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Tribal Policy Revision Updates for DACAG

California Public Utilities Commission

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

Commissioner Darcie L. Houck

August 21, 2026



California Public
Utilities Commission

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
- 2022-2026: CPUC consults with Tribes to receive feedback on policies.
- August 13, 2026: CPUC publishes [Proposed Decision](#) based on feedback received in [R. 22-02-002](#); attachments include revised [TCP](#) and [TLTP](#)

Tribal Consultation Policy Revisions

- Incorporate N-15-19, AB 923, AB 275 and more into background, goals, objectives of TCP.
- Institutionalize the Commission's policy of "early, often, and meaningful" consultations.
- Encourage Tribal government participation in Commission proceedings and Commission-approved programs and incentives.
- Set forth the responsibilities of the Office of the Tribal Advisor and Division liaisons
- Review Tribal Consultation Policy every 3 years.



Tribal Land Transfer Policy Revisions

- Extends policy to all dispositions of real property by the IOUs, including surplus property, instead of only PU Code Section 851 transactions.
- New requirements for IOUs providing notice to tribes including contents of notice and virtual data rooms accessible to tribes who express interest in acquiring a property.
- Clarifies that disputes among multiple tribes interested in acquiring the same property that cannot be resolved among the tribes will be resolved by the Commission.
- Requires IOUs to file quarterly reports within 15 days of the end of the quarter and to attend quarterly (energy) or annual (water) meetings with Commission staff to review and discuss reports.
- Incorporates Office of Tribal Advisor into implementation of Tribal Land Transfer Policy.
- Office of Tribal Advisor will produce a map of county boundaries with an overlay of IOU service territories, which will be a starting point for tribes to identify ancestral territories that overlap with IOU service territories.
- New requirements for IOUs providing notice to tribes including contents of notice and virtual data rooms accessible to tribes who express interest in acquiring a property.

Other Revisions of Tribal OIR PD

- Clarifies expectations of IOUs operating on Tribal land to comply with Tribal laws while maintaining safe and reliable services and maintaining compliance with Commission and State requirements.
- Sets expectations for further engagement and outreach related to taxation of utility services on tribal land.
- Requires Office of Tribal Advisor to convene a quarterly Tribal Information Forum and provide notice of proceedings and advice letters where contract terms or contracting processes for Commission programs are being determined.
- Continued discussions regarding Rights of Way (ROW) and infrastructure related matters, including energization, decommission and expansion of systems.

Next Steps

- August 28, 2026: Tribal comments from non-party tribes due to Commission.
- September 2, 2026: Party comments due to Commission.
- September 7, 2026: Party reply comments due to Commission.
- September 17, 2026: CPUC expects to vote on Proposed Decision, with final revisions based on party comments and tribal comments.
- Q1 2027: First quarterly Tribal Information Session anticipated.