

DOCKETED

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Docket Number: | 25-OIIP-01 |
| Project Title: | Informational Proceeding on Tribal Energy Sovereignty and Tribal Affairs |
| TN #: | 270325 |
| Document Title: | PPT Slides of Tribal Affairs Roundtable 11 - Morongo |
| Description: | N/A |
| Filer: | Kim Todd |
| Organization: | California Energy Commission |
| Submitter Role: | Commission Staff |
| Submission Date: | 5/28/2026 1:57:42 PM |
| Docketed Date: | 5/28/2026 |



Regional Roundtable 11: CEC Order Instituting an Informational Proceeding on Tribal Affairs and Tribal Energy Sovereignty

May 12, 2026

Welcome and Opening Remarks





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

- Welcome and Opening Remarks
- Tribal Consultation (CEC and CPUC)
- Tribal Energy Sovereignty (CEC)
- Best Practices for Tribal Energy Grants (CEC)
- Tribal Land Transfer Policy (CPUC)
- Tribal Energy Equity Indicators (CEC)
- Improving Energy Project Development Processes (CEC)
- Tribal Cultural Resource Considerations Regarding Clean Energy Development (CEC)
- Closing Remarks

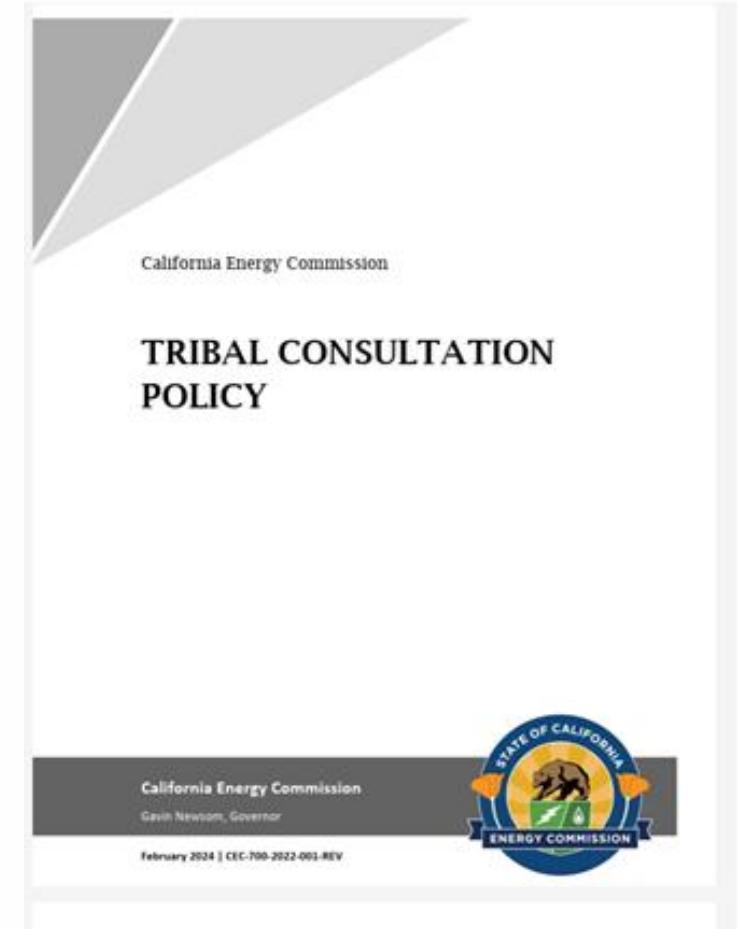
Tribal Consultation Policy





CEC Consultation Policy

- Adopted 2014
- Administrative Update February 2024
- California Natural Resources Agency Tribal Consultation Policy November 2012 (Recently updated 9/2025)
- Assembly Bill (AB) 923





CEC Tribal Consultation Policy Overview

- 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

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

Tribal Statewide Summit & Regional Roundtables

California Public Utilities Commission

Tribal Policy Rulemaking, Tribal Consultation Policy & Tribal Land Transfer Policy

Spring 2026



California Public
Utilities Commission

CPUC Tribal Policy Rulemaking Rulemaking (R.) 22-02-002

CPUC Tribal Policies and Order Instituting Rulemaking (OIR)

- 2018: CPUC adopts a **Tribal Consultation Policy (TCP)**
- 2019: CPUC adopts a **Tribal Land Transfer Policy (TLTP)**
- 2021: CPUC adopts implementation guidelines for the TLTP
- 2022: CPUC opens [rulemaking](#) to consider revisions to TCP and TLTP and to improve Tribal access to Commission programs and proceedings
- 2022-Present: CPUC consults with Tribes to receive feedback on policies.
- 2026: CPUC will make revisions based on Tribal feedback and publish proposed decision

Tribal Rulemaking: Areas of Focus

- ***Tribal Land Transfer Policy***

- Review and update Implementation Guidelines
- Assess data and information exchange
- Other relevant issues identified by stakeholders

- ***Tribal Consultation Policy***

- Review protection of sacred sites and places of cultural importance
- Consider capacity building needs
- Assist with capacity building and improve Tribal access to CPUC proceedings and programs
- Other relevant issues identified by stakeholders

CPUC Tribal Consultation Policy

Tribal Consultation Policy Revisions

- **Goals of Policy Revisions**
 - Recognize and respect Tribal sovereignty
 - Protect Tribal resources and treat those resources with dignity
 - Encourage Tribal government participation in Commission proceedings
 - Institutionalize the Commission's policy of "Early, Often, Meaningful" consultation
 - Set forth the responsibilities of the Office of the Tribal Advisor and Division liaisons
- **Coordinate Tribal Consultation for CPUC Project Review Processes**
 - Electric Transmission and Substation Projects
 - Gas Projects
 - Water Projects
 - Broadband Projects
 - Rail Crossings



Objectives of Consultation

- **“Early, Often, and Meaningful” Consultation**
 - "Early" means before Commission actions and Decisions have been made, and as early in the decision-making process as possible.
 - "Often" means the Commission will strive to build relationships with Tribes throughout the decision-making process, before consultation is needed.
 - "Meaningful" consultation requires the Commission to hear, understand, respect, and consider Tribal feedback and comments using a consensus-seeking approach.
 - **Parties may not agree, but the Commission must demonstrate an understanding of Tribal recommendations and explain why the recommendations could or could not be integrated.**
- **Consultation Objectives**
 - Proactively share pertinent documents and information with Tribal representatives.
 - Conduct consultation within timelines that accommodate Tribes' decision-making processes.
 - Strive for collaborative problem-solving and advancing Tribal priorities in Commission decision-making.

Tribal Consultation Approach

- The Commission first considers whether an action has potential tribal implications:
 - **Does it impact tribal cultural resources, ancestral lands, sacred sites and landscapes, access and use of ancestral lands, ancestral land return, natural resources, economic development, or increase availability of public resources and services to tribal communities?**
- Tribes and the Commission should identify key milestones and timing associated with the action to determine when to initiate consultation.



Formal & Informal Consultation

- **Informal Consultation:** Tribes are encouraged to contact the Office of the Tribal Advisor following the principles of early, often, and meaningful.
 - Intended to address tribal concerns at the staff/technical level by engaging the Tribal Advisor to coordinate appropriate subject matter experts for timely problem solving.
- **Formal Consultation:** Government-to-Government dialog between official representatives of a tribe and the Commission that is initiated via a formal request and follows a prescribed process.
 - Request from tribe in writing to the Tribal Advisor, Executive Director, or Commissioner(s).
 - Formal consultation will be initiated within 60 days of the request or earlier if matter is urgent or time sensitive.



Role of Governor-Appointed CPUC Tribal Advisor

- The Tribal Advisor is the lead CPUC staff person responsible for engaging with and assisting tribes
- Delegated authority to conduct some tribal consultations subject to coordination with Executive Director and Commissioners

Responsibilities include:

- Point of contact for Tribal governments and Commission staff
 - Tribal government representatives may also directly reach out to Commissioners.
- Coordinates outreach, communication, education, and other activities to promote tribal engagement and consultation
- Coordinates work with Commissioners, management, and staff, to implement the Tribal Consultation Policy
- Assists with Tribal government participation in Commission's proceedings in conjunction with the Public Advisors Office

Division Tribal Liaisons

- Each CPUC Division Director is required to designate a Tribal Liaison

Division Tribal Liaison Roles and Responsibilities:

- Serve as main point of contact for CPUC Division staff with Tribal Advisor
- Respond to requests for information and coordinate with Tribal Advisor
- Participate in engagement activities, providing briefings to the Tribal Advisor, Executive Management, and Commission offices, as needed
- Provide support as needed to the Tribal Advisor
- Develop and maintain working relationships with Tribal Advisor on specific matters and coordinate with Tribal government staff as requested
- Complete statewide tribal consultation training and other relevant training

Facilitating Tribal Government Participation in CPUC Programs and Proceedings

- The CPUC Tribal Advisor and Public Advisor's Office will assist Tribes to participate in proceedings or identify appropriate staff or decision-makers
- Tribal Advisor and ALJ Division will develop a notification process to ensure tribes are aware of proceedings impacting Tribes
- Staff will assist Tribal governments to become parties to proceedings, if desired, and locate or submit information to the record
- The Commission will ensure that Tribal governments are informed about how to participate in Commission grants and utility incentives and subsidies

Recourse for Failure to Implement Tribal Consultation Policy

- If a Tribal Government believes the Commission has not met the standards of the Commission's Tribal Consultation Policy:
 - Tribe may submit a written letter to the Executive Director of the CPUC explaining the deficiencies
 - Within 30-days, the Executive Director will either meet with the Tribal government or respond in writing
 - Executive Director will then direct further consultation or other actions as appropriate to bring Commission into compliance with its Tribal Consultation Policy

Assigned Commissioner's Ruling Inviting Comments on Revised TCP

- In September 2025, the Assigned Commissioner's Ruling invited parties to comment on proposed modifications to the Commission's Tribal Consultation Policy (TCP) and Tribal Land Transfer Policy (TLTP)
 - [Ruling and TCP Documents](#)
- Parties were also invited to address questions regarding the implementation of those policies and associated issues arising from workshops and tribal consultations that have been conducted as part of the rulemaking



What would Tribes like to See in State Energy Agency Consultation Policies? (slide co-developed 05/12/2026)

- Is there room to adjust policies around grant programs in light of unexpected barriers? How can we improve communication between tribe and agencies, when the understanding of the issue is not there?
 - CEC: need to consult early on to avoid programs being scrapped due to obstacles
- Certain projects that agencies think won't impact tribes result in lessening communications with tribes. Advise to continue more communication, even if you think it doesn't affect them. Make communication as broad as possible. Better to over communicate than under communicate, so everyone knows what's going on.
- Sometimes council members change out, and the new group may not understand the issues. Important for the state to continue to know the new council members.



How to Implement State Energy Agency Consultation Policies? (slide co-developed 05/12/26)

- Agency staff going to tribal council regarding programs to create clarity on policies rather than sending memorandums where information may be misinterpreted. When council members are changing, then things need to start over.
 - CEC: happy to communicate with council and engaging in government to government consultations.

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

Advancing in Tribal Energy Sovereignty State Partnership Frameworks





Advancing in Tribal Energy Sovereignty State Partnership Frameworks

Continued





Advancing in Tribal Energy Sovereignty State Partnership Frameworks

Continued





Advancing in Tribal Energy Sovereignty State Partnership Frameworks

Continued





Advancing in Tribal Energy Sovereignty State Partnership Frameworks

Continued





Advancing in Tribal Energy Sovereignty State Partnership Frameworks

Continued



Structural Models for Tribal Energy Sovereignty

TACE



Tribal Advocacy Council on Energy



What does tribal energy sovereignty look like for your tribe? (slide co-developed 05/12/26)

- Energy sovereignty is internal capacity and knowledge to make decisions for the betterment of the tribe, not for anyone else. The ability to make those decisions based on what the tribe needs.
- Independence from big utilities, not needing to rely on the grid. Reliability is an issue with the weather/climate in southern California. There isn't sufficient backup. Being able to be independent and supplement from utilities.



What would be the most critical thing to include in the draft Tribal Energy Sovereignty Policy? What can the CEC do to better support tribal energy sovereignty goals? (slide co-developed 05/12/26)

- Make sure grants are available to tribes, that the requirements and scope of work are communicated to council and filters down to tribal staff. Ensure that tribes know what is out there, including changes to stipulations to avoid having to restart processes.
- Have policies/grants be more tribally led. Every tribe will have different goals and visions. Getting an idea from the tribes about what they want to do and craft policies around those ideas. Supplementing and supporting gaps resulting in changes at the federal level. The State is closer with tribes, and having the tribes direct some of these policies, so the money where it will do the most good.
 - CEC: finding funds for tribal programs, and finding flexibilities in working with tribes and their needs for funding opportunities, allowing tribes to work on projects from their point of view. It would be easier if there was a more designated fund for that, which is an idea in progress. Multiple voices from tribes highlighting the need for tribal sovereignty and energy projects can help elevate needs in the budget.
- How are agencies getting information regarding funding out to tribes? Would it be easier to have zoom sessions regarding opportunities?
 - CEC: tribal newsletter gives information on funding opportunities which is distributed to every tribe throughout the state. Staying in direct communication with tribes regarding their indicated interest (phone calls, emails, texts). We work to co-develop opportunities with tribes. CEC website and empowerinnovation.net
- Bringing on staff with knowledge of tribal policies to aid in outreach and trainings for tribes (for SGIP program). A lot of tribes want to know more about stacking programs.

Morning Break



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: Community Energy Reliability and Resilience Investment (CERRI) Program

Overview: funds grid hardening and energy resilience projects across California that increase community energy resilience and reliability, advance state energy policy goals, provide community benefits, and create good-paying jobs.

Structure of grant:

- Technical assistance
- Hosted "how-to workshops" to provide in-depth guidance on different parts of the application
- Two rounds of funding
- Simplified application wherever possible





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 (ECAA)



DISCUSSION





How do you hear about CEC grant opportunities? How would you like to hear about them? (slide co-developed 05/12/26)

- In person events, once or twice a year (northern and southern CA) to bring tribal leaders together, go over programs that have been released or will be released, connect to know what other tribes are doing, getting on mailing lists, send out information regarding programs a month prior to application release. Overcommunicating is better than under. Let tribes know what opportunities are coming. Webinars are okay, or finding recordings of webinars regarding the funds and how to obtain it.
- When public funds are at play, things need to be public knowledge (about tribal projects). Tribal council wants to know about the results of programs with multiple rounds of funding. Being able to see how the grant was used helps tribes figure out if they want to participate, how it can be made to work for them. Within tribal circles, get information circulating about what's happening and how it benefits not just the tribes but the community.
- Not everyone has a grant writer/expert, but it is helpful to have someone to help them guide them along in the application and during the agreement to ensure that they stay within the program requirements. Having staff be able to give guidance on grants.



How can CEC better reduce the barriers to applying for grants? (slide co-developed 05/12/26)

- Not sure if there is much more to do. It is helpful when a tribe has a grant writer on staff to help. CEC staff has been excellent resources in helping with the process. Layered in personal with Public Advisors Office working with program staff helps with success.
- Understanding the ins and outs, what can and cannot be done under a grant program, helping staff who are new to grant applications/management. Be clear about requirements up front.



What challenges have you experienced in grant administration? (slide co-developed 05/12/26)

- I would like to see more infrastructure/microgrid related grants. Rebates are good if available. Tribes want to see the ROI on these projects.

THANK YOU!



Lunch Break

Expected to resume around 12:35 pm



CPUC Tribal Land Transfer Policy

Tribal Land Transfer Policy Background

- December 2019: CPUC adopts the Tribal Land Transfer Policy (TLTP)
 - The purpose of the TLTP is to provide tribes with the opportunity to regain ancestral land currently owned by Investor-Owned Utilities regulated by the CPUC (e.g., PG&E, SCE, SoCalGas, and SDG&E)
- January 2021: CPUC adopts TLTP Implementation Guidelines
 - Adoption of the Implementation Guidelines made participation mandatory for energy and large water IOUs
 - Adopted in Resolution E-5076
- February 2022: CPUC initiates a Rulemaking (R.22-02-002) to consider revisions to improve the TLTP Implementation Guidelines based on Tribal feedback

Tribal Land Transfer Policy Goals

- Recognize and respect Tribal sovereignty
- Protect Tribal sacred places and cultural resources
- Ensure meaningful consideration of Tribal interests and the return of lands within a Tribe's ancestral territory
- Encourage and facilitate notice and tribal participation in matters before the Commission that involve Real Property transfers subject to Public Utilities Code Section 851 through either formal applications or the Advice Letter Process

Tribal Land Transfer Policy Procedures and Scope

- Prior to an Investor-Owned Utility disposition of real property, the utility will first offer applicable Tribes the right to take or purchase the property
- Mandatory Tribal noticing requirements provide Tribes with sufficient time and information to determine whether to indicate an interest in a specific property and later negotiate acquisition of the land
- The TLTP applies to IOU real property whose disposition is subject to approval by the Commission, including but not limited to transactions requiring Public Utilities Code Section 851 approval

Proposed Revisions to the TLTP In Response to Tribal Input

- Proposed revisions are based on feedback obtained during:
 - Tribal Policies OIR regional tribal consultations held in 2022-2025
 - Formal comments received in response to the Assigned Commissioner's Ruling Inviting Comment on the Revised TLTP 2.0
 - Staff proposed improvements from review of IOU TLTP Quarterly Reporting
- Proposed revisions identify possible changes to the TLTP intended to improve tribal participation and outcomes
- Proposed revisions identify potential future workshop topics including:
 - Discussion of tribal experience with the TLTP
 - Development of maps of IOU land holdings within respective service territories
 - Increased access to CPUC staff

Proposed Revisions to TLTP

- Extend the time period for Tribe to express interest in property.
- Provide Tribes with more information up front about properties.
- Develop maps of IOU owned fee lands.
- Create Tribal Map overlays for IOU service territories.
- New Quarterly Reporting Meeting and Uniform IOU Public Website.

Additional CPUC Resources to Facilitate the TLTP

- The Commission's Tribal Liaison and assigned Energy Division staff will assist in implementing the TLTP in coordination with the Office of Tribal Advisor
- Providing a point of contact for tribes seeking advice on Commission proceedings, pending applications, and advice letters regarding dispositions of real property
- Tribal Governments may contact the Commission's Office of the Tribal Advisor or the Commission's Public Advisor for assistance:
 - E-mail: TribalAdvisor@cpuc.ca.gov, Public.Advisor@cpuc.ca.gov
 - Phone: (866) 849-8390

CPUC Contact Information

| Office | Personnel | Contact Info |
|------------------------------|---|--|
| Commissioner Darcie L. Houck | Caleb Jones, Advisor Amanda Singh Birmingham, Chief of Staff | Caleb.Jones@cpuc.ca.gov Amanda.Singh@cpuc.ca.gov Request a Meeting with Commissioner Houck: Meeting Request Form - Commissioner Houck |
| Tribal Advisor's Office | Governor's Office is hiring for Tribal Advisor | TribalAdvisor@Cpuc.Ca.Gov |
| Executive Director's Office | Tom Gates | Thomas.Gates@Cpuc.Ca.Gov |
| Public Advisors Office | Eric Sawyer | Eric.Sawyer@Cpuc.Ca.Gov |
| Administrative Law Judge | Assistant Chief ALJ Anthony Colbert ALJ Valerie Kao | Anthony.Colbert@cpuc.ca.gov Valerie.Kao@cpuc.ca.gov |
| Public Advocates Office | Toni Floyd Cat Blake | Antoinette.Floyd@Cpuc.Ca.Gov Catherine.Blake@Cpuc.Ca.Gov |





What would you like to see in CPUC's Tribal Land Transfer Policy? (slide co-developed 05/12/26)

- It's important to make sure tribes are aware of this policy. Giving maps to tribes so they know what's owned by who. Just tribes being aware that this policy exists allows them to plan for these possibilities to regain ancestral land. A lot of pre-work ahead of time so they aware of the policy, what lands may become available, so that they can prepare internally.

Tribal Energy Equity Indicators



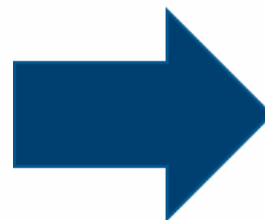


Energy Equity Indicators Tool

Data Visualization and Mapping



Database of Equity Data



Insights to Help
Prioritize CEC Efforts
and Investments for
Tribes



Geographic Data Layers



Data Access and
Analysis



Relevance to Other OIIP Efforts

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



Energy Metrics

Access



Reliability



Efficiency



Affordability



Programs



Clean Energy Adoption



Supplementary Metrics



Community



Health



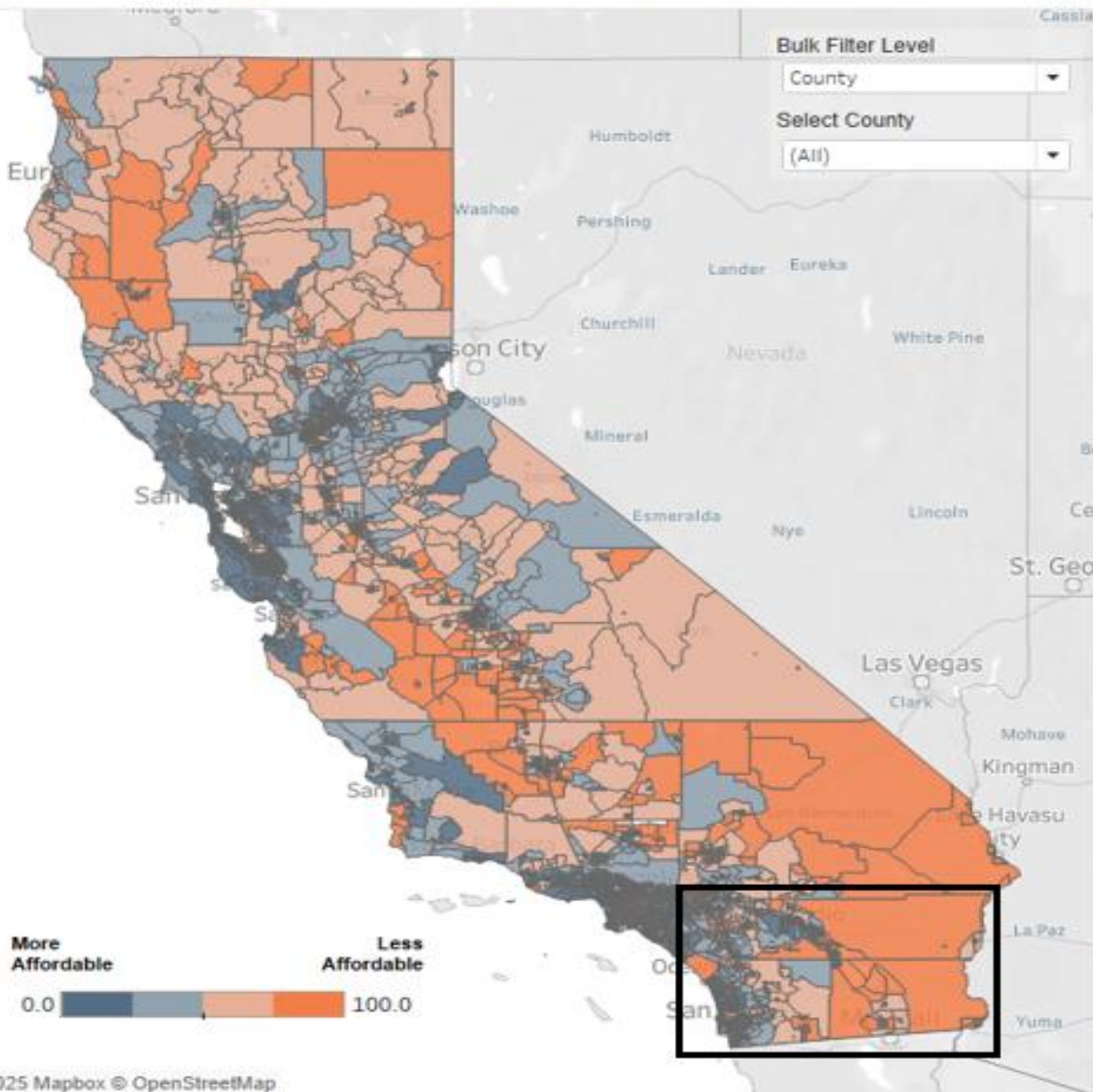
Safety



Socioeconomics

A Deep Dive into Energy Affordability

Energy Affordability Index by Census Tract



Pearson Correlation Tool

Independent Variable:

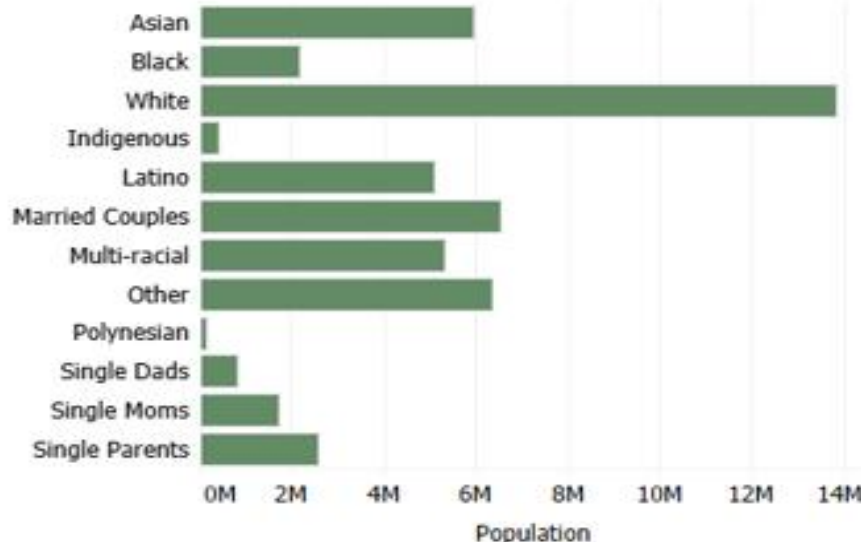
Energy Affordability Index

Vulnerability Variable:

Energy Affordability Index

r = 1.00

Community Characteristics



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

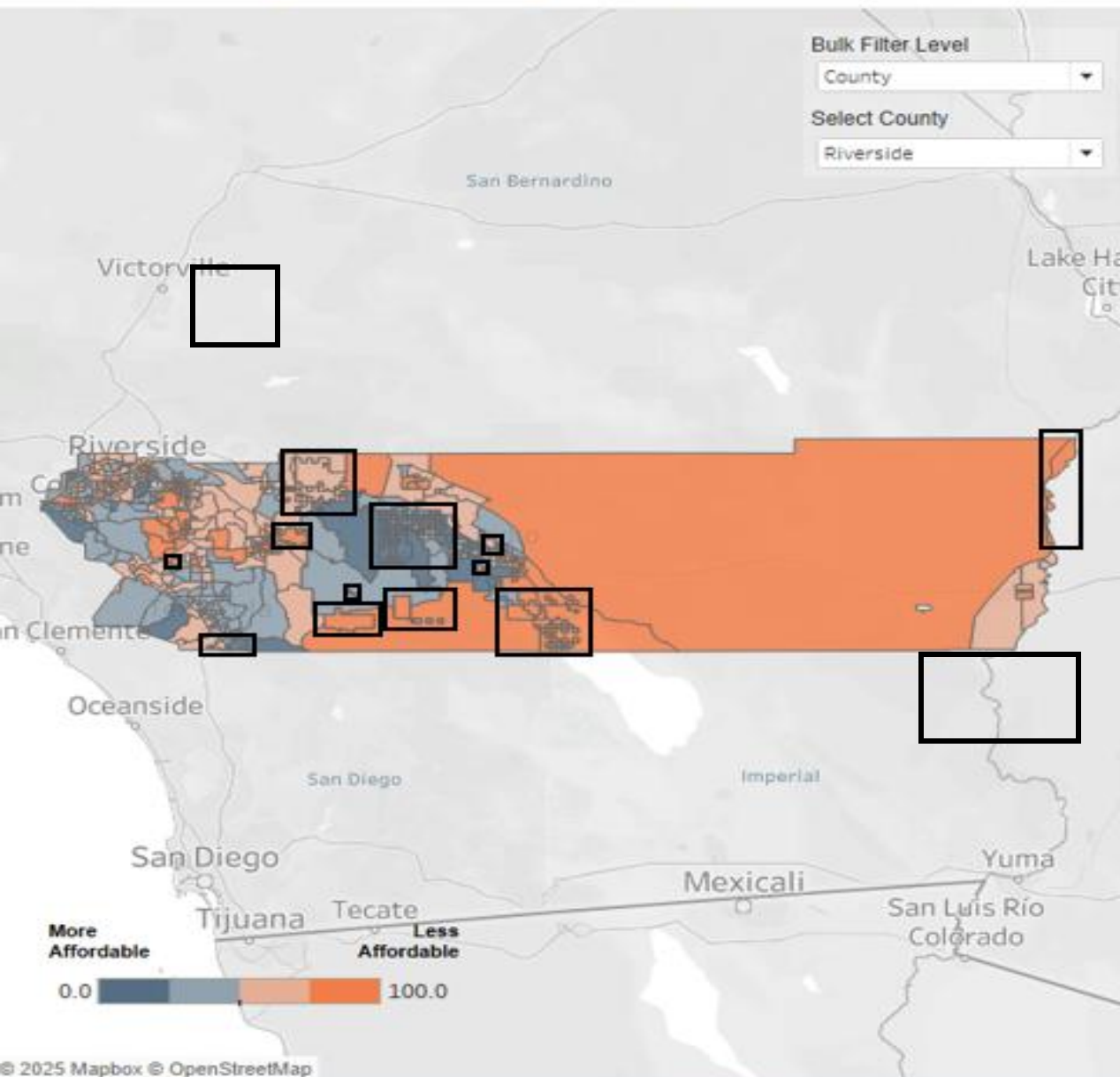
Justice Census Tract Filter

- Show All
- Justice



A Deep Dive into Energy Affordability

Energy Affordability Index by Census Tract



Pearson Correlation Tool

Independent Variable:

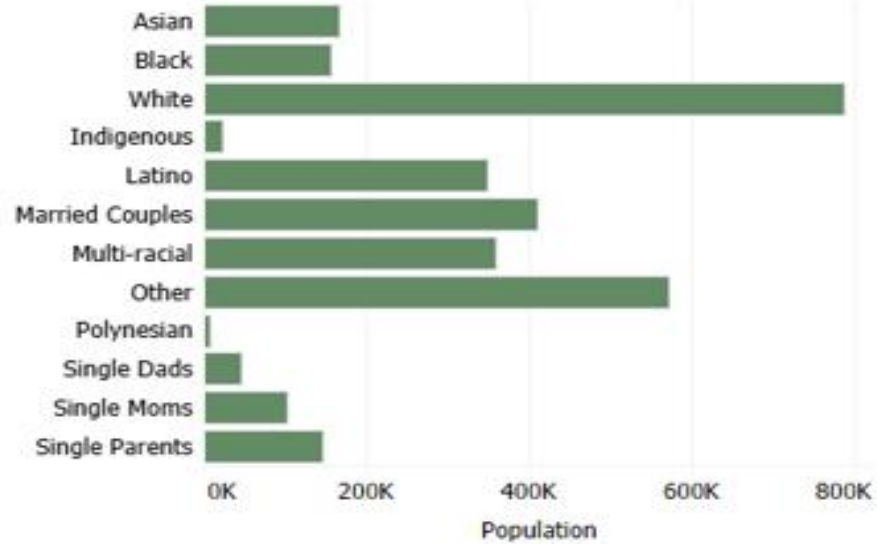
Energy Affordability Index

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
- Just...





How could your tribe utilize these metrics or this tool? Would it be useful for energy planning or grant funding? (slide co-developed 05/12/26)

- Showing the disproportional number of outages would be useful in the effort to writing grant applications for funding. And useful for showing outages for communication with utilities, would be useful to see at the building level, or need to know if its residential or not.
- First four categories go hand in hand together. We need to ensure that energy for tribal housing is available and affordable. Efficiency becomes a huge factor. Manufactured homes are very inefficient, and tools are needed to improve efficiency. Utilities can be limited at times depending on the area where work is needed. Tribes are looking for ways to not need to rely on utilities. Tools like this are excellent to pull up data and incorporate into grant proposals.
- Would data from utilities help you develop the tool regarding lack of response/dependability. Can the tool be customized for an area/tribe for specific needs?
 - CEC: Customizable tool will be available in later stages of development
- Some tribes have limited capacity for transferring data/information for tools like this.
- Some utilities change policies which create barriers for tribes and businesses, such as barriers for backup battery storage for EV chargers. Tribes need support to overcome gaps in funding, or have developers not charging for data analysis initially.
- Will the team/tool be able to help understand the increase in demand as a result of development?
 - CEC staff currently limited in its capacity for this



Are there any other uses that your tribe would find beneficial? Other features that could be added?
(slide co-developed 05/12/26)



Do you have any other thoughts on how Energy Equity Indicators can better meet tribal needs?
(slide co-developed 05/12/26)

Thank You!



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

Group email: EnergyEquityIndicators@energy.ca.gov



Afternoon Break





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



Project Process Example

1. Project Potential & Project Options

- Preliminary assessment of opportunity
- Data collection
- Determine ownership structure
- Permitting and environmental compliance considerations

2. Project Refinement

- Planning and development
- Engineering and design

3. Project Implementation

- Financing
- Construction

4. Project Operations and Maintenance (O&M)

- Post-construction management of project



1. Project Potential & Options

Determine if basics met for project development and explore roles, ownership structure, and regulatory considerations

- Possible site locations, restrictions, and conflicts
- Feasibility studies
- Need or demand for project or resource
- Understand tribal roles and business structure
- Explore opportunities for tribal partnerships
- Identify permitting other use considerations



2. 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





3. Project Implementation

Project contract and construction

- Finalize pre-construction agreements and finances





4. 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



Feedback / Suggestions for Improvement

Co-developed input 05/12/26

- Not a big fan of feasibility studies. They can be necessary at times, but there may need to be a more holistic approach for tribes to develop an energy plan that is timely. Needs to be support for getting tribes from Point A to Z. Energy changes so quickly, if the plans are not put into action quickly, then the process may have to restart. Citizens who might have an issue with government spending, may look at these feasibility studies and look at funds spent there rather than on the issue. These studies need to be put into action.
- There can be limits to energy plans due to gaps in funding. Clear timelines need to be communicated.
- Issues with maintenance. A lot of the systems were put in a long time ago, but they haven't had proper upkeep, and how efficient they are. Once the systems are in, they need to be properly maintained, with some kind of schedule. Need knowledgeable people to help troubleshoot issues when they arise.
 - Most companies should be handing over maintenance information regarding systems (but this does not always happen).
 - There are issues with companies installing equipment and then going out of business, resulting in confusion for the customers. Need to look at the company's project portfolio.
- Tribes get inundated with solicitors for solar. Companies may not be qualified for the work, and many are failing and reforming and failing again. Crucial to select vendors that know the tribal world, that they will remain in business.
- Challenges from vendors who are not reading project scopes (incompetent or bad actors)
 - Can result in loss of funds for tribes
 - CEC events are a good place to meet established vendors.



Thank You!

Useful links:

- DOE reference slides: [The Five-Step Process Framework for Project Development](#)
- [Tribal Program | California Energy Commission](#)

Tribal Cultural Resource Considerations Regarding Clean Energy Development





Introduction

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



Background on DRECP

- 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

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



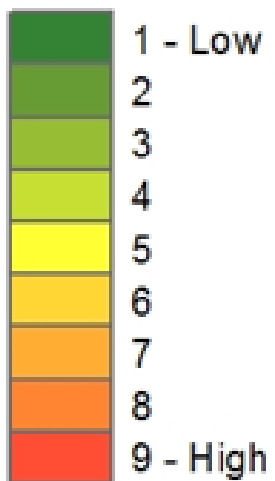
Summary of DGI Methods (continued)

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

- **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

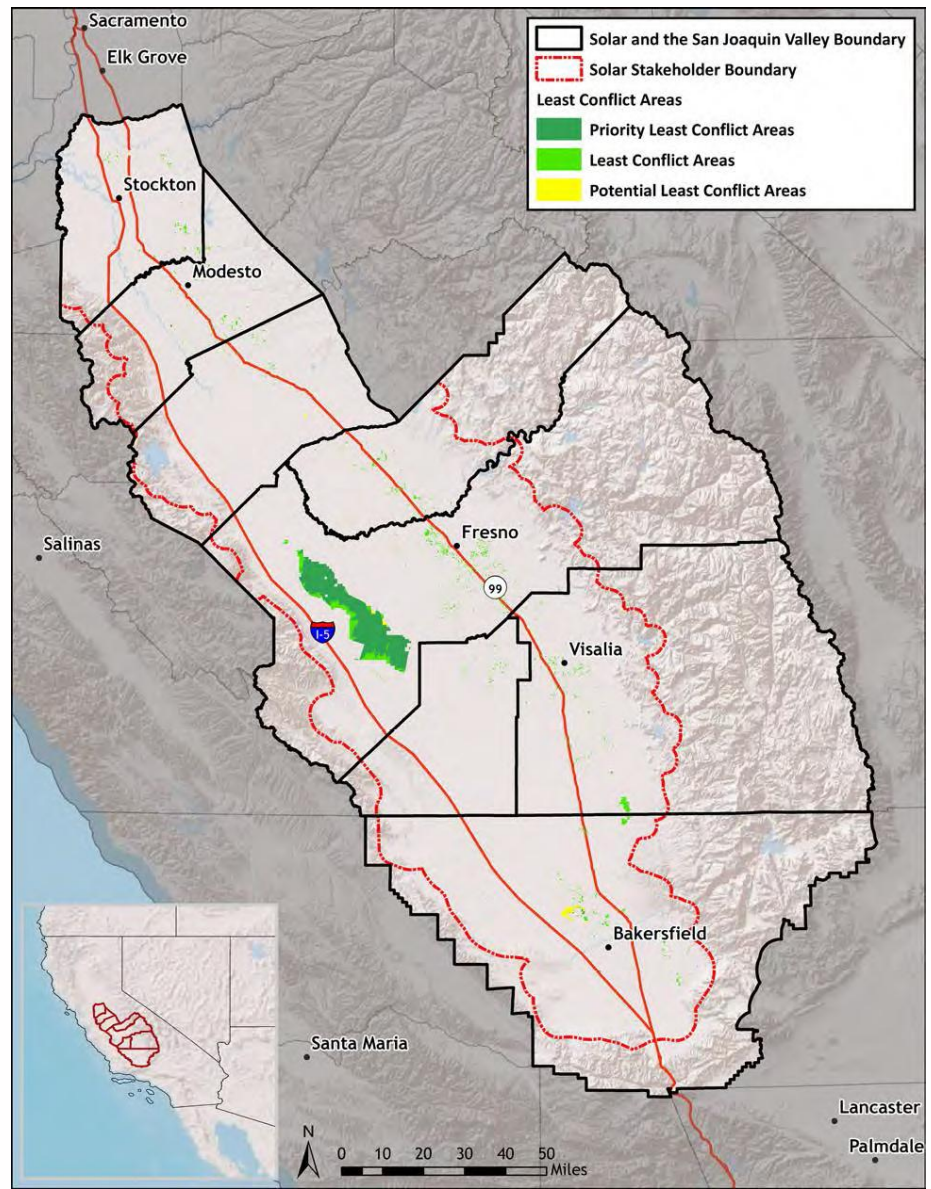


San Joaquin Valley Solar: Cultural and Tribal Cultural Resource Methods

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



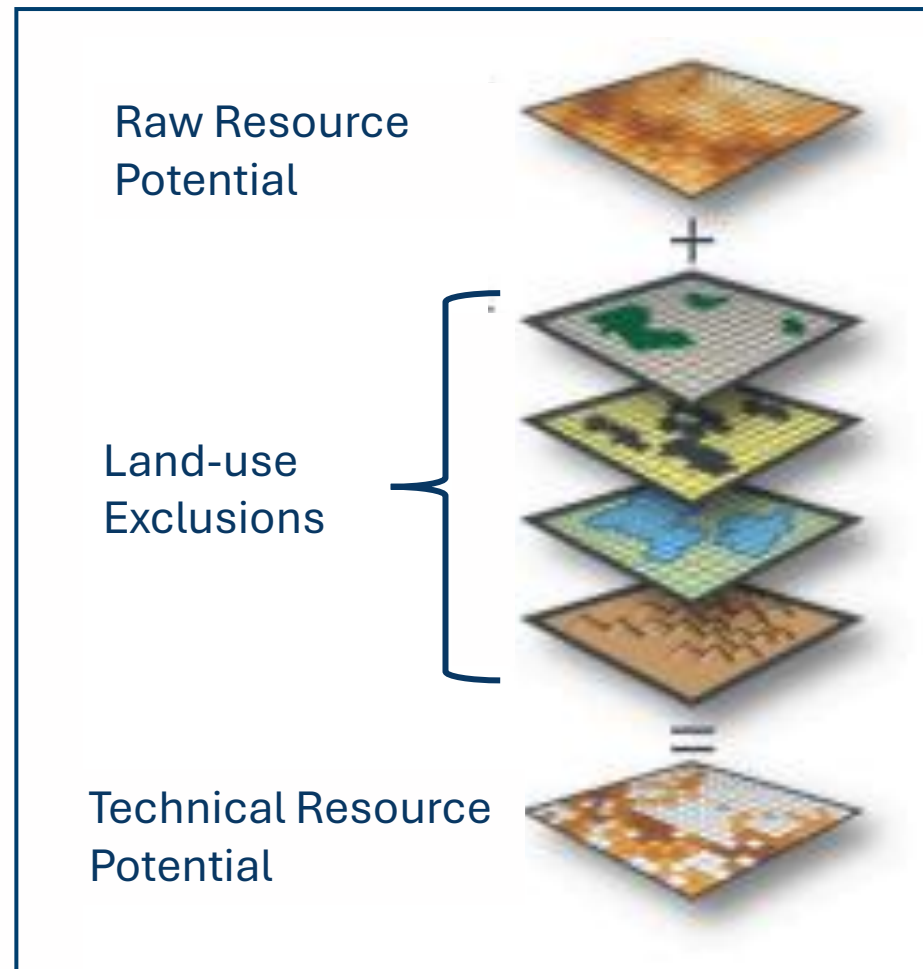
Introduction to CEC Land Use Screens





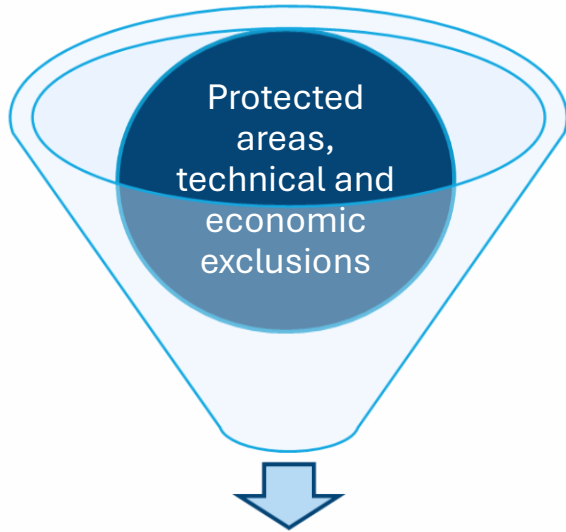
Land Use Screens for Electric System Planning

- Achieving climate goals requires significant clean and renewable energy development (e.g., solar, wind) and rapid build rates
- Environmental and land use “screens”
 - Identify at a high level where build is feasible (technical resource potential)
 - Highlight areas that may face possible constraints and conflicts, including areas of environmental sensitivity, conservation, and other land uses (e.g. cropland)
 - Inform state planning efforts, including IRP/TPP and SB 100
- Screens are landscape-level planning information: intended to inform high-level estimates of renewable build, not specific project locations
- Last major update of CEC Land Use Screens in 2023: [Report and Data Viewer](#) covering solar, wind, and conventional geothermal resources

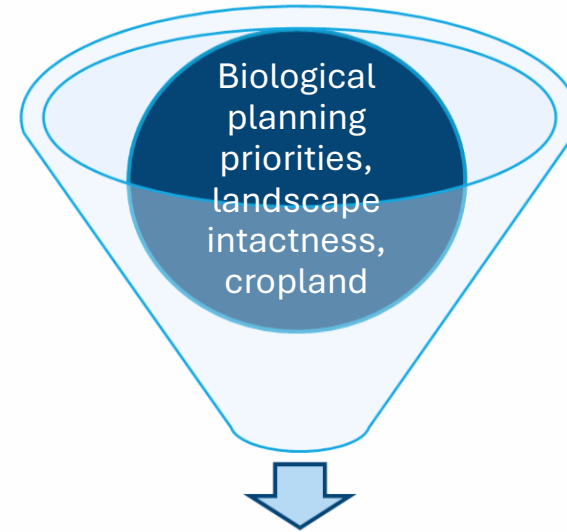
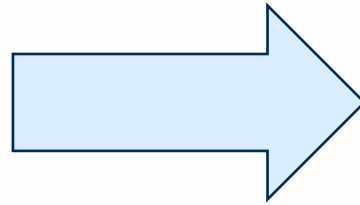




Screens Example: Identifying Technical Resource Potential (Solar)



Solar technical resource potential after applying these “base” exclusions



Lower-Implication land: Solar technical resource potential after applying additional environmental constraints



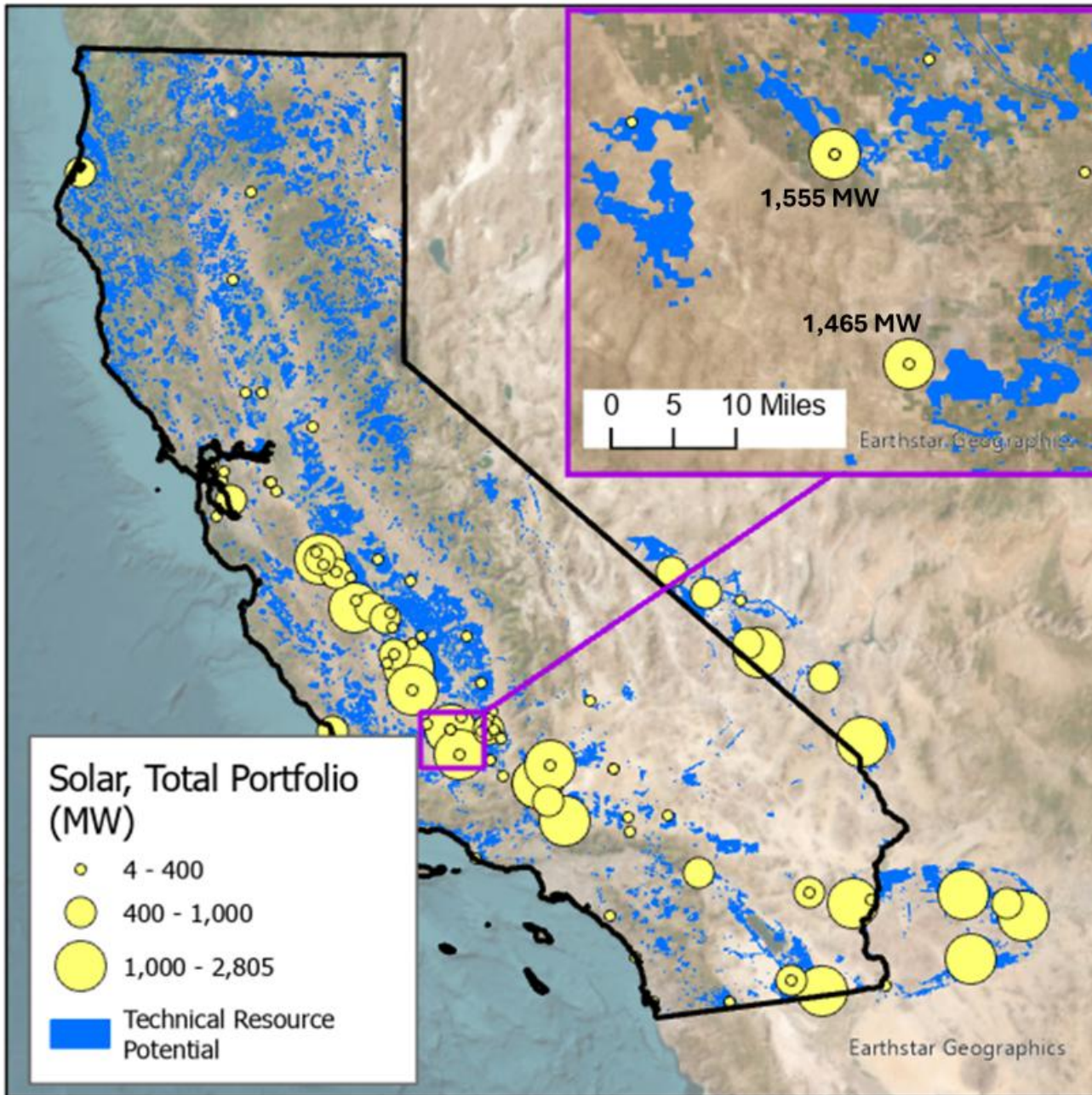
Land Use in State Resource Planning



Land-use screens:

- Increase transparency in planning processes
- Support early identification of issues or barriers to development, which in turn supports long-lead time transmission investments

Example of Land Use Data in State Resource Planning: 2026-2027 TPP 2036 Base Case Portfolio, Solar Resources



- This MW “mapping” is used in the CPUC Integrated Resource Planning (IRP) process to guide development of new transmission
- Informed by land use and environmental information from the screens
- Does not currently explicitly account for tribal cultural resources
- See slide 4 of [this deck](#) onwards for more information on how land use data and other factors are used to determine mapping



Opportunities for Participation in Land Use Planning

These public energy planning processes incorporate the land use screens

- CPUC Integrated Resource Planning (IRP) Process
 - Annual cycle, first workshop in Spring 2026
 - More information [here](#) and [here](#); subscribe [here](#)
- CEC Land Use Screens Update
 - Notice will be posted to a public [CEC docket](#); stay tuned



Comparing Approaches: Status Quo

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



Feedback or Suggestions Regarding These Approaches?

Slide co-developed 05/12/26

- Would the heat map assist in locating geothermal resources?
 - CEC: Heat map in this case is in regard to likelihood projects encounter tribal cultural resources
- When working with developers, recommend having cultural monitors, as well as tribal staffed monitors, for project construction.
- Present audience does not have concerns regarding heat map approach
- For public works there are soil inspectors, am I hearing that we don't have the same when it comes to tribal participation? Is this more of a part time in the scope of work?
 - CEC: some projects don't, most CEC projects have tribal monitors on location. It's uncommon for monitoring to be done on a part time basis at a set interval, most commonly it is full time.
 - There is supposed to be a tribal cultural monitor on site throughout construction. Most tribes have their own and want to bring them on.
- If there is a project next to something like an airport or highway, why wouldn't you need a glare study?
- Does California law require all construction to have tribal cultural monitor?
 - CEC: may be more about discovery of human remains
 - Federal requirement for cultural monitors

Closing Comments





Upcoming Funding Opportunities

- Tribal Set-aside
Equitable Building
Decarbonization
 - Guidelines posted
- Electric Program
Investment Charge 5
(EPIC 5)
 - Consultation open



Ways to Stay Engaged

- Follow the proceeding around the state!
 - 7 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 OIP Regional Roundtable: Tomorrow

Information available soon!



THANK YOU!

