climate program assistance database

Conduct regular Tribal energy and climate meetings

Improve Tribal relations, capacity, and training among State employees

Improve State Tribal engagement policies and processes

Empower Tribes to inform and shape programs and policies

Centralize, streamline, and sustain interagency communications and engagement



# Improve Tribal Access and Utilization of Existing State Programs

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Eliminate requirements that undermine Tribal sovereignty, such as:

- Requiring waivers of sovereign immunity
- Imposing CEQA requirements on Tribal land
- Infringing on data sovereignty

Further assess Tribal access, challenges, and utilization of assistance programs such as:

- Expand eligibility including access to non-Tribal specific programs
- Expand Tribal set-asides and Tribe-specific grants
- Provide or eliminate cost-share requirements
- Provide guidance and technical assistance during solicitation periods
- Expand Q&A during solicitation periods

Remove unfunded plans and other requirements

Simplify, streamline, and coordinate grant solicitations

Reduce and simplify grants management requirements

Collaborate with Tribes on State climate change research

Use standard metrics for State agencies to track and report Tribal utilization of programs

# Create/Expand Programs to Benefit Tribes and Build Capacity

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Increase investments in top need areas	Increase flexible funding	Increase recurring funding	Offer funding and assistance for pre-development activities	Offer phased funding and assistance programs
Increase and expand technical assistance (TA)	Provide grant writing assistance	Increase funding for Tribal staffing	Increase Tribal staff training	Provide cost-share for federal grants
Provide low interest loans and loan guarantees	Fund initiatives to acquire ancestral lands	Fund basic and broader Tribal energy projects and initiatives	Create a centralized, evergreen inventory and pipeline of fundable projects	Establish Tribal-serving regional energy and climate hubs

# Draft CTGA Report: Public Comment Period

- Download draft report at [caltribalgapanalysis.org](https://caltribalgapanalysis.org)
- Provide feedback using [this online form](#) (by 10/24/2025):
  - Recommendations and Conclusions, particularly any additional recommendations and suggestions on how to make recommendations more actionable or successful
  - Barriers and assistance gaps that may have arisen since the study period of 2020 to 2022
  - Errors and omissions that do not change or affect the primary research data gathered from Tribes and other CTGA participants
  - Other feedback you have on the CTGA report
- Learn more and provide feedback during events
- Subscribe to [CTGA/TECC email list](#) to receive updates



# Upcoming CTGA Report Events

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## Workshops Reviewing Recommendations (virtual)

- 10/1: Improve Tribal Outreach, Communication, and Engagement ([register](#))
- 10/6: Improve Tribal Access and Utilization of Existing State Programs ([register](#))
- 10/14: Increase State Investments to Create/Expand Tribal Assistance Programs ([register](#))



# Thank You! Questions? Comments?

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CALTRIBALGAPANALYSIS.ORG

INFO@CALTRIBALGAPANALYSIS.ORG



# Closing Comments



# Upcoming Funding Opportunities

- Tribal Set-aside Equitable Building Decarbonization
  - Guidelines posted.
- Electric Program Investment Charge 5 (EPIC 5)
  - Currently standing up outreach an engagement for the 5<sup>th</sup> investment plan.



# Way to Stay Engaged

- Follow the proceeding around the state!
  - 9 more regional roundtables in Round 1!
- Sign-Up for the “Tribal Program” email list.
- Request tribal consultation
- Submit written comments to the docket.

## SUBSCRIBE

Tribal Program

Email \*

SUBSCRIBE





**Next OIIP Regional Roundtable:**  
Information will be available soon!



# Thank You!



# (co-developed)

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# (co-developed)

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