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TRIBAL EN BANC BEFORE
CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of:)
)
 TRIBAL EN BANC)
)
 _____)

CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, HUMBOLDT
NATIVE AMERICAN FORUM
1 HARPST STREET
ARCATA, CALIFORNIA 95521

THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 2023

9:00 A.M.

Reported by:
Elise Hicks

CALIFORNIA REPORTING, LLC
229 Napa Street, Rodeo, California 94572 (510) 224-4476

APPEARANCES

Commissioners

David Hochschild, CEC Chair
Siva Gunda, CEC Vice Chair
J. Andrew McAllister, CEC Commissioner
Patty Monahan, CEC Commissioner
Naomi Gallardo, CEC Commissioner
Alice Busching Reynolds, CPUC President
Darcie Houck, CPUC Commissioner
Genevieve Shiroma, CPUC Commissioner
Karen Douglas, CPUC Commissioner
John Reynolds, CPUC Commissioner

Speakers and Presenters

Jason Ramos, Councilman Blue Lake Rancheria Tribe
Adrienne Colegrove-Raymond, Cal Poly Humboldt
Thomas Jackson, Cal Poly President
Wahleah Johns, Department of Energy
Marth Guzman, Regional Administrator, US Environmental
Protection Agency Region 9
Geneva E. B. Thompson, Asst. Secretary for Tribal Affairs,
California Natural Resources Agency
Linnea Jackson, Hoopa Valley Tribe
Brian McDonald, Chemehuevi Tribe
Joe James, Chairman Yurok Tribe
Joe Davis, Hoopa Valley Tribe
Wes Crawford, Council Member, Yurok Tribe
Toz Soto, Fisher Program Manager, Karuk Tribe
Vernon Vera, Tule River Tribe
Ken Sandusky, Modoc Nation
Lonyx Landry, Humboldt County
Jana Ganion, Blue Lake Rancheria
Javier I. Kinney, Carbon Project Manager, Yurok Tribe
Mona Badie, CEC Staff

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MARCH 2, 2023

9:00 a.m.

MS. BADIE: Good morning, everyone. We're just about to get started. I just wanted to invite any of the tribal leaders that are on line to raise their hands so we can promote you as a panelist to be part of the discussion virtually. With that, I'll pass it to our Chair Hochschild.

CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Well, good morning. Welcome, friends. I'm David Hochschild, Chair of the California Energy Commission, and on behalf of President Reynolds and the Public Utilities Commission we want to welcome you to what for us is a very special day. This Tribal En Banc has been over a year in the making, and I'll share a little bit more on that in a moment.

Joining me are Vice Chair Gunda, Commissioner McAllister, Commissioner Gallardo, Commissioner Monahan, and on the Public Utilities side, in addition to President Reynolds we're joined by Commissioner Houck, Commissioner Shiroma, Commissioner Douglas and Commissioner Reynolds, two Reynolds.

And I want to give a special welcome to the newest additions to both those commissions, Commissioner Douglas at CPUC and Commissioner Gallardo at the Energy Commission. Congratulations and welcome to you both in

1 your new roles.

2 Why are we here? Why are we here? We're here
3 because tribal energy sovereignty is a priority, tribal
4 engagement is a priority, tribal partnership is a priority.
5 We cannot build the future we need without first facing the
6 path that we've shared

7 And, so, I want to just begin on noting how
8 significant Governor Newsom's apology to the tribes was in
9 June of 2019. It's the first time a governor of our state
10 has ever done that. I think that was historic. I think it
11 was necessary but not sufficient. It got the ball rolling.
12 We have a lot of work to do to build this clean energy
13 future together, and we're in an historic moment.

14 I want to just acknowledge how significant it is
15 to have the first Native American Secretary of the
16 Interior, the first Native American Commissioner at the
17 California Public Utilities Commission, incredible
18 leadership at the Department of Energy, Wahleah Johns, and
19 so many other amazing partners to build this future
20 together.

21 And just over the course of the last few days and
22 visiting with a number of the tribes, I mean the number of
23 blackouts that have happened in this community is
24 unacceptable. Forty outages, I think, in Yurok Territory
25 in the last two years, since the tribal microgrid was built

1 at Blue Lake, I think 30 outages, that community has been
2 protected from the -- we can do so much better and so much
3 more. And, so, as many challenges as there are we tend in
4 our roles on these commissions to focus on the problems
5 that aren't solved yet.

6 But I do want to highlight something that I think
7 we regard as a real success, which has been the Tribal
8 Microgrid Program that's really a great partnership between
9 the Public Utilities Commission and the Energy Commission.
10 We funded eight tribal microgrids around the state, and I
11 want to just uplift the team together with the tribes that
12 are working on this grid proposal, \$500,000,000 proposal,
13 the largest proposal to the Department of Energy ever to do
14 tribal energy, clean energy resiliency. And if we could
15 just give a round of applause to everybody who worked on
16 that quite a bit.

17 What we do in California matters. People watch
18 us. You know, in 2015 our state passed Brazil to be the
19 seventh largest economy in the world, then France to be the
20 sixth largest, 2018 we passed the UK to be the fifth
21 largest. This year we're going to pass Germany to be the
22 fourth largest economy in the world. People watch what
23 California does, and we've seen this with everything from
24 100 percent clean energy, which got laughed at and
25 dismissed as mythology when that was passed, and now that's

1 law in 21 states, and President Biden set that as a goal
2 for the country, to the 100 percent mandate for zero
3 emission vehicles by 2035, same story.

4 So, we can change not just the state, but the
5 nation and the world, and we've got to go into it with that
6 mindset together. So, it's great to be here and we're
7 super excited.

8 So, just a couple of logistical things.
9 Bathrooms are just outside, and then at lunch we'll break
10 at noon, which is at the Great Hall, I think just about a
11 five-minute walk away, so we'll be led there.

12 With that, I wanted to recognize a few special
13 guests that we're joined by this morning, starting with
14 Wahleah Johns, the Director of the U.S. Department of
15 Energy, Office of Energy Policy and Programs. Wahleah's
16 community, the Navajo Nation, is an inspiration to us all.
17 For many years California was served by coal power which
18 really was the dirtiest, most polluting coal power plant
19 certainly in the west, maybe in the country and led by a
20 younger generation of Navajos. That got shut down. The
21 coal mine got shut down, is building out now a huge project
22 pipeline of renewal projects and Wahleah was at the heart
23 of that before assuming this new responsibility, so we are
24 just incredibly honored to have you join us.

25 Another friend and colleague, Martha Guzman, EPA

1 Regional Administrator for Region Nine in the West has been
2 a longtime champion for these issues, an incredible
3 partner, former Public Utilities Commissioner and with the
4 Governor's Office under Governor Brown, and just an
5 absolute champion on these issues. Thank you for joining
6 us.

7 And then finally, Secretary Geneva Thompson,
8 Assistant Secretary for Tribal Affairs at the California
9 National Resources Agency and a wonderful partner as well.
10 Thank you for all you do.

11 And we wanted to recognize and thank, if we
12 could, all the leadership at Cal Poly for hosting us, so
13 let's give a round of applause for Tom Jackson and (audio
14 skips). Thank you. What a beautiful facility.

15 So, with that, I wanted to recognize our amazing
16 tribal leaders who are here with us today, beginning with
17 Council Member Jason Ramos from the Blue Lake Rancheria
18 Tribe. Thank you for all your work and leadership. Voce
19 Chair Brian McDonald from the Chemehuevi Tribe, Chairman
20 Joe James from the Yurok Tribe, and we're joined as well
21 online -- I don't see everyone we have on line, but I know
22 Linnea Jackson and others are with us, so, welcome to you
23 all.

24 With that, I'd invite Council Member Ramos to
25 open this convening with some remarks. Do you have a mike,

1 sir. There we go.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER RAMOS: It's been a great week for
3 us. It's been pretty historic. You know, of course, we've
4 had Commissioner Douglas up before and a couple of other
5 commissioners, but I've never been in the same room with
6 all of you. And, so, that's really historic for us. We're
7 glad that you're here. It shows some dedication. It shows
8 that you're serious about some of these issues that face
9 tribes.

10 You know, energy is important to us. This local
11 economy, of course, isn't the best anymore. There's been a
12 number of boom and bust cycles here, sort of a resource
13 extraction from resource extraction industries. Kind of
14 the latest iteration of that was cannabis, and now that
15 that's really legalized and no longer a booming industry
16 here, you know, this community faces some challenges, faces
17 some challenges that are important, and I saw some folks
18 from the offshore wind groups here today, and we're kind of
19 looking forward to what that might look like. But I see it
20 every day, you know, in my work. There's folks who don't
21 have a lot to do and don't have the promise of home
22 ownership, right, don't have decent jobs, and I think it
23 really spins itself out with, you know, drug addiction and
24 kind of a breakdown of the family unit, some dysfunction in
25 the family units and really some despair.

1 So, I think we're all looking to work together.
2 I know that Thomas -- President Jackson has done a great
3 job here in promoting this transition to a polytechnic. I
4 think what you can expect from tribes is that we're going
5 to continue to be good partners. We're going to offer a
6 lot of field work opportunities in the things that we do,
7 everything from healthcare to the continuance to develop
8 microgrids and refine that sort of work, job training,
9 resiliency training. You know, we're building a 7.8
10 million dollar resiliency campus this year. That project
11 starts this year. By the end of the year, we'll have a
12 health clinic, and we're looking forward to engaging both
13 Humboldt State and CR.

14 So, while there are some challenges here, there's
15 a lot of people working in the right direction, and so,
16 it's really positive to have you folks here, and hear our
17 stories, and hear where we're going, and certainly, you
18 know, we appreciate the bold initiatives from the State of
19 California, you know 100 percent EV by 2035 is pretty bold.
20 It's going to really mean a lot of clean energy development
21 between now and then. And, so, we're appreciative of that
22 and it was great to have you here this week to participate
23 in our function there yesterday, today's function, and
24 thanks for coming.

25 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you so much, Council

1 Member Ramos for those welcoming remarks. With that, let
2 me just turn it over to President Reynolds for some
3 remarks.

4 PRESIDENT REYNOLDS: Thank you, Chair Hochschild.
5 And I wanted to start by echoing the thanks that you
6 provided, Chair Hochschild, to everyone for attending today
7 and to welcome our tribal leaders and special guests and
8 all of the attendees today.

9 I'm really honored and pleased to be here. This
10 is, indeed, a very special day, and I look forward to
11 genuinely listening and sharing and just having an open
12 dialogue throughout the day today.

13 At the PUC, you'll be hearing a little bit more
14 about us. We regulate privately owned utilities, so the
15 utilities open their books to us. We require them to share
16 renewables. We require them to offer rebates and programs
17 for low income customers and, so, it really impacts -- the
18 work that we do impacts Californians everywhere. We
19 recognize that and that's why we do the work that we do,
20 and that includes California Native American Tribes.

21 And, so, we really feel like, you know, this type
22 of dialogues, the listening to and incorporating the voices
23 of Native American Tribes, is very important to us, and,
24 you know, not just because of historic inequities, but also
25 because of the importance of tribal resources, the tribal

1 sovereignty which we recognize. And, so, because of that,
2 we're really, you know, proud to be increasing our
3 collaboration and our discussions, our consultations with
4 tribes as we move forward on all of the work that we're
5 doing.

6 This transition to clean energy is massive,
7 daunting, also very exciting, and I can feel that
8 excitement here just knowing about the microgrid and all of
9 the other projects that I've already heard about, and at
10 the same time we're facing the impacts of climate change,
11 and I know that's impacting this area as we see more
12 intense weather events and have to manage through those at
13 the same time we're trying to reduce the causes or combat
14 the causes of climate change.

15 So, with that, I'll end and just say that I'm
16 very excited to be here, and this is going to be a great
17 day, so really looking forward to it.

18 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you so much. We'd now
19 like to welcome I believe Cal Poly President Tom Jackson.
20 Sir, please come up. Oh, it's you, welcome, good morning.
21 If you could speak to the microphone, it would be great.

22 Can we just congratulate these guys, Cal Poly.

23 MS COLEGROVE-RAYMOND: Good morning. Adrienne
24 Colegrove-Raymond. I'm a special assistant for President
25 Jackson for tribal affairs and community engagement. Been

12

1 on campus for over 25 years. I'm a member of the Hoopa
2 Valley Tribe which is located just an hour away.

3 I want to thank you all for coming. This space
4 is a beautiful space that we worked really hard as a native
5 community to gain it. And it was designed by an
6 architectural firm that listed our local homes and that are
7 made out of redwood on the coast and Port Orford cedar in
8 the inland. And they designed it to kind of replicate our
9 homes and this is like the center part of walking into our
10 homes down in the ground, that would be located down in the
11 ground, and then the fire would be here and going up.

12 And, so, it is a special space because when we
13 come here, we all try to think in terms of our indigenous
14 ideologies and go back to our traditional values assistance
15 and we kind of come together as different tribal nations.
16 We host over two percent native students on our campus
17 right now from throughout the state. Probably about 80
18 percent of them are from the state of California, and so
19 we're preparing the next generation of native leaders in
20 our campus and very proud of that.

21 With that said, we wouldn't be able to start this
22 meeting without thanking the Wiyot people for being allowed
23 to be in this space.

24 We acknowledge that the land that Cal Poly
25 Humboldt campus on is located in the ancestral homelands of

1 the Wiyot people. It's unceded land. The many tribes
2 around the area, the Hoopa, Cahto, Mattole, Cahuilla,
3 Whiyiqit, Wiyot, Yurok. We make this land recognition so
4 that our words match our actions, and so today we welcome
5 you all and I'd like to turn it over to President Jackson.

6 PRESIDENT JACKSON: Good morning, Mr. Chair, and
7 to my friends, colleagues, relatives, thank you very much
8 for choosing Cal Poly Humboldt to be here today and to be a
9 part of this very important discussion and conversation.

10 While you're here, beyond this meeting that
11 you're in I hope you find time to enjoy the North Coast.
12 We are very proud of the region that we happen to live in
13 and we have certainly some very unique things as a region
14 that we hope for those who have flown in or driven in find
15 time to explore or to enjoy for all the right reasons.
16 It's a very special place for us.

17 With that, let me say a few things about our
18 university and about this meeting today, if I could. First
19 of all, since 1913, this university when it was founded was
20 told many of the things it could not do. Thank about the
21 business that we are in as a university. I often say we
22 are in the dream business which is all about doing things
23 that others don't think you can do, but what we believe we
24 can do. We bring in students and their families in the
25 hopes that they will do something amazingly great later on,

14

1 and everyone around this room is a benefactor, if not that
2 person that did something that someone said they could not
3 do, which I think is fairly unique.

4 I was once told of a story of an individual who
5 was not fast enough, yet that person who wasn't fast enough
6 grew a little older, matured just a little quicker,
7 practiced, practiced and practiced and became incredibly
8 faster.

9 I was told of an individual who was not smart
10 enough. That person couldn't necessarily read as well as
11 some of the others, maybe mixed up some of their words
12 somewhere along the way, struggled a little bit with their
13 studies, but they practiced, they practiced and now they
14 are a graduate of a university leading a different
15 community.

16 I've also been told of all the great bad ideas
17 we've had, and trust me, universities have some incredibly
18 bad ideas, probably just like this group a little later on,
19 but out of those bad ideas come some amazingly great ideas
20 that lead us as a society.

21 And, so, for everyone in this room, clean energy
22 is a good example of that. We were told of something we
23 couldn't, yet we're here. We were told of things we can't
24 do, yet we're here finding ways to do things that we
25 believe we could do, Schatz Energy, Blue Lake are great

1 examples for this university of the success stories that we
2 have, and you'll hear more about them throughout the day.

3 So, let me close with a big thank you, again, for
4 choosing Cal Poly Humboldt and fully acknowledge that this
5 is not only a dream for us to have you here, but a golden
6 opportunity to do the things that we said we couldn't do
7 but actually can. I invite all your bad ideas to come out
8 in hopes of that good idea that will lead us going forward.

9 Mr. Chair, thank you. Best of luck today.

10 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you, President Jackson
11 and Adrienne. It makes me want to enroll.

12 Next, I'd like to welcome Director Wahleah Johns
13 from the Department of Energy.

14 DIRECTOR JOHNS: All right. Good morning,
15 (speaking Native American language). My name is Wahleah
16 Johns. I'm with the Office of Indian Energy at Department
17 of Energy, and I'm also here joined with Deputy Director
18 David Conrad, and then Tristen Douville, and then also
19 Karina. They help our team with engagement and just really
20 honored, again, to be here and thank all the tribal leaders
21 and relatives on this land, and it's my first time being
22 here, and also the commissioners with CPUC, good to see you
23 all, and then the California Energy Commission and UPA
24 regional administrator. Thank you for being here, and
25 also, just getting to know many of you, and the Schatz

1 Center and then the Cal Poly for hosting this and then also
2 putting on the last couple of days, really great event.
3 It's nice and reenergizing to hear the vision of tribal
4 members, tribal leaders in what they're trying to pursue as
5 far as clean energy sovereignty, tribal energy sovereignty,
6 and this has been a core for our office.

7 We've been -- about ten years our office has been
8 established supporting over 574 federally recognized
9 tribes, including 229 Alaskan native villages and
10 corporations. So, we have a huge portfolio, very diverse,
11 all geographically, you know, when it comes to energy
12 unique circumstances.

13 But there is a theme of trying to attain tribal
14 energy sovereignty, and that looks different in every
15 nation, in every tribe, in every community, and so our job
16 is to help support them with technical assistance. We
17 provide technical assistance at no cost.

18 So, if you're a tribal leader and need support,
19 we can offer that technical assistance, whether you're
20 thinking about strategic energy planning, whether you're
21 trying to pursue financial analysis or technical analysis,
22 our team will provide that for you.

23 And then we also provide funding opportunities
24 annually. So, right now we have a 50 million dollar clean
25 energy deployment technology grant opportunity that ends in

1 mid-May.

2 So, this is significant for our office, and, you
3 know, our office has been small and our budget has been
4 small for the past ten years, and since this administration
5 we've had an increase, and it's just been really, really
6 awesome.

7 But the need in Indian country is huge, and I
8 think what you are doing here today is really powerful. I
9 always look to California. I used to live in Oakland,
10 California for ten years, and I moved to D.C. recently, but
11 I've always seen California as a leader in clean energy,
12 the clean energy future, and the methods of building
13 partnerships and relationships and doing it in a way that
14 is equitable and just, especially working in partnership
15 with tribal nations given the history.

16 And when you think about energy, I mean to
17 indigenous people energy is sacred, energy is medicine,
18 from that light that shines every day on us, that's our
19 relationship to this beautiful power that we have that
20 comes out every day.

21 And I think that from an indigenous lens and the
22 way you're drafting policies, even at the Federal
23 Government level, we are taking into consideration
24 traditional ecological knowledge, sacred sites protection,
25 really trying to understand the holistic perspective to how

1 energy is intertwined in a day in and day out of tribal
2 nations.

3 So, this is something that I'm really excited to
4 be in partnership with tribal nations. We've supported
5 over 40 clean energy projects, microgrids in California.
6 We've supported 45 technical assistance requests in
7 California. So, happy to share all of those projects and
8 many of the projects and folks that are from those tribes
9 are here today and this week.

10 But I am committed, our office is committed to
11 building more partnerships with the State of California,
12 but also tribal nations in the goal of attaining true self-
13 sufficient, self-determination clean energy tribal
14 sovereignty. Thank you.

15 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you. Let's give
16 Director Johns a big round of applause. Thank you. Thank
17 you for all you do.

18 Next, I'd like to welcome Administrator Guzman
19 from the EPA.

20 ADMINISTRATOR GUZMAN: Thank you, Chairman
21 Hochschild. Good morning, everyone. Martha Guzman with
22 USEPA Region Nine.

23 I wanted to just share a little bit of excitement
24 and just the right timing by sharing a little story of how
25 I came to participate today.

1 And as many of you know, many of you have a
2 delegation from the Federal Government on many of our water
3 and air programs. I know some of you on the air side have
4 delegation on 103 or 105 funding for permitting on air.

5 And over the last year, and as was mentioned from
6 David that I had been a public utilities commissioner for
7 five years, but over the last year I've never permitted so
8 much diesel and gas in my entire career, and it's been from
9 permitting on tribal nations for needs, for needs for self-
10 sufficiency, but also for enterprise, and most of it,
11 though, primarily for immediate needs like keeping drinking
12 water operations going and things like that.

13 And more recently, some of the larger projects it
14 became, you know, projects of like 60 megawatt gas plants
15 became a real -- I felt that I was doing a disservice in my
16 role under this administration, and certainly here in the
17 state with so much tremendous possibility. And, so, I
18 reached out to Wahleah and I said what can we do here, you
19 know, there is obviously need and there's not -- there's a
20 lot of resources now that we're putting forward and we're
21 just not getting it to the right places that need immediate
22 need.

23 And, so, this gathering represents to me one of
24 the opportunities for us and our team here to really focus
25 on providing that alternative pathway for these clean

1 energy alternatives because of the climate reality we heard
2 of so sharply from Jana and others yesterday.

3 So, I wanted to share that in addition to our
4 traditional permitting role in relationship with the
5 nations on their own governance of these federal statutes,
6 this current opportunity with the Inflation Reduction Act
7 in particular is a very timely and needs to set the
8 dialogue in collaboration.

9 And I'll just mention two, of the nearly 50
10 billion dollars that the UPA has received from the
11 Inflation Reduction Act, that's in addition to the 50
12 billion, nearly 60, that we received from the Bipartisan
13 Infrastructure Law that was largely focused on water and
14 waste water, which I know we have many ongoing projects on
15 within the nations up here.

16 But on the Inflation Reduction Act, there's a
17 five billion dollar climate planning and infrastructure
18 grant program, and those planning dollars were announced
19 yesterday, and the nations will be getting a formal to the
20 chair people, chairwomen, chairmen, next week.

21 In California -- actually in the region, not just
22 California, we have just six million dollars for the
23 planning of that money, and so we really are urging
24 collaboration so that larger planning efforts can take
25 place at a regional level. And the reason being is that

21

1 the five billion is only accessible if you've done a plan.
2 And, so, we are here to work with you all on that to make
3 it possible so that as many projects could be eligible for
4 the five billion.

5 And then finally, I'll just mention the other
6 pot, the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, 27 billion. Seven
7 billion of that is grants, 20 billion of that is going out
8 to the nation, the United States, to different nonprofit
9 banks. So, the seven billion has been determined, the
10 grant size, to be focused on distributed energy, and
11 primarily solar and storage.

12 And I want to work with our partners, all of our
13 partners here, to make it possible for that, so that 10
14 billion across the nation will probably fund less than 100
15 hundred projects that we're talking about significant
16 projects. So, my goal is to make sure one of those, or two
17 or three of those projects happens here in the North Coast.

18 So, with that, I want to thank you all for his
19 discussion, and I really do want to thank everybody, want
20 to particularly thank Commissioner Houck and Wahleah. At
21 first, I didn't know are these the same thing, what's going
22 on. Took me a while to figure it out, but it's like all
23 the energy was coming together to be present here to bring
24 all of our collective resources and get some solution.
25 Thank you.

1 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you so much. Next, I'd
2 like to welcome Assistant Secretary Thompson from the
3 California Natural Resources Agency.

4 ASSISTANT SECRETARY THOMPSON: Thank you so much.
5 As Chair said, my name is Geneva E.B. Thompson. I'm a
6 citizen of the Cherokee Nation, she or her pronoun. I'm
7 very honored to serve as the first ever Assistant Secretary
8 for Tribal Affairs of the California Natural Resources
9 Agency, and it's a true honor to be here today, and I
10 really appreciate the invitation.

11 (speaking Native American) and thank you to
12 Council Member Ramos and the Wiyot people for having us
13 here on your land today, the California Energy Commission,
14 California Public Utilities Commission and Cal Poly
15 Humboldt. It really is a true honor to be here with you
16 all today.

17 As said earlier this morning, California Native
18 American Tribes have been and always will be the stewards
19 of natural resources and the lands here in the state of
20 California. And we know that precontact tribes have
21 stewarded the land to be healthy, abundant, beautiful
22 places that supported their people and needs. And it was
23 through genocidal policies and forced removal that we are
24 seeing a lot of different impacts that are impacting the
25 natural resources, and a lot of issues that I think Council

1 Member Ramos brought up as well.

2 What we're trying to do here with not only the
3 Governor's apology for addressing those historical wrongs,
4 those genocidal policies, is to really shift what we're
5 doing here at the state of California to address those
6 historical wrongs and try to move forward in a path that's
7 not only healing but is supportive of California Native
8 American tribes and their sovereignty and the people.

9 And so, what we're trying to do here at the
10 California Natural Resources Agency is to shift our
11 policies to ensure that we are addressing those historical
12 wrongs.

13 And our top, you know, tribal policy here at the
14 agency is to ensure early, often and meaningful government-
15 to-government tribal consultation. And, so, we are moving
16 away from that box checking exercise of we sent a letter,
17 therefore we consulted, and towards early, often and
18 meaningful with the goal of collaborative problem solving,
19 working together as governments to really address the wider
20 varieties of issues and concerns that we're all facing
21 today.

22 A second policy that we have here at the agency
23 is really to ensure that we are integrating tribal
24 priorities into our environmental and natural resources
25 laws and policies. And, so, it's not just having

1 conversations, but it is ensuring those priorities are
2 built into what we're doing across the agency.

3 And then when having those tribal priorities
4 integrated into environmental policies to also provide
5 funding to ensure that those tribal priorities have the
6 resources that tribes need to really implement them

7 And lastly, we are also committed to increasing
8 tribal access and comanagement to our public lands and
9 natural resources and identifying opportunities to support
10 tribes for ancestral land returns.

11 And we're very excited about this particular
12 policy and very excited to announce last September the
13 Legislature appropriated 70 million dollars to establish
14 the new Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Program which will
15 really provide funding for increased tribal access to a
16 management and land return and fund tribes multi-benefit
17 Nature-Based Solutions Project.

18 And, so, we have our draft guidelines out for
19 tribal consultation right now. Really would hope to
20 connect with tribal leaders on that grant program and see
21 how we can shape it to fit priorities and moving forward.

22 And then lastly, my role here at the agency is to
23 not only implement these Tribal Affairs policies but also
24 to serve as a coordinating role for our 26 distinct
25 departments, conservancies and commissions here at the

1 agency. I work really closely with all of the tribal
2 liaisons here at CNRA, and so, if any tribes would like to
3 feel free to reach out to me and like, hey, who's the right
4 person to talk to, who should I be coordinating with as we
5 are trying to move forward in our different policies and
6 programs. So, please free to reach out. I'd be happy to if
7 I don't know the answer, connect you to the right person
8 who does.

9 So, thank you again for the opportunity to speak.

10 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you so much, Secretary
11 Thompson. With that, let's move on to the rest of our
12 tribal leader introductions. We'll begin with Linnea. If
13 I could just invite you to share a little bit of about
14 yourself, your tribe and some of your priorities. Is your
15 mike on? Just push it. Thank you.

16 MS. JACKSON: Good morning, everybody. It is an
17 honor to be here. I apologize for being late. I
18 simultaneously have to juggle broadband and energy and, so
19 unfortunately, I'm wearing both hats simultaneously which
20 lends itself to the need for funding for, you know, for
21 staffing for tribes. We struggle with workload capacity.

22 So, my name is Linnea Jackson. I'm a member of
23 the Hoopa Valley Tribe. I'm also proudly Yurok, Hoopa,
24 Karuk and Tolowa as well. So, I represent a lot of the
25 North Coast tribes and I hold dear to who I am as a person.

26

1 I am the general manager of Hoopa Valley Public
2 Utilities, and we manage water, solid waste,
3 infrastructure, broadband and energy as well, so there's a
4 lot of critical facilities there that provide the
5 foundational utilities for the reservation as well as
6 regional collaboration.

7 Hoopa struggles with energy resiliency issues.
8 We have frequent and sustained outages that impact critical
9 services, medical water infrastructure. Being that we have
10 our EPA, you know, representative here, we were having a
11 PSPS event, and so the power is shut off for prevention of
12 wildfire.

13 At the same time our generator went down on our
14 water treatment plant, so there was no function for us to
15 provide water services to the community.

16 So, having microgrids, having a clean energy
17 resiliency is critical not only to tribal government
18 functions but essential functions that people rely on for
19 daily life.

20 So, I look forward to and I'm very proud to be
21 part of these projects and working with everybody in here,
22 the CEC, the CPUC, the Cal Poly staff. I mean it's amazing
23 and it's an honor to be a small part of this group to do
24 what we can.

25 The Hoopa Valley Tribe looks forward to being a

1 strong partner, not only for our community but for
2 regionally, and that's something that we stand behind and
3 are very proud of, of wanting to collaborate, wanting to
4 support each other for regional cities and our tribal
5 partners.

6 Thank you very much.

7 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you so much. Council
8 Member Ramos.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER RAMOS: I am Jason Ramos, Tribal
10 Administrator, Tribal Councilman for the Blue Lake
11 Rancheria.

12 I think as we kind of move forward, for Blue Lake
13 we've got a number of different infrastructure projects
14 coming. So, we're looking at the T'am, our Resilience
15 Center. They'll also have some instruction in the ability
16 to do some of the partnerships here with both CRN Cal Poly
17 Humboldt. I had mentioned a health clinic. We've got a
18 waste water treatment facility in planning. We just
19 installed a 250,000 gallon water tank on one part of the
20 reservation, and it looks like we're going to have to do
21 the same thing in a different location. So, we look at all
22 that and we're excited about the future, excited about
23 becoming more self-sufficient.

24 You know, the other weird thing now is that we
25 had a lot of accolades for our microgrid. That's actually

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1 an aged microgrid now, and so we're replacing one of the
2 Tesla batteries that actually had kind of the first
3 generation dyna power inverters that don't work really well
4 with some of our software. We're replacing the microgrid
5 management software too, I think.

6 And then we're continuing to learn lessons on how
7 those microgrids work together behind the point of common
8 connection, and we're going to continue to try to add
9 solar.

10 We've got to address -- you know we talked a
11 little bit earlier and I think we talked last night a
12 little bit, you know, the state of California, that goal to
13 have 100 percent electrical vehicles by 2035, I was taking
14 a look at it the other day and I think in 2022, 800,000
15 electrical vehicles were sold in our country. That number
16 gets bigger by about five, six percent per year. And, you
17 know, I'm starting to see even some of the early chargers
18 that we have installed that's also aged technology now.
19 Everything is moving to the fast chargers.

20 So, we're trying to stay up ahead of the curve.
21 You know, it's not like the stuff is that old. You know,
22 five years, six years and the technology has changed, and I
23 even hear from some of my employees, like I don't like
24 using those chargers. I can go into Eureka and it takes 20
25 minutes. That one takes five hours. I thought we had some

1 good technology, but it moves quickly, so we're going to
2 have to figure that out.

3 You know, we have a service station, we have a
4 gas station, and what do gas stations look like in the
5 future? And I think we're trying to get our arms around,
6 you know, what it might look like and how we're going to
7 install some of those rapid chargers.

8 So, those are all challenges for us, but I think
9 they're good challenges to have, and we're going to
10 continue to work together.

11 If I have -- you know, I don't want to take
12 anybody's thunder, because I know we have some
13 presentations coming up so I won't mention much there. But
14 I'll tell you, for us, probably the single most important
15 thing was having partnerships, partnerships with other
16 tribes, partnerships with the CPUC and the California
17 Energy Commission. I see representatives from RCA, Redwood
18 Coast Energy Authority. You know, we started many, many
19 years ago with grid alternatives, installing solar on
20 Rancheria. Now we have a really robust elders program for
21 that, so I think -- and, of course, our partnership with
22 Cal Poly Humboldt and Schatz Energy, and even the
23 utilities, but it took all of those groups together to be
24 able to really develop that microgrid and keep it up, and I
25 think we've learned some lessons along the way with the

1 next iterations, particularly at the airport and soon to be
2 with the Hoopa, Yurok, and Karuk Project, so I'm glad that
3 they're all partnering, and I think that, you know, we're
4 starting to gain some ground.

5 Thank you for allowing me to speak today.

6 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you so much, Councilman
7 Ramos. Next, now we'll go to Vice Chair McDonald.

8 VICE CHAIR McDONALD: Good morning, everybody.
9 My name is Brian McDonald. I'm the Vice Chairman of the
10 Chemehuevi Indian Tribe. I want to thank everybody for
11 what you've all put together today. It's very exciting to
12 see all of these folks in the room together, per Jason's
13 comment.

14 I want to talk a little bit about, you know, why
15 my tribe sent me way up here today. It was a little bit of
16 a travel. We're located eastern San Bernardino County,
17 about as far east as you can get in California. We share a
18 border with the state of Arizona.

19 And as far as the things that are happening at
20 this historical unprecedented level of funding is I think
21 what has driven a lot folks here today to be in this room
22 together, so we know the desire is there to work through
23 these big ideas, and some of them are probably going to be
24 bad ideas per Mr. Jackson, right. But we know the desire
25 is there and the direction is sort of set to -- there's a

1 pathway, anyway. If we don't have the tactics then, you
2 know, certainly we should be working on strategy. The
3 assistance is there per Wahleah's comments, the funding we
4 know is there, but capturing and really maximizing this
5 effort or these efforts is really why we're -- how do we
6 leverage all of these things and stack them on top of each
7 other to really make them work, especially, again, these
8 historic levels of funding.

9 I'm very -- I think we're all very excited to
10 talk a little bit about the resolution on tribal energy
11 sovereignty. I think a lot is going to come from that. I
12 have seen over just even the last couple of years the
13 impacts that has been made by policy directives right
14 straight from the Governor's office. I've seen it. I've
15 spent ten years as the tribal liaison for Southern
16 California Edison, so I know -- that was back in 2012.
17 It's a different world now than it was then as far as
18 working with tribes. I'm very appreciative of that. I've
19 seen the effort.

20 And just a little bit about some of the projects
21 that we're working on and why. I've spoken with several of
22 the commissioners here before, but Chemehuevi is at the end
23 of a, you know, 19-mile extension cord. Anything happens
24 along that line, you know, we go down, right. So, our
25 government shuts down. We had one on Monday. We're going

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1 to have another one on the 8th. These are extended
2 outages, you know, necessary for upkeep and we get that,
3 and we're appreciative they're doing it in this cooler
4 weather because when it gets 120, 125 degrees it becomes
5 unbearable to not have the simple luxuries like air
6 conditioning. Now, don't get me wrong. We've been doing
7 it for a long time without air conditioning out there. We
8 know how to do it. But it does -- it really especially
9 impacts feels like our younger generation.

10 A couple of the projects we're working on right
11 now to resolve those efforts or problems is looking at
12 commercial solar utility. We have some of the best quality
13 sunlight in the nation. It's always shining out there.
14 And we think that will, when attached to some battery
15 storage and microgrid components will make life better for
16 our people, and so I'm rooting for CEC. Go get that grant
17 because we -- and we'll play our role. The collaboration
18 effort is going to be very important, so we want to make
19 sure that Chemehuevi offers our assistance to help
20 accomplish these goals. So, thank you all very much.

21 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you. I believe you're
22 the person who has traveled the farthest to be here, so
23 thank you.

24 Next, I'd like to welcome Chairman James from the
25 Yurok tribe.

1 CHAIRMAN JAMES: Joe James, Chairman of the Yurok
2 tribe. I come from the village of Sregon, the lower
3 Klamath River.

4 Thank you for your opening remarks. You know, it
5 resonated and hit home regards to governing regarding your
6 remarks. This is what it looks like. This is what it
7 looks like to sit at the table and be around leadership,
8 tribal leadership, talk about energy, microgrids. We all
9 have that opportunity to make that change. It's -- as I
10 stated earlier, it's more than a project, it's more than
11 funding, it's more than the application.

12 Yes, we need alternative energy, but it's bigger
13 than that. It's extremely bigger than that. We have an
14 opportunity to change the system, the mindset, the way of
15 California, to recognize indigenous people and recognize
16 the tribes, uplift them, put them at the same level, and
17 again, that's how I see this alternative energy that we're
18 talking about, microgrids, utilities. We're talking about
19 jobs. We're talking about isolation. We see at the Yurok
20 tribe, we see the vision. We see the opportunity that's in
21 the room, and I just want to say, very grateful, honored,
22 and again, don't let this be just the one time here. Come
23 back again as tribal leaders, as leadership of the CEC, the
24 CPUC.

25 When you go home after this meeting, yesterday we

1 were in Blue Lake daily here. We've got another day here
2 on the beautiful north coast. When we travel home have an
3 opportunity to make an impact here in the community.

4 And again, the Yurok tribe is vital and key for
5 us regarding infrastructure and energy. I just declared a
6 state of emergency for our tribe. It's a grateful day, but
7 also

8 my heart is back at home on the reservation not
9 too far from here. A lot of our members are going through
10 difficult times as we speak, so we're dealing with it. The
11 Governor and his team CAL OES providing services there, but
12 I just wanted to mention that. I think I did last night.
13 But again, I wanted to -- just to highlight the importance
14 of why we're here in this room as you mentioned in your
15 opening remarks. I just want to say thank you for that.
16 It truly hits home. And look forward to continue to work
17 with our team, our partners. But this is what it looks
18 like in the room.

19 Today is a beautiful day. Today is a beautiful
20 day. Have an opportunity to make that difference as
21 leaders in this room today. And as we're talking with our
22 colleagues, whether it's corporations that we work with,
23 sit down and talk with the Yurok tribe, talk with the
24 indigenous people, have that meaningful dialogue. Make
25 sure they're at the table, included in part of it, because

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1 we no longer -- for Yurok we don't want to be on the
2 receiving end no more, not for us. We want to be the user,
3 the manufacturer, the supply chain. We want to be part of
4 it. That's how we envision it.

5 My goal at the Yurok tribe is create our own
6 energy entity at the end of the day. It's a long ways and
7 it's a goal. That's how we see it on our end regarding
8 sovereignty. We no longer want to be the user anymore. We
9 know how that works, as first peoples here, as stewards of
10 the land, of the river, the environment, the natural
11 resources.

12 And again, with that, Chair, thank you for having
13 me in the opening remarks. Thank you.

14 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you so much, Mr.
15 Chairman, and let me just reiterate, you know, the hardship
16 we talked about yesterday, the outages your people are
17 dealing with right now, that's why we're here, to get that
18 fixed, ultimately have systems that support better
19 reliability and cleaner service.

20 And I just want to say what you have done
21 together with your colleagues here is inspiring all of us.
22 I especially want to uplift the Klamath Dam removal, which
23 is the largest dam removal project in the world and
24 wouldn't happen without the relentless efforts. So, just
25 thank you for that. Incredible.

1 Why it seems to be so much harder to take a dam
2 down than to build one is another question. But we will
3 get an update on that later in the agenda.

4 Before we turn to commissioner introductions, I
5 want to see if we -- do we have other tribal leaders online
6 that would like to introduce themselves at this time?
7 Okay. Mr. Davis, can you hear us? Would you like to make
8 an introduction? You need to accept the -- your prompt.
9 Okay. I give you the Chair of the Hoopa Tribe. Are you
10 able to hear us?

11 CHAIR DAVIS: Hey, good afternoon, everybody.

12 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Yeah, we can hear you. Good
13 morning.

14 CHAIR DAVIS: Just want to add to what Linnea
15 Jackson said there, our Hoopa representative. We're very
16 excited about these opportunities, and one of the things
17 that's so significant to us is the amount of hard work and
18 focus that our staff and our tribal members have been
19 putting into this area.

20 Of course, Linnea has been an excellent leader
21 for the Hoopa Valley Tribe in this area, and so she's
22 really inspired not only tribal leadership but so many
23 tribal members that really make this the focus for Hoopa
24 people.

25 You know, our remoteness, our care for the

1 environment and for the health of our people is really
2 strongly aligned with the benefits of clean energy,
3 broadband, all these very important things that are coming
4 up upon us now, and we're looking forward to working with
5 all of you. We want to be --

6 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: We have lost him. Maybe we'll
7 come back. Are there any other tribal leaders, Mona, that
8 would like to introduce themselves? If you're a tribal
9 leader online who has raised your hand -- okay. With that
10 why don't we return for commissioner introductions, and if
11 the chairman comes back on line.

12 What I'd like to ask, beginning with Commissioner
13 Douglas, as we go around -- first of all, I just want to
14 recognize we have an incredible, incredible group of
15 commissioners at both Public Utility Commission, at the
16 Energy Commission. The Chair at the Energy Commission right
17 here is kind of a piece of work, but other than that we
18 have an amazing group, and these are not glamour jobs.
19 They're really hard, the grind. You have to -- I mean it
20 never stops. And, so, I just -- I feel incredibly blessed
21 to have colleague of such high caliber, and that really
22 keeps me going in the work.

23 What I'd like to ask as we do commissioner
24 introductions is if you could share a little bit about your
25 personal story, your background and then your area of

1 focus. And I want to begin with Commissioner Douglas who
2 was formerly a commissioner at the Energy Commission and
3 led our tribal work for many years and did a fantastic job.
4 So, now she's in a new role at the PUC, and if you want to
5 start us off.

6 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: Thank you so much, Chair
7 Hochschild. And I want to thank all of the tribal leaders
8 participating here today, and tribal members, and staff,
9 and the university.

10 As the Chair said, I was on the California Energy
11 Commission for most of three terms. I left in my last year
12 to go be the Senior Advisor for Energy at the Governor's
13 Office for Governor Newsom, and just about a month ago was
14 appointed to the California Public Utilities Commission.

15 So, I'm very excited to be here in a new space
16 and in a new role, but also using all of the preparation
17 and experience that I bring, and that includes very much
18 the commitment to working with California Native American
19 Tribes to really building the partnership that we started
20 so many years ago and building on that and bringing it
21 forward. And it's just so meaningful to me to be in this
22 room with all of my colleagues on the PUC and on the Energy
23 Commission and some of the great staff who came here
24 supporting us and help pull this together. To be part of
25 this dialogue and to have this dialogue, and also, Martha,

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1 with you and Geneva, it's so -- it's really an exciting
2 opportunity, and, Brian, so glad you made the trip up from
3 the desert. And I am excited to be part of this dialogue,
4 and I really look forward to continuing to build on this
5 partnership and all the work that we've done. So, thank
6 you.

7 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you. Commissioner
8 Reynolds.

9 COMMISSIONER REYNOLDS: Thank you, Chair
10 Hochschild. I come from a little bit further north from
11 here. I grew up in Salem, Oregon to the ancestral homeland
12 of the Cahuilla who today are represented by the
13 Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde and the Confederated
14 Tribes of the Siuslaw Indians.

15 I currently live and work in Oakland on the
16 industrial unceded lands of the Chicchangwa, Mueckma,
17 Ohlone people.

18 I will be brief because my main focus today is to
19 listen and to learn. I do want to express my gratitude and
20 my honor to be here on this momentous day to join today's
21 discussion with my colleagues and with the tribal leaders
22 that we have here with us today.

23 The process of getting to and being in this
24 beautiful and remote part of California prompted a new
25 appreciation for me for the indigenous stewards of the land

1 in Northern California.

2 State the agency leaders and policymakers have a
3 great deal to learn from indigenous leaders whose
4 connection with the natural world remains unbroken despite
5 colonial and other forces. I am generally honored and
6 pleased to be here today and thank you so much to everyone
7 for being here and to the staff who supported us to come.

8 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you. Commissioner
9 Houck.

10 COMMISSIONER HOUCK: Thank you. Again, I'm
11 honored and humbled to be here with so many tribal leaders
12 from the North Coast as well as Vice Chair McDonald for
13 traveling all the way up here. I want to thank Humboldt
14 State for hosting today's event, and I want to thank all of
15 the staff at both the CEC and the Energy Commission -- the
16 CPUC for all of the work they did in making this happen,
17 particularly the tribal advisors Katrina at the CEC and Ken
18 Holbrook who is also here from the PUC. I don't know, Ken,
19 if you want to raise your hand. And Christine Stauffiger,
20 who is not here, also played a really important role, as
21 well as my advisor Bridget Kwaren who is here today as
22 well. So, I also want to thank Jana and Tara for all of
23 the work that they did on the ground here in Humboldt State
24 to make sure that these events were able to happen this
25 week.

1 So, over the last several years, the dialogue,
2 coordination and collaboration among and between tribal and
3 state entities have increased resulting in more frequent
4 and more positive exchanges between these sovereigns.

5 And I see my role on the PUC as having a voice
6 for tribes and tribal issues and making sure that they're
7 front and center in the work that we do. And this couldn't
8 be more timely as climate change impacts increase and the
9 need to transition to a clean energy future becomes
10 increasingly more urgent. It's more important than ever
11 that we take this opportunity to meet these challenges that
12 we're facing and maintaining a sustainable, safe transition
13 that ensures reliability, resilience and affordability of
14 energy for all of our citizens.

15 We all need to learn from and support each other.
16 It's important that nontribal governmental entities listen
17 and learn from the indigenous peoples of this land as to
18 how to protect natural resources for future generations and
19 see the potential for increased economic partnerships with
20 tribes that can create win, wins for tribes and the state
21 of California, particularly in regard to workforce
22 development and infrastructure development. California
23 tribes have continued their traditional practices and
24 maintained their cultural identities and political
25 sovereignty despite the historic devastation and violence

1 perpetrated against the indigenous peoples of California.

2 The patience and persistence that you as
3 indigenous peoples have shown have prevailed and nontribal
4 governments are changing their perspectives. We're seeing
5 real change in leadership within the state of California.
6 As I mentioned yesterday, that this is seen through the
7 formal acknowledgment of the true violent history of the
8 state set out in Governor Newsom's apology. Recognizing
9 that past, but looking forward I think we have seen and are
10 seeing positive change through the acknowledgment of the
11 value incredible science of traditional ecological
12 knowledge, the work that State Parks is doing regarding
13 partnerships with tribes on controlled burns, a state
14 supported land back effort such as the Public Utilities
15 Commission Tribal Land Transfer Policy which Director
16 Guzman, former commissioner, was very instrumental in. It
17 came out of our Emerging Trends Committee that was
18 Commissioner Guzman and Commissioner Shiroma, and that was
19 a first for the state of California.

20 We're seeing more economic partnerships and
21 again, as Chair Hochschild said, recognize the dams on the
22 Klamath River are coming down after more than a century of
23 tribes in the North Coast fighting to return their rivers
24 to their natural state.

25 With these positive signs I hope to see continued

1 coordination and collaboration among and between state
2 agencies and tribal governments, as well as growing
3 partnerships that strengthen relationships on meeting our
4 clean energy goals and eliminating the digital divide.

5 We as state officials must recognize and
6 demonstrate respect for tribal sovereignty and tribal
7 traditions, not just through our words and meetings like
8 today, but through our actions as we lead and direct the
9 state's energy policy going forward. I think today is an
10 excellent start to that, and I'm looking forward to hearing
11 from tribal leadership and having an information exchange
12 between our state and tribal entities.

13 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you. Commissioner
14 Shiroma.

15 COMMISSIONER SHIROMA: Thank you, Chair
16 Hochschild. Good morning, everyone. My name is Genevieve
17 Shiroma. My pronouns are she, her. I'm pleased to join
18 the colleagues at the Energy Commission and at the
19 California Public Utility Commission. This is a very
20 essential and important tribal en banc.

21 I assure that yesterday's Blue Lake Rancheria
22 roundtable discussion at the daylong event, the roundtable
23 discussion on microgrids resiliency, and I share here that
24 my heritage is Japanese and Okinawan.

25 My grandparents immigrated from Japan and Okinawa

1 over a hundred years ago. My parents were born in the
2 Hawaiian Islands. I was born in Lodi in San Joaquin
3 County.

4 It was very important to hear from tribal
5 representatives and community representatives yesterday
6 about the essential needs not being met by the electrical
7 grid, and a need for resources including updating
8 infrastructure, and also for sustainable staffing beyond
9 grants, and the serious goals of energy independence and
10 sovereignty.

11 So, I'm honored to be here today, to listen and
12 to learn and to hear more about how the Public Utilities
13 Commission, the Energy Commission, how we can advance clean
14 energy, increase high quality connectivity, provide for
15 meaningful consultation, real consultation while respecting
16 tribal sovereignty.

17 I do thank all the attendees, the teams that put
18 it together today from the Energy Commission, our CPU,
19 Commissioner Houck to make sure that we were all here and
20 for her leadership, and to Cal Poly here at Humboldt and
21 the Schatz Energy and there are many more who made this day
22 possible and I'm very, very appreciative to be here. Thank
23 you.

24 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you. Commissioner
25 Reynolds.

1 COMMISSIONER REYNOLDS: Thank you, Chair. So, I
2 already provided a welcome and, you know, just want to
3 reiterate that how pleased I am to be here today.

4 I am also from the Bay Area and now in
5 Sacramento. I haven't had a chance to get up here to the
6 North Coast very often, and so I hope that today will be,
7 you know, the first of a few trips that I can make up here
8 during my tenure at the CPUC.

9 I agree that this should not be the end of the
10 discussions or the actions. As Commissioner Houck
11 mentioned, this is not just about talk and consultation but
12 also about actions that are taken in the future.

13 I did want to provide a special thanks to
14 Commissioner Houck for helping to organize this en banc and
15 really her leadership in bringing us all together. So,
16 I'll end with that. Thank you.

17 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you. Vice Chair Gunda.

18 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Thank you, Chair. Good
19 morning, everybody. I'm Siva Gunda, serving currently in
20 the role of the Vice Chair at CEC.

21 It's an incredible honor to be here, and thank
22 you so much, Council Member Ramos, for opening the space
23 for us and everybody here at Humboldt State, Cal Poly and
24 the tribal leaders for having us here.

25 And I just want to as a way of background I want

1 to share I grew up in India. I moved to the United States
2 about 20 years ago and now call California my home. And it
3 has been an incredible privilege to live here in the States
4 and both enjoy the goodness and the values that it tries to
5 promote, but also recognition of the past and the many
6 wrongs that need to be corrected on an ongoing basis.

7 Coming from India I've had a good share of
8 enjoying both the generosity, the light, the hope of people
9 here, but also being a part of experiencing the aftermath
10 of things like September 11th. I was upstate New York
11 during that time. So, I understand the opportunity we as a
12 people have in both -- in the moving with love but
13 recognition of the tremendous injustices we do to each
14 other.

15 So, I'm here today in the spirit of recognizing
16 the past and not forgetting that in the spirit of humility
17 to learn from everybody here, in the spirit of reverence to
18 the incredible wisdom that the tribal leaders bring to the
19 table and the tribes have imbued this land with, and
20 incredible gratitude for allowing to be here and, you know,
21 potentially allowing me to make mistakes and learn from my
22 mistakes. And also inspired by this moment to make a
23 difference together and, you know, really inspired and
24 invoke the spirit of love to break the barriers that exist
25 and invoke the spirit of one family, one responsibility and

1 one duty. Thank you.

2 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you so much.

3 Commissioner Monahan.

4 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: I have to wipe a little
5 tear because that was so beautiful.

6 So, my name is Patty Monahan. I'm a commissioner
7 at the Energy Commission and the lead for transportation.

8 And a little history. So, you may be surprised
9 with a name like Patty Monahan that I'm Irish Catholic,
10 youngest of seven.

11 So, I grew up and shared a room with my two
12 sisters. I was in the pullout bed, the bunk bed that, you
13 know, so I know what it's like to share and to fight for
14 food.

15 And I just want to say that I'm humbled and
16 honored to be here, and I want to thank the tribal leaders
17 for coming. I think you're hearing from all of us that we
18 come with open hearts and also sorrow over the role that
19 government, whether it's State government or Federal
20 government, has played in the plight facing many tribes.

21 And we hear from all of you that this is a
22 question of basic needs. It's not just about -- I mean
23 energy sovereignty sounds so antiseptic, but this is about
24 helping people meet basic needs, helping families during
25 crisis. And we really want to think about how to break

1 down barriers. We all have these barriers. I'm a lead for
2 transportation so I think a lot about zero emission
3 transportation, how to build out chargers, how to build out
4 hydrogen infrastructure. But we are challenged, I think,
5 to think about this in a more holistic way, so as the grid
6 goes down what does that mean for people who need to get
7 out of a fire zone or who need to take their kids to
8 school.

9 So, we need to think about energy in this really
10 comprehensive way, and I will say we are trying. We are
11 trying hard to do that. And we are here to learn, to
12 listen and then to act.

13 Governor Newsom's apology is a really important
14 first step. We know that's a first step. This is another
15 baby step. And we need to continue taking these baby steps
16 until we can actually run.

17 So, I just want to say thank you to all of you.
18 I look forward to listening more than talking, and I look
19 forward to this day.

20 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you. Commissioner
21 McAllister.

22 COMMISSIONER McALLISTER: Thank you, everyone.
23 Bringing up the rear. I hope not to repeat too much. Oh,
24 I guess we have one more commissioner remaining,
25 Commissioner Gallardo.

1 I am -- you know, what an inspiration today
2 already has been and I'm sure will be. I am just deeply
3 appreciative with the warm welcome, Humboldt State and the
4 tribal leaders, so thank you for that. I'm really honored
5 and humbled to be here.

6 And I would just note the very appropriate tenor
7 of reverence that I think we feel in this room, and that
8 really sort of exemplifies the gravitas that I think we all
9 feel with really starting down this road. I feel like
10 we're just in the first few steps of a long road where
11 we'll be holding hands together, so some difficult problems
12 and challenges.

13 On a personal note, I grew up in Tennessee, so a
14 whole different history and set of cultural problems, and
15 I'll say I sort of felt that when I was a kid. I needed to
16 get out of there, and I ended up living in different places
17 and ending up in California which is just my true home.
18 And I feel that we have the kind of society, imperfect as
19 it is, that can actually embrace these challenges in trying
20 to solve things, and I feel if any place is up to this,
21 then California is that place, and I'm just really excited
22 to play a role, a small role.

23 Earlier in my career I had the incredible good
24 fortune to live in a few different places in Latin America,
25 but spent a chunk of the 1990s working with indigenous

1 communities in Bolivia, Quechua and Aymara cultures, and
2 I'm not drawing necessarily a strong parallel here, but I
3 think what I learned from that experience in living with
4 those communities and understanding how they made decisions
5 was -- it was just a very different world view that was
6 just as valid, if not more so, than I think what I was
7 bringing, you know, that I sort of personified to them.
8 And I learned so much with that experience and that
9 multigenerational decision-making process is a reflection
10 of ancestors and bringing those attitudes to the present
11 really was compelling, and it got -- it resulted in really
12 good solid, sustainable decisions. And I just wanted to
13 express that. That was a different sort of set of cultural
14 -- different cultural milieu, different colonial insults
15 and kind of, you know, very different in many respects, but
16 I think common to the Americas and some important ways, and
17 so just wanted to acknowledge that.

18 That was also the very early days in microgrid
19 technology. We've come a long way since the 1990s, but we
20 have a lot of better technology solutions which is great.

21 Solving comment really means solving longstanding
22 equity -- inequities, and, you know, those two go hand in
23 hand, climate and inequity. We will not get to our climate
24 goals if we don't solve some equity problems, and I think
25 in that sense climate change is just a unique challenge for

1 us all. And, so, there really can be no cutting of
2 corners. We have to build a solid foundation if we're all
3 going to live in this house together.

4 And I do -- I think tribes are our leaders. We
5 going to do a lot of listening. You know, the template
6 that you're forming I think is incredibly compelling. You
7 know, we as public servants and regulators will be
8 listening and learning from you and in forming the actions
9 that we're, you know, empowered to take. And this
10 collaboration is going to last. The collaboration with
11 tribes and tribal leaders is just supremely important.

12 What you're doing and planning I think is
13 visionary and this template is really an inspiration and it
14 has to work. I mean, some of the -- I think, Chairman
15 Ramos, you know, you mentioned that technology is moving
16 quickly and, you know, we have to make sure that these
17 systems actually work. That's how we show success. That's
18 how we demonstrate that it can be done. And, so, you know,
19 reliable powers and equity is essential and keeping up with
20 innovation is challenging.

21 But, I think the tribal model can be really
22 compelling, and so, let's unlock that robust, resilient and
23 equitable future together, and, you know, we know we can do
24 it and need to all pursue it and certainly happy to be here
25 and help start that process.

1 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you. Commissioner
2 Gallardo.

3 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Buenos dias. Good
4 morning. Naomi Gallardo, the most recent commissioner at
5 the Energy Commission and very grateful for Governor Newsom
6 for enabling me to be in this role. I am also the first
7 Latina commissioner at the Energy Commission. Very proud
8 of that.

9 I'm originally from Ventura County which is at
10 the border of the Central Coast in Southern California. I
11 was born there, raised there, started my education there.
12 My parents met there. They are both immigrants from Mexico
13 and have been able to achieve the American and California
14 dream of purchasing homes there, having their kids get
15 educated, both my brother and I. So, really grateful to
16 that area for providing us the opportunities.

17 And I'm also very excited that at the Energy
18 Commission I've been able to learn about new areas and
19 visit new areas. I'm really appreciative of being here at
20 Cal Poly Humboldt for those reasons on the homeland of the
21 Wiyot people and learning more from all of you.

22 I also wanted to give a shout out to the little
23 town of Willow Creek that provided refuge for me and for
24 several Energy Commission staff when we got stuck when the
25 roads closed on the 299. It was some terrifying moments I

1 went through driving in my little car through the snow, but
2 I appreciate having had that experience because it gave me
3 a glimpse of what residents here go through way too often.
4 And, so, I will use those experiences as we're crafting our
5 policy and that's going to be my approach, is prioritizing
6 equity and environmental justice in those experiences that
7 we're hearing from you. We're committing to that.

8 Also, I want to say I'm excited to partner with
9 Chair Hochschild on overseeing tribal affairs at the Energy
10 Commission and like Geneva said, we really want to do
11 engagement and consultation early, often and meaningfully.
12 We commit to that, and why don't we move forward and do so.

13 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you so much. I'll just
14 briefly, and so I grew up in San Francisco and actually got
15 started in energy because of a blackout in 2001. I was
16 working for the Mayor's Office and all of a sudden lights
17 started going out regularly, which we now know was caused
18 by market manipulations from companies like Enron, but
19 that's what got me started.

20 And, you know, my hometown the power plants were
21 not in the wealthy neighborhoods of Pacific Heights. They
22 were in low income communities in Hunters Point and Potrero
23 Hill and were diesel peakers, and you know, the blackouts
24 were an argument, well let's do more of that, and I just
25 felt absolutely called to get into the space and had no

1 idea what I was doing, but got started.

2 We did a hundred million dollar bond initiative
3 in 2001 to put solar panels on public buildings, and then I
4 just got into energy and stayed there. I've always felt
5 really called to the vision of stewardship and moving back
6 to that model. I really think honestly most of the
7 problems in the world are that we're rooted in the fact
8 that basic Native American wisdom of true stewardship and
9 always asking the fact of every decision on seven
10 generation and I think our task now is to infuse those
11 values back into policy, and that when we do that not only
12 will we create a world beyond fossil fuels, which is a
13 vision I feel passionate about, but also, I think we can
14 achieve some healing. So really excited to do this. I
15 think California is leading the world on this, and this
16 region is leading California.

17 I just want to call out the incredible tenacity
18 and innovation that, you know, we're seeing up here in the
19 North Coast. It's amazing. You're an inspiration to us
20 all, so really happy to be here. Thank you for welcoming
21 us so warmly.

22 So, what we're going to do at this point is go to
23 -- I'm sorry, sir, are you a tribal leader? Yeah, please.
24 Welcome. Please introduce yourself.

25 MR. CRAWFORD: Thank so. Oh, I sound so much

1 better. Thank you.

2 As a member of the Yurok Tribe growing up in the
3 East District which represents Willow Creek area, by the
4 way, thank you for those words and the words from many of
5 you from the Navajo Nation to great state of Tennessee and
6 Hawaii, Japan, Lodi and others, India. Thank you for those
7 words.

8 Like I said it touches my soul because as a
9 tribal member and my background is education, just recently
10 got into the political world about nine months ago, and
11 being a teacher to junior high students on the reservation
12 of Hupa, Willanea comes from. Teaching the history, and I
13 know we have a couple of very young participants today so
14 I'll keep it PG, but we know the atrocities that happened
15 and always remember that the first Governor of California
16 Peter Burnett campaigned and won by a landslide by
17 promising if he was elected he would exterminate every
18 California Indian.

19 And today I don't hear that word and I happily
20 hear the word "collaborate," and that's a beautiful thing
21 because we look at history as chapters of our lives. Each
22 of us here today, unique stories. Well, today we're all
23 sharing a chapter in our books of this life in a good way,
24 in a promising way, and more importantly, in a hopeful way,
25 because hope as you know in Indian country sometimes it's

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1 small, and we have the statistics that show what the cause
2 of hopelessness does.

3 Working together in collaboration as Chair
4 Hochschild said, collaboration, yes. Work together because
5 we know how to not do it. We know how not to work with
6 native tribes and the U.S. Government. We know that. We
7 can read about it for months.

8 So, collaboration and hopefulness, I look forward
9 to working with everyone here, and I'm glad you're all here
10 because I see open minds and open hearts and I hear that in
11 your words, and I hope to a few chapters ahead be able to
12 say not only did I hear it in their words, but I saw it in
13 their actions. Thank you.

14 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you for those beautiful
15 comments.

16 So, a little bit about the rest of the agenda.
17 What we're going to do at this time is take public comments
18 and on every item that is not a voting item. There's only
19 one voting item that we're going to be taking up today
20 which is the Tribal Energy Sovereignty Resolution, and
21 we'll reserve public comment on that item for when that
22 comes up, but anyone else wishing to speak to any of the
23 other informational items is welcome to come up and provide
24 public comment at this time.

25 MS. BADIE: Good morning. My name is Mona Badie.

1 I'm the public advisor at the California Energy Commission,
2 and on behalf of both agencies I'd like to welcome public
3 comment at the en banc today. Like the Chair said, there
4 will be two opportunities.

5 So, this is the open comment period. It's open
6 to all attendees. We are asking speakers to limit their
7 remarks to two minutes or less so we can hear from
8 everyone. And there will be two opportunities. One is in
9 the room. We have blue cards in the back from the Energy
10 Commission and from CPUC who will accept public comment
11 cards there. If you are in the audience and you want
12 someone to bring you a blue card to fill out, you can raise
13 your hand and they will come to you.

14 We also have attendees on Zoom. If you are on
15 Zoom and you would like to make a public comment, we'd ask
16 you to raise your hand. It's the open palm feature on your
17 screen. And then you can notify us that you'd like to make
18 a public comment, and then I will call on you and open your
19 line. I'd like to give it a moment.

20 I'm not seeing anyone in the room and we don't
21 have any raised hands on line. So, there will be one other
22 opportunity for public comment and that will be during the
23 CEC resolution. I believe it's item nine on the agenda
24 day. We'll have public comment at that time as well.

25 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay. Thank you, Mona. At

1 this time, we'll move on to Item 3 which is the Klamath Dam
2 Removal. I welcome Chairman James and Toz Soto from the
3 Yurok Tribe to present.

4 CHAIRMAN JAMES: Again, good morning, Joe James,
5 Yurok Tribal Chair. Before I get started, I do want to
6 take a moment and recognize my Yurok tribal leaders in the
7 room. Council Member Sherri Provolt, she's sitting there
8 behind Commissioner Douglas there, Yurok council member for
9 the Yurok District. I want to recognize Mr. Wes Crawford
10 who just spoke there, Yurok Tribal Council Member.

11 And again, thank you, chairman for bringing not
12 only this discussion but this event to us. It means a lot.
13 Thank you for your leadership. Thank you for your peers.

14 I also want to recognize Commissioner Darcie, I
15 want to thank you for the work and Ms. Douglas. Thank you.
16 It's truly an honor and it means a lot, before I get into
17 the dam removal, because it speaks to our heart, too, and
18 that's what we're talking about.

19 It's exciting times regarding dam removal. Just
20 a little bit of background because we can talk about that
21 all day. But, you know, it started off, we've been working
22 on this for over 20 years, not just the Yurok Tribe, the
23 Karuk Tribes, State of California agencies, Oregon. It
24 took a lot for all of us to come together. Now we're
25 bringing down the largest dam removal in United States

1 history. It's a big deal and it's huge. There's going to
2 be tears of joy when that does, when it comes down.

3 But before we got to four dam removals it started
4 out with just one. That was the thought from our tribal
5 leadership back then 20 years ago. We always look back,
6 you know, the past, the present and the future and give
7 thanks for everybody that paved the way to get to this
8 point, whether you're a tribal elected official, or elected
9 official, or our agency, everyone that played a hand in
10 that played a key part to get to this point. And, so, it's
11 huge being able to walk the banks, have our children, our
12 generations that are not even here yet being able to walk
13 the river back and not have to deal or work with existing
14 dams.

15 Everything we do is about balance, providing
16 balance through the basins. We wake up every morning and
17 be blessed, thankful, appreciative, humbleness, provide
18 that direction, give thanks, love. You know, as we
19 mentioned in this room here today, we have an opportunity
20 to make change and we will. But getting back to the
21 project we have, you know, bringing back our streams, this
22 year we're going to remove Copco 2 in 2023 and the rest of
23 those other three dams will come down next year. So, we're
24 excited about that.

25 We as a Yurok people live off the Klamath River.

1 That is our highway. That is our lifeline. We use the
2 river and Mother Earth to give thanks for the natural
3 resources. You know, our salmon mean everything to us, you
4 know, everything that the river provides for us. Not only
5 that, our salmon usually take routes along the river, the
6 ocean. You know, it's very spiritual and it's healing.
7 You know, we utilize our traditional dugout canoes. You'll
8 see them before the week's end and you'll get a feeling
9 like no other, being able to be on that and tour the river.

10 But again, a lot of work has went into the
11 removal of the dams. It's been a journey, a long journey.
12 We've lost life along this journey. Again, we gave life,
13 we've gained new partners, and again, as everybody in this
14 room, everybody on the call, everybody in California and
15 Oregon, the list goes on, and it's going to be a truly
16 historical moment of dam removal.

17 You know, we just -- why I bring up Condor, it
18 all goes hand in hand with balance. We just got the
19 reintroduction of California Condor. It ties into dam
20 removal because whatever we do, we're talking about balance
21 and bringing ourselves back again as a whole, as people,
22 bringing us whole. We wake up in the morning, we balance
23 ourself in the morning, whether going to work or we're
24 caring for our loved ones or our children. Whatever way
25 you do it, you do do it in the morning. You balance

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1 yourself out for your day.

2 And, so, very proud and honored as a tribal
3 chairman to be part of the dam removal coming down, what
4 it's going to mean for our people and people to come before
5 us. So, again, real excited about the removal of the dams
6 from a cultural, from a spiritual, from a way of life to
7 protect the river because the river has protected us and
8 provided for us as people.

9 And, so, thank you for the opportunity, Chairman.

10 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you. All right. Any
11 questions or comments from anyone on this item from anyone
12 on the dais before more presentations. Oh, there's more
13 presentation, sorry, is it on the screen? Okay. Thank
14 you.

15 MR. SOTO: So, I prepared a PowerPoint
16 presentation, but I'm not sure if it's available.

17 Anyway, my name is Toz Soto. I'm the Fisheries
18 Program Manager for the Karuk Tribe, and before I get
19 going, I grew up in Somes Bar and I've lived 45 years off
20 the grid, so I understand, you know, making power is mostly
21 using less power.

22 But anyway, I'd like to talk about dam removal
23 and kind of the journey getting here. I've been involved
24 in dam removal for over 20 years, and, you know, so first
25 of all I'd just like to honor the tribal people here that

1 have worked on dam removal and put their lives on hold,
2 really, to make this happen. And I'd also like to honor
3 the Wiyot Tribe for allowing me to speak here on Wiyot
4 land.

5 So, Klamath Dam removal started, oh, a long time
6 ago. So -- okay, next slide.

7 So, you know, the Karuk Tribe is located right
8 below -- on the Klamath River below Iron Gate Dam and the
9 hydroelectric project. Karuk have lived on the Klamath
10 River since time immemorial, and I think it's really
11 important to recognize that Karuk people continue
12 traditional fishing and cultural practices today.

13 Next slide.

14 The territory, like I said, is on the Klamath
15 below Iron Gate and the rest of the dams, you know, making
16 the Karuk Tribe one of the first tribes to, you know, deal
17 with the impacts of poor water quality and those kind of
18 things.

19 Next slide.

20 So, the Klamath River has been asked to do a lot.
21 The Klamath River fishery is diverse. It supports culture
22 and health. There's different species from Salmon to
23 Lamprey or Eels, to Sturgeon. They're all important, not
24 just for fishing but for human health.

25 Next slide.

1 So, you know, understanding that Klamath has been
2 asked to do a lot. You know, we have poor water quality in
3 the Klamath River. We, you know, have had large fish
4 kills. There's a long history of gold mining and other
5 impacts, but dams, that's really what I'm going to focus on
6 and that's I would say probably the biggest problem we have
7 on the Klamath River as far as our fisheries health and
8 water quality health.

9 Next slide.

10 So, the Salmon declines have been happening a
11 long time. We're at about ten percent of our historic
12 average. You know, Coho Salmon have been listed. Spring
13 Chinook are nearly extinct. Other species like Lamprey,
14 Sturgeon, mussels, they're all in decline. This is all
15 affecting tribal people.

16 Next slide.

17 So, Karuk culture and health impacts. You know,
18 ceremonies are at risk and ability to pass down fishing
19 traditions, sacred sites are destroyed, denied access to
20 traditional foods. These are all huge issues for the Karuk
21 people and other tribes.

22 Next slide.

23 So, when there's a problem Karuk people are fix-
24 the-world people. That's as simple as I can say it.
25 Pikyaaayav means world renewal. Pikyaa means fix it. So,

1 part of the culture is to identify problems and fix it, and
2 the way we do that is we use traditional ecological
3 knowledge on one side. We use western science. We use
4 that to identify a problem, develop a solution for that
5 problem and then implement that solution.

6 So, along the way we have collaboration. That's
7 super important, forming coalitions. That's how dam
8 removal happened was tribes came together, environmental
9 groups came together, river conservationists, commercial
10 fishing. People came together.

11 On the other side of that coin, we do restoration
12 work, we do legislation, and if we have to, we litigate.

13 Next slide.

14 So, focusing on these dams, there's four dams
15 that are coming out within the project reach. They're all
16 hydroelectric dams, Iron Gate, Copco 1, Copco 2 and J C
17 Boyle, the uppermost dam.

18 Next slide.

19 So, what do the dams do? The dams block 420
20 miles of spawning habitat. They degrade water quality.
21 They host algae blooms. They create habitat for disease,
22 and they limit Salmon diversity, and I'll say they limit
23 Salmon diversity in a way we don't have spring run Chinook
24 which are like probably the most important Salmon species
25 for the Karuk Tribe and other tribes.

1 Next slide.

2 So, this is just a picture of Copco Reservoir,
3 and I have this here because a picture says a thousand
4 words really. The poor water quality in the reservoir is
5 outrageous, and when I first saw this I was like I can't
6 believe this is happening to California.

7 So, anyway, next slide.

8 So, what did the dams not do? Well, they don't
9 make a lot of money. They don't make a lot of power. They
10 don't provide irrigation or drinking water, and they don't
11 provide flood control.

12 Next slide.

13 So, getting PacifiCorp to the table, this is
14 where collaboration and activism and those kind of things
15 came together, but the tribe sent representatives to
16 Scotland to the shareholders meeting when Scottish Power
17 owned the dams. When Scottish Power sold the dams to
18 Berkshire Hathaway, tribes went to Omaha, Nebraska to their
19 shareholders meetings to let the shareholders know what
20 these dams do.

21 Next slide.

22 So, there were things like this is just a meme
23 that was made. I found it was kind of silly, but anyway,
24 next slide.

25 So, the grassroots pressure was put on, and, you

1 know, that's a good part of the story for sure. The other
2 part of the story was the tribal biologists holding I guess
3 PacifiCorp's feet to the fire during the FERC process.
4 That basically means that we made sure that they had fish
5 ladders, they were held to our quality standards. This all
6 made the project more expensive, and they weren't just
7 going to get a license, so anyway, next slide.

8 So -- and this is my last slide, but just to
9 recap, by taking out these dams we're going to restore 420
10 miles of Salmon habitat. That is awesome. But what this
11 habitat really needs is Salmon are going to have access to
12 cold water habitat. And with climate change happening
13 right now, this adds resiliency to climate change. These
14 fish need cold water. These tributaries above the dam are
15 volcanic in nature. They're so cold you can't even stand
16 in them. They're -- it's something that I think Salmon are
17 going to need in the long run, and, you know, I'm really
18 excited to see fish repopulating the upper basin using that
19 cold water and having Salmon runs, you know, for our
20 grandchildren and children after that.

21 Thank you.

22 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you. I would just
23 welcome any comments or questions. Go ahead.

24 MR. McDONALD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd like
25 to thank both presenters. I think it's amazing work and

1 it's got to be quite fulfilling just to see the fruits of
2 those labors taking place.

3 I don't know much about -- I mean I probably
4 learned more about the Klamath Dam than I knew before
5 today, but as I was reflecting on what's happening up here,
6 I realized I had something to say.

7 I guess I'll start with my son's name is Parker
8 Davis McDonald. The Parker and Davis dam structures are
9 the structures that created the reservoir which is Lake
10 Havasu. The creation of Lake Havasu is what sort of
11 relocated my people, right, the Chemehuevi, and they were
12 forced to go all sorts of directions, Mexico, California,
13 Las Vegas, folks spread all over the place.

14 And it's important to realize, right -- and I
15 guess the comment that the speaker just made was, hey,
16 that, you know, making more power means using less, right.
17 I was struggling with what that actually meant, right. But
18 certainly, the creation -- this is my interpretation,
19 right, the creation of that reservoir certainly increased
20 usage, right. When you have access to this much water,
21 then people are going to use it, right. And, so,
22 Metropolitan Water District and the local water agencies
23 that they serve, right, I think it's something like 26
24 million water customers right now, which is a lot, right.
25 It feeds the nation, right. It goes out -- every drop of

1 water that goes out through that aquifer goes right by my
2 house, and so it's amazing what these structures can do.

3 And as you're -- and I guess here's really the
4 nub of the point that I wanted to make on this comment, and
5 that's, you know, water is life, right. We've heard those
6 comments from tribes out in the Dakotas as they were
7 protesting the oil Dakota pipeline, Keystone XL I think,
8 some of those projects.

9 In the desert not only is water a very precious
10 and scarce resource, right, and as we're connecting these
11 dots between dam structures, water structures, users, one
12 of the things and one of the projects that I'm just going
13 to bring up because it never seems to die, is the Cadiz
14 Water Project which is out near Chemehuevi where that
15 project has been killed so many times and continues to come
16 back.

17 And really what folks are trying to do is pull
18 ancient water out of, you know, the desert which feeds so
19 many lifeforms out in that area. You don't think of the
20 desert as there's a lot of life. There's a lot of life.
21 I'll take you out. You guys get out there in Chemehuevi.
22 We're going to go out and we're going to take the tour of
23 what can, you know, just even around little water holes.
24 While the work that has been done by the leadership up here
25 for the removal of that dam, and I'm not advocating for

1 removing our dams. I haven't taken anything. I don't
2 think that's the conversation. But it is important as
3 leaders over those type of infrastructures to be paying
4 attention to what happens down the line, and it looks like
5 we understand some of that now.

6 But really, take the opportunity because you all
7 gave me the opportunity to just try to put my foot on the
8 throat of the Cadiz Water Project, if possible.

9 So, that is my comment, so thanks.

10 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you for that. Any other
11 questions or comments from the -- yes, Commissioner
12 Douglas.

13 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: Thank you. I just wanted
14 to make a very brief comment, and that's just to recognize
15 one part of the history. I really love the presentation.
16 Thank you. And it was really nice to just reflect on the
17 advocacy that got to the dam removal becoming a reality,
18 and just wanted to make the connection back into the energy
19 space that the FERC record is being compiled. The Energy
20 Commission also had a role in that and that was to do a
21 report analyzing whether the dam removal was going to
22 impact the achievement of the renewable portfolio standard
23 goals, and what kind of impact, if any, would be felt from
24 that. And, so, I remember meeting with the staff person
25 who actually put that together, and the Energy Commission

70

1 found, and was noted in the presentation, that really the
2 power production is very little, and the other issues and
3 impacts were very significant, and so that was a small
4 contribution also in that history.

5 I just brought it up because, you know, as we
6 talk about these issues and we have, you know, ten
7 commissioners on energy, but it's very related, you know,
8 so these issues come together in ways and some of the
9 history comes together in ways that I just wanted to
10 acknowledge. Thank you.

11 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you for that.
12 Commissioner Houck.

13 COMMISSIONER HOUCK: Yes, and to sum up on
14 Commissioner Douglas's comment, you know, this is truly
15 historic. We're going to be seen with the dams coming down
16 on the Klamath, and it was a real collaboration between
17 state, federal, tribal entities.

18 And I do want to recognize former Commissioner
19 Liane Randolph and all of her work when she was both at the
20 Resource Agency and the work that she did as the lead
21 commissioner for the approval that the PUC had to make for
22 being able to make that happen from the state's side.

23 I also know that we have a lot of work to do
24 still with dams on the river, especially these smaller
25 dams that are stopping fish passage. And I don't know if

1 the tribal leaders here, either whether it's today or going
2 forward what kind of a dialogue we can have on what that's
3 going to mean as we're seeing, for example, PG&E is looking
4 to give up some of their FERC licenses, and the cost for
5 removing those dams. You don't have the mechanisms in the
6 arrangement that you have for these dam removals, so it may
7 be more expensive and harder to do. They may want to leave
8 them in place and abandon them as opposed to removing them,
9 and so, it may be worth looking at what kind of discussions
10 we can start opening up with tribal leaders to start
11 thinking ahead on how to address that to allow for better
12 protection of fish in the passageway up the rivers.

13 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you. Any other comment?
14 If not, I wanted to just talk on one closing thought on
15 this, which is, I think, this is a story of perseverance,
16 and I think about the human qualities that are necessary to
17 address climate and to achieve the democratization of the
18 electric grid that we're trying to achieve.

19 Now, the most important quality to me is
20 relentlessness, and I think it's really important to tell
21 the story well. We try, you know, the Public Utilities
22 Commission tries when we have (indiscernible) expected to
23 really be intentional about getting the story told because
24 I think it can actually help in other communities and other
25 states.

1 I just want to recognize Lindsay Buckley, if you
2 can raise your hand. That's our fabulous communications
3 director. She's available to support on anything we can do
4 to help get the word out. I think this is something to
5 really be celebrated and uplifted, and we will do
6 everything we can to support it.

7 Yeah, Commissioner McAllister, please go ahead.

8 COMMISSIONER McALLISTER: I guess I'm -- you
9 know, this is so exemplary in so many ways, and I had to go
10 out to Tennessee, the Tennessee Valley Authority, we have
11 BPA right up the street. I guess I'm wondering sort of
12 what the Federal discussion is on some of these issues sort
13 of to -- as a template for sort of being more intentional
14 going forward about some of those smaller river dams.
15 There was a lot of destruction sort of happening in the
16 early 1900s, the 30s and 40s in different parts of the
17 country that, you know, is going to need remediation and
18 much of that is in tribal lands.

19 Just kind of inviting a comment and just anybody
20 to see how sort of that might inform Federal and State
21 dialogues going forward.

22 COMMISSIONER HOUCK: I'm not as familiar. I mean
23 I've been hearing a lot of dialogue in the Northwest and I
24 do want to also say congratulations on your efforts with
25 the Klamath River, and, yeah, I think I'm happy to help

1 facilitate conversations and put you all in touch with the
2 right people to continue that dialogue.

3 But I agree that, you know, water in the west is
4 -- that's how I got involved in energy was to protect our
5 ground water, and so it's going to be -- I mean it is
6 already a big topic, but it's going to be even more bigger
7 for our future generations and the way that we design
8 systems and dealing with energy as well. I think the nexus
9 between water and energy is really important, and I was
10 told by elders in my community whoever controls your water
11 and power controls your destiny, and that's really true I
12 think in the West, and so happy to have and facilitate
13 conversations with Federal agencies that are leading those
14 efforts.

15 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Well, thank you so much. So,
16 with that, we do have a long agenda. Can we give one more
17 round of applause for presenters. Thank you to everyone
18 who worked on this historic accomplishment.

19 Before we turn to the next item, I'd like to
20 introduce a few tribal leaders who are on line. Welcome
21 you to introduce yourself. Vernon Vera of the Tule River
22 Tribe and Ken Sandusky of the Modoc Tribe, you can unmute
23 yourself, starting with Vernon. If you'd like to just
24 briefly introduce yourself.

25 MR. VERA: Hello, can you all hear me?

1 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Yes, we can. Good morning.

2 MR. VERA: Okay, thank you. I just -- I have to
3 be real brief on this. I just got on the tribal council
4 about a few weeks ago, and as soon as I got on, I got
5 COVID, you know. I'm a tribal elder up here, and I was
6 working as a planner about a little over a year ago and I
7 retired, and I got back on council because it seemed like
8 the community wanted some elders on there, so I'm an elder.
9 And I had been working with WampWorx on a clean energy
10 feasibility study here on the reservation. My proposal
11 here will just be brief because I just had a limited time
12 to prepare for it.

13 I'll just give you a little background of Tule
14 River. The Tule River Reservation is located in the
15 southern tier of Nevada Mountains in California, Tulare
16 County, California. And we have approximately 55,000 acres
17 that was put into trust back in 1873, and what happened was
18 that they relocated our tribe, a small tribe, down from the
19 valley in Tulare County up into the high mountain areas.
20 So that was back in 1873, and they gave us like no way. We
21 didn't have an access road then and we didn't have a way
22 out of it.

23 But, you know, in all these years the tribe has
24 made really excellent strides, you know, to become self-
25 sufficient, because, you know, in a lot of ways we were

1 just kind of forgotten in the high mountains, and so we
2 just had one little access road into the reservation, and
3 still today there's only a little two lane road that leads
4 out of the reservation.

5 And we go from about 900 feet at the
6 reservation's entrance all the way up to 7,500 feet, and we
7 have giant Sequoia Redwood groves, two groves of about
8 1,200 acres, and we border the Sequoia National Park and
9 the Sequoia National Monument that Clinton put into trust
10 before he left office.

11 And, so, we have a lot of things going on as far
12 as trying to elevate our infrastructure, you know, in terms
13 of communication, road development. And now with the help
14 of WampWorx we came up with a feasibility study, and this
15 is going to provide, you know, a clean, cost effective
16 resilient and reliable energy and leverage this critical
17 backbone to support our water, communications and
18 transportation infrastructure while providing jobs for our
19 people.

20 And we have a population of about 1,950 people,
21 and with about 1,250 residing on the reservation.

22 You know, we have no flat land on the reservation
23 for housing. We have a critical housing need. And the
24 tribe has purchased acreage outside the reservation just to
25 provide for housing.

1 So, we have a lot of work, you know, cut out for
2 us. We're still in the planning process and, you know, we
3 hope to, you know, go in line and work to, you know, to
4 achieve California's air pollution goals, you know, and
5 slashing greenhouse gas emissions, and to reduce fossil
6 fuel consumption.

7 And, so, these are the kind of things that's
8 going into our planning, and so with the help of WampWorx
9 the people, you know, come to the reservation and have been
10 working with us. You know, hopefully we'll make some good
11 progress in the next couple of years. We've got a lot of
12 work cut out for us, and I'm just happy to make just a
13 short introduction to what the tribe is doing.

14 So, we're a resilient tribe because we've had to
15 deal with wildfires, floods and COVID, you know, in these
16 last few years and trying to upgrade our transportation
17 system, and to do a casino relocation down into the city of
18 Porterville, which is about 20 miles off the reservation.

19 And, so we have a lot of work, like I said, cut
20 out for us, and the community is very resilient in
21 promoting, you know, everything that we try to do, you
22 know, to provide housing and elevate our water
23 infrastructure, and transportation, and telecommunications
24 for the tribe.

25 So, with that I'll -- I appreciate your

1 willingness to hear this short, you know, version about
2 what Tule River is all about as far as achieving these
3 climate goals. And thank you for allowing me to make this
4 presentation.

5 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you so much, Mr. Vera.
6 Next and finally, we'll turn to Ken Sandusky from the Modoc
7 Tribe. You can unmute yourself, sir.

8 MR. SANDUSKY: Hello. Thank you. I'm coming to
9 you today from my home in the Astarawi Territory of the Pit
10 River Tribe, but I'm the resource and development director
11 for the Modoc Nation.

12 The Modoc Nation are the descendants of the
13 Modocs removed from California at the closing of the Modoc
14 War, basically exactly 150 years ago this year.

15 You know, I'm from Klamath Falls, born and
16 raised, although I am a Oklahoma Choctaw member. I have
17 lived in Southern Oregon and Northern California my entire
18 life. I grew up on the banks of the Klamath River, the
19 Link River specifically, Lake Awana and the Keno Reach.
20 I've been fishing as long as I could walk. And I've also
21 been advocating for dam removal since I was a child.

22 Focusing on bridging the gap around economics and
23 the value that the fisheries bring where they are able to
24 contribute to local economies. Referencing the YubaNet
25 article this morning, like probably two billion dollars

1 between two states, tens of thousands of jobs at their
2 current state. And, so, it's always amazed me the level at
3 which people are willing to ignore the economic impacts of
4 healthy fisheries while arguing for the economic impacts of
5 dam removal.

6 I worked for a new leadership within the Modoc
7 Nation and they've asked me to express their support for
8 dam removal. We'd like to be involved and contribute to
9 the efforts. We'll help provide those. We also know that
10 a free flowing river cleans itself, and so the issues we
11 have in the upper basin with water quality and quantity are
12 exacerbated by the dams and can be largely remediated by a
13 free flowing river. That may be a little bit different
14 than what you've heard in the past, but that's why I'm
15 getting on camera today to express the Modoc Nation's
16 support for dam removal and the work that needs to be done
17 to reclaim the Klamath River's robust natural resources.

18 And just finish with this. Thank you all for the
19 great work you do. The Modoc Nation would like to be
20 involved and, again, recognized in the state of California,
21 and anything we can do to help move that towards that goal
22 or contribute to the best outcomes for all peoples, we'd
23 like to do that. Thanks again for your time.

24 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you so much for your
25 comments. Finally, we have one local leader with us in the

1 room. Welcome Lonyx Landry, the District 4 planning
2 commissioner for Humboldt County.

3 MR. LANDRY: Hello. The people, as in like the
4 people's champion kind of concept of the people, have
5 bestowed me the Governor of Humboldt County. So, that
6 being said --

7 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Congratulations.

8 MR. LANDRY: I wear a lot of hats. When I walked
9 in the room apparently what got me some mike time is that I
10 am newly appointed to the Planning Commission for Humboldt
11 County, the District 4 Planning Commissioner.

12 But that's partly, but that's not really why I'm
13 here. I'm here because, like all of our other tribal
14 leaders, I'm Nor Rel Muk Wintu Nation. That is my tribe.
15 We are not a federally recognized tribe, so if you're
16 saying what, who's that, yeah, we're not federally
17 recognized, but we do exist, and like so many other tribes
18 in California, we didn't get the luxury of federal
19 recognition. So, much like the Yuroks have built
20 themselves up and Blue Lake Rancheria and others, Bear
21 River, have built themselves up, the Nor Rel Muk Wintu
22 Nation is in the process of doing that as well.

23 So, I'm a citizen of that, and from that they
24 appoint me to the Northern California Indian Development
25 Council. So, I'm a council member in that workforce

1 development activity.

2 One of the other hats I wear is I am also an
3 employee here at Cal Poly Humboldt, work in the Indian
4 Natural Resource Science and Engineering Program. So, it's
5 with that hat that I speak to you today because I believe
6 that it encompasses and connects to all of these things
7 that our tribal leaders are asserting, and that is that
8 there absolutely has to be tribal leadership as part of
9 this as it unfolds. And there absolutely has to be local,
10 right. Nobody wants man camps here in our beautiful
11 community. No one wants to destroy our beautiful community
12 in the aesthetics and the pristineness of it. And it is
13 this pristine on account of the care that our tribal
14 nations have put into it since time immemorial.

15 So, I would like to continue that, and I would
16 like to continue those efforts with the work that we can do
17 in partnership with our College of the Redwoods, with our
18 Cal Poly Humboldt, that these be the places that we invest
19 in to build that workforce that is needed to complement all
20 of this happening.

21 So, there are lots of ways that that can go. I
22 think I've communicated that message, but utilizing the
23 things that we have, assuring that these industries are
24 identifying, minimizing and mitigating the problems that
25 they bring as we do this development.

1 So, I look to my state representatives, you
2 commissioners to assert that this is a must, this is a must
3 that Crawley (phonetic) needs to do. This is a must that
4 our Federal folks, BALM, needs to be asserting as well.

5 And thank you all for your time, and it's an
6 honor to be here with you all. And for my young leaders
7 that are coming up and the young leaders that I'm helping
8 growing, those engineers and scientists that are part of
9 our tribal communities, we need that assertion and that has
10 to be a part of the equation. So, thank you for your time.

11 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you so much. With that
12 we'll turn now to Item 4 information item, Achieving the
13 First Proven Carbon Sequestering Region.

14 MS. GANION: Thank you so much. It is such an
15 honor to be here. I know all of you have traveled over
16 difficult circumstances, and we really appreciate it in
17 this historic first of its kind tribal en banc.

18 It follows on the heels, really, of the work
19 that's been done over the last I would say half decade.
20 And in about 2018 I think it was with the help of
21 Commissioner Douglas and the leadership of Commissioner
22 Douglas and others we convened the first ever tribal state
23 energy summit, and that really helped kind of start the
24 momentum to where we are today, and so there's been a lot.
25 We could spend three days here talking about the

1 partnerships. It's really hard to follow dam removal with
2 dry policy carbon accounting, but I'm going to try.

3 So, about two years ago a few things started to
4 emerge, the Humboldt Area Foundation and the Wild Rivers
5 Community Foundation very generously offered to incubate a
6 climate and community resilience hub here.

7 We knew that with the advent of all the work at
8 the state level, all the work that the tribes were doing,
9 all the funding that was on the horizon that we needed to
10 get regionally more organized. And, so, now we have the
11 core hubs to be able to do all that, to address the climate
12 emergency, to improve equity, to make sure that we are
13 defollowing ourselves in this work we have to do together
14 and make sure that the benefits of this just transition
15 accrue locally as well as statewide, nationally, globally.

16 Next slide please, or maybe two slides if we can
17 do it. I think the first one just has my name on it.
18 Okay. I don't know where my notes -- so I'll just
19 continue.

20 The core hubs formation coincided with California
21 and Federal 30 by 30 with the advent of offshore winds,
22 with California's Fifth Climate Assessment launch, and
23 fairly -- next slide, please -- fairly terrible news from
24 the International Climate talks that this slide sort of
25 represents, and Council Member Ramos always tell me, you

1 know, Jana, you have to balance out the bad climate news
2 with some positivity, so that's what we're going to do
3 today.

4 We're off in our carbon accounting, in our
5 missions reduction, and the data and the accuracy by which
6 we gauge our progress towards this, and so this slide is
7 very wonky, but it tells us how far off we are. And it
8 tells us how fast we have to accelerate. We have seven
9 years to reduce our climate emissions by 45 percent, and we
10 need an accelerated and, hopefully, somewhat enjoyable way
11 to do that.

12 Next slide, please.

13 So, our emissions are too high by about 25
14 gigatons a year. When you get to use a word like gigatons,
15 you know that you're in new territory.

16 Carbon accounting is difficult. At the Blue Lake
17 Rancheria we've done scope one and two and we're starting
18 on scope three accounting, and I won't define those here
19 because it's way too boring. But it's difficult to do, and
20 it's difficult to keep those numbers annually accurate and
21 updated. And it's even -- that difficulty is magnified on
22 a global level.

23 Next slide, please.

24 We live in a region, the tribal rural region,
25 that can sequester carbon. We have these magnificent

1 forests on land and in the ocean. We have marshes. We
2 have other land use protocols that allow us to sequester
3 carbon. And the takeaway, really, is that these areas must
4 do that if together we're going to reach our collective
5 goals.

6 And as Commissioner McAllister said, equity is an
7 issue, making sure that as we develop these climate
8 services that the benefits of doing that work accrue here
9 and that people are motivated to contribute.

10 Next slide please.

11 So, I may or may not have done a few car races in
12 my youth, and it's more fun with an electric vehicle, but
13 the idea of a race can be exhilarating, and by defining a
14 finish line, a goal that we can all rally around and
15 organize around to bring some -- hopefully some levity and
16 some handy spirit that we've heard today here into this
17 problem is really important. So, we decided that one of
18 the ways that we would propose to do this is to become the
19 first proven with good math, good carbon accounting, carbon
20 sequestering, tribal and rural regions in the U.S. by 2030.

21 And I think this is going to be a really
22 organizing effort, and it also overlays the work that
23 everybody else is already doing in this area. Like there
24 is a lot of scope one and two accounting going on. But
25 those skill sets are pretty confined into planning experts

1 that are too few and far between. We need more facility
2 fluency with carbon accounting spread out through tribal
3 governments, spread out through -- when I decide what pen
4 to buy, I want to know what my lowest carbon option is.

5 I'm told that there is carbon sequestering cement
6 somewhere in the Bay Area. It would be great to use that
7 to build our offshore wind port here in Humboldt County.
8 Things like that that we need to operationalize decision
9 making for the lowest carbon solution, and by building the
10 skill sets in carbon accounting, that's one way to
11 contribute to that to make that possible.

12 Next slide, please.

13 This is a photo of Vice Chair of the Blue Lake
14 Rancheria Tribe, Arla Ramsey. Arla is a very direct
15 person, and she likes yes or no answers. So, whenever we
16 are thinking about a new idea, a new way to do things, I
17 always think to myself how am I going to answer to Arla for
18 how we do it.

19 And, so, these are some of the ways that we do
20 it. We want to take a survey of the existing accounting in
21 the region, who's doing what, public/private sector, what
22 goals are we trying to get to, what are the mandatory
23 goals, what are the voluntary goals. We want to improve
24 the regional coordination and peer-to-peer learning. This
25 is essential. This is what today is about. This is what

1 yesterday has been about. This is what tomorrow and our
2 future will be about. As Chairman James said, it is about
3 coordination and cooperation, and it's the most important
4 part of this effort.

5 We want to build capacity and center tribal and
6 regional expertise. So, we've already had amazing support
7 from our joint profit partners to be able to launch this
8 effort, and you all can take away, if nothing else, hashtag
9 prove it. And so we're going to be working on specifically
10 building up capacity to do some of this work and develop
11 these carbon sequestration strategies, and more important,
12 the relationships that actually are going to make these
13 things real. Because if we're still working in our silos
14 three to five years from now, we're not going to be
15 accelerating at the pace we need to.

16 So, we need to start now. We need to prevent
17 gaps and that pretty unpleasant word, leakage, and double
18 dips in our carbon accounting, and some of that work is
19 already being done here at Cal Poly Humboldt and at CR and
20 in tribal governments, and city government, county
21 governments, but we need to accelerate it and expand it.

22 Next slide, please.

23 So, hashtag prove it. There are so many things
24 that we can achieve in such a short amount of time, and I
25 think having a goal that blends competition and cooperation

1 in this race so that we're in a competition scenario is
2 important.

3 We look at the Yurok Tribe's management of its
4 forest. We look at the Hoopa Valley Tribe's strategic
5 infrastructure buildout. We look at the Karuk Tribe's
6 climate planning, and all of us are in competition with
7 each other. Those things are envy inducing, and we're
8 working together to make sure that we're learning together.
9 And the leader for this effort is the core hub, and it is
10 incubated at the Humboldt Area Foundation, and I think my
11 time is up. Thank you all very much.

12 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you for that terrific
13 presentation. Just open up to any comments. Yes, Vice
14 Chair Gunda, please.

15 VICE-CHAIR GUNDA: I was going to include this in
16 my opening comments. I just wanted to take this
17 opportunity to elevate Jana's work.

18 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: And she's going to get back up
19 there. We're not done praising you.

20 VICE-CHAIR GUNDA: Yeah. I just wanted to
21 elevate Jana's coordination, cooperation and an incredible
22 commitment to advancing equity at the California Energy
23 Commission.

24 Jana currently serves on the Disadvantaged
25 Communities Advisory Group with Council Member Ramos. So,

1 thanks for helping us have her time up there.

2 Personally, on a personal note I just wanted to
3 say, Jana, you're an incredible human being. You bring in
4 so much competence with so much thoughtfulness that is so
5 essential for coordination, cooperation amongst views
6 sometimes that are not completely aligned, so just want to
7 thank this opportunity to thank you for your grace and
8 thoughtfulness, commitment to this work. Thanks.

9 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Yeah. Any other comments or
10 questions for Jana? Yes, please.

11 COMMISSIONER McALLISTER: I really appreciate
12 your emphasis of fun. You know, we have to -- we have to
13 use these challenges and opportunities that are, you know,
14 daunting, and it's easy to get caught up in the
15 raunchiness. I'm guilty of it most of the time myself.
16 But building community, and actually doing what's necessary
17 and holding hands doing it, and finding ways to have joy
18 doing it I think is just so, so fundamental to who we are
19 as human beings and our common humanity, and I really
20 appreciate you just building that into all your comments
21 and kind of your effervescence at the same time. You know,
22 obviously you're very serious about the topic and your
23 competence is unrivaled. I really appreciate that balance,
24 and it's tremendous to hear.

25 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner Gallardo.

1 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Jana, you did an
2 excellent job. I also want to recognize you for serving on
3 the Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Body Group, which is
4 the main advisory body for the Energy Commission and the
5 Public Utilities Commission, and, you know, your leadership
6 there has been just tremendous, so thank you for that.

7 I do have a question for you. I was curious, you
8 know, what are the things that Energy Commission and the
9 Public Utilities Commission can do to support this effort?
10 Is there anything you can think of, you know, top three
11 things or one, or whatever it is?

12 MS. GANION: I think the main thing that we rely
13 on the commission for and the commissioners is, well, two
14 things, thought leadership and a lot of the nontribal
15 science that -- you know, we can't get to our work to
16 access tools to make sure that our carbon accounting is
17 accurate, to make sure that we know that we're driving
18 towards carbon sequestration and that we've made it without
19 partnering on that data and that science.

20 So, I think that's crucial, and maybe it was near
21 the California Tribal Energy Summit, but we had a -- it was
22 part of the fourth climate assessment. There was a road
23 show on climate science that came up into this region.
24 Tribal nations, local governments, local CVOs got together
25 and it was extraordinary because it was -- in our daily

1 jobs we don't -- part of this effort is to -- is to improve
2 that connectivity between the data and sciences available
3 for our decision making and what we actually have
4 operationalized here, right. So, that's important.

5 We've mentioned it several times today and will
6 continue to work on it, but the capacity to be able to do
7 this work is important. We've been really fortunate to
8 have philanthropic support for a tribal climate resilience
9 network that is in development right now, but we need
10 capacity to absorb these new skill sets and absorb this new
11 scope of work that means going out and being conversant and
12 up to date on the climate sciences, the bedrock of our
13 decision making.

14 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner Shiroma.

15 COMMISSIONER SHIROMA: Yeah, thank you. I just
16 wanted to kind of tee off of Commissioner McAllister's
17 comments a little bit, and from what I took from that, and
18 thank you so much for the presentation.

19 What I noticed also is that how easy it is to
20 digest the very complex work that you're doing, so details,
21 and technical analysis, and science, and traditional
22 ecologic knowledge that are then making it really
23 digestible to the larger world.

24 And I think, you know, what's important about
25 that is you can't do it alone, we can't do it alone, you

1 know, for the planet. We really have to have this be
2 scaled and accessible to larger groups, and so the success
3 and the amazing work that you're doing, I think you're
4 doing it in a way that really can speak to others, and I
5 think that's incredibly powerful and important. So, I just
6 wanted to recognize that. Thanks.

7 MS. GANION: Thanks. I think that there's a good
8 example of how we're working together on this and how
9 things are improving on that score, and that is the Fifth
10 California Climate Assessment. So, we were able to really
11 start with the fourth version and say, hey, we need more
12 capacity for tribal involvement in this effort, and the
13 state agencies really rallied around that, and I know many
14 of you at this table had a material hand in that. And so
15 now going forward I feel like we've made strides in closing
16 that cooperative gap between the sovereigns to get our arms
17 around this.

18 So, it's exciting. It's extremely exciting right
19 now. And as -- I'm sorry, as someone said earlier, it
20 gives us hope and optimism that we can actually get there.

21 And the last thing I'll say is that I've had the
22 pleasure and the honor to get to know many of you over the
23 years, and with this amount of resources, with this thought
24 leadership, with the tribal nations in the co-lead
25 position, in the lead position, we have the materials right

1 now we need to get this just transition done, and we will
2 be leading the world in that. So, thank you all.

3 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you. Yes, please,
4 Martha.

5 ADMINISTRATOR GUZMAN: Thank you. Well, of
6 course, I think that some of you may have been here when I
7 made the remark earlier (audio fades) what this effort and
8 what the opportunity that we have with the Inflation
9 Reduction Act funding and really, also, I don't want to
10 (indiscernible) particularly with this regional effort
11 here. I really am interested to hear now or later from the
12 tribes in the area about the opportunities (audio fades)
13 regional efforts.

14 And, of course, you have until June for this year
15 to submit either a collaborative proposal for that planning
16 funding or individual proposals, and/or both potentially.
17 And so I just really want to encourage you -- I mean, this
18 seems like a potential vehicle for that, so I would be
19 interested to dialogue about that now and in the future.

20 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you. And, finally, in
21 closing I just really wanted to, Jana, uplift your -- not
22 just your work, but your spirit. You brought equal parts
23 competence, humility and collaboration, and I really just
24 want to recognize that because you can get so much done if
25 you don't care at all about credits, and you're just very

1 pure in your approach and I want to recognize that spirit
2 because I think that's exactly what we need.

3 And I also wanted to recognize Council Member
4 Ramos for giving you the opportunity. In hockey you get
5 credit for an assist if you're two passes away, so thank
6 you for allowing Jana to be in this position.

7 So, with that what we'll do now is turn to Item
8 5, which is the Yurok Tribe Carbon Offset Projects. We'll
9 hear that item and then we'll break for lunch. So, I
10 welcome Mr. Kinney from Yurok to come.

11 MR. KINNEY: My name is Javier Kinney. I
12 currently serve as the Carbon Project Manager for the Yurok
13 Tribe carbon projects in the Natural Resources Division.

14 It's an honor to be here as well. I also want to
15 extend to our tribal leadership, Ms. Jackson, Council
16 Member Ramos, my brother Council Member McDonald from
17 Southern California. I did some time of my work in
18 Southern California at the San Manuel Band of Mission
19 Indians. They made me feel welcome, and again, will make
20 sure to extend that, Council Member, again, Crawford as
21 well as Provolt, and the leadership here.

22 And, so, we've been asked to provide some insight
23 and perspective on the Yurok Tribe's Carbon Sequestration
24 Project. We were the first carbon project in the
25 compliance cap and trade program in the state. We

1 appreciate Madam Chair Randolph visiting a few weeks ago as
2 well and her instrumental work and her staff.

3 We also have academic partners, one of them being
4 UCLA School of Law, and we have, you know, have a colleague
5 who was formerly with ARB but is now setting the pace there
6 at the university setting, Jason Gray. We were just with
7 the Governor's Climate and Taskforce in Merida, Mexico as
8 well as the former (indiscernible) would also cover.

9 But today, the three areas that I would like to
10 share with you in the ten minutes that we have is, one, a
11 little bit of background of why the Yurok Tribe entered
12 that market-based approach; secondly, the trends in the
13 economic sovereignty, but also the energy pivot within that
14 area of carbon sequestration, as well as reducing emissions
15 and climate change impact, and third and most importantly,
16 the cultural diplomacy the Yurok Tribe is currently
17 engaging in both at the local, state, and national, and
18 international level. And then we'll also round out with a
19 few recommendations from our perspective just for your
20 consideration.

21 The Yurok Tribe, again, in 2014 had entered into
22 the market-based approach of the Carbon Sequestration
23 Project. We have three current projects referred to as
24 number one, phase one, which is around 15,000 acres;
25 secondly, it's CKGG which around 7,000 acres, and third,

1 which is the most recent purchase which already had a
2 carbon project on it of around 2,000 acres.

3 And, so, the principal approach, and again, our
4 colleague and brother Jason at the ARB is one architects.
5 The Yurok Tribe was not at the table at that time. And,
6 so, the storied history of the state of California Yurok
7 Tribe is a continuation of that.

8 So, he, you know, he had the opportunity to share
9 his story as well, which we did in Oslo at the Forest
10 Forum. But we kicked the door down. Our objective is to
11 purchase 1.5 million acres of our ancestral territory back,
12 within the climate-based regions. Currently ancestral
13 territory is six percent of the California coastline, 47
14 miles of the Klamath River as well as 200 miles off of the
15 shore of the Pacific Coast.

16 And, so, as you're trying to finance these
17 objectives, we appreciate the partnership because we can't
18 do it alone. The disproportionate impact of climate change
19 are occurring on indigenous land. About 40 percent of the
20 cap and trade compliance markets are within indigenous and
21 tribal forests.

22 So, California state programs utilizing in
23 partnership with the State of California the ability to
24 reduce those emissions and have, again, that compliance
25 integrity a gold standard on that. We stand hard to that.

1 We support that protocol. We'll continue to do so, and
2 it's worked for us.

3 We also understand the diverse perspective of
4 other indigenous peoples as well as other tribal
5 governments to take on their approach within the inherent
6 sovereignty. The Yurok believes this is the best approach
7 for us and we'll continue to do that.

8 We also want to make sure that you understand the
9 financial capabilities and the technical expertise. We
10 just returned from Davos at the World Economic Forum as
11 part of our inherent diplomatic mission to look at not only
12 the wealth that's distributed or nondistributed, but what
13 are those transient technologies, voluntary markets and how
14 the world is going to be financing that with industry at
15 the table.

16 So, we believe in engaging not only industry, but
17 also coming up with the solutions to the climate crisis,
18 and the indigenous people have got to serve that leadership
19 role of that climate crisis. There are no solutions that
20 will occur to address climate change and resolve without
21 indigenous peoples and the lands that we not only steward,
22 own, but also will help foster in what those trends will
23 be.

24 And, so, the economic aspect of our carbon
25 markets, again, it's not only about acreages, it's not only

1 about the lands that we manage. We've made that commitment
2 for 100 years, 25 years to credit, but we've got to find
3 other ancillary aspects of investment, partnership and
4 technical expertise.

5 Coding and programming is going to be critical of
6 how energy is going to be transitioned, not only for the
7 state of California, but the U.S. as well as the world.

8 So, we're looking at having Yurok tribal
9 citizens, I am also a tribal citizen that has gone off to
10 college, but we also value those traditional skill sets.
11 So, if you look at Yurok baskets, or the region's canoes,
12 or these technical traditional skill sets, the technology
13 is there.

14 Now you have, again, books. You have the
15 universities and our partnerships. We have our partners,
16 you know, training our leaders to come up. But it's going
17 to be some of that economic sovereignty as well as energy
18 sovereignty that's inherent to us and for us, and that's
19 why we speak for Yurok.

20 Third and most importantly, the cultural
21 diplomacy, the skill sets that are around this table as
22 well as the stories that you come with representing the
23 state of California. And that's what's beautiful about the
24 Golden State is not only being able to take the risk, when
25 you look around and you're the first one through the door,

1 you know, sometimes that's not always a fun position to be
2 in, but California continues to do it. The Yurok Tribe
3 continues to do it, the tribes in this region. So, the
4 thought leadership is there, the traditional ecological
5 knowledge is here, and we look forward to sharing that with
6 you more and more.

7 We're also, again, Ms. Johns as well as President
8 Reynolds, as well, we're in Egypt, and so we're bringing
9 the story that we do on the frontline work that we do, in
10 the forest here, in the rivers. Again, just as Council
11 Member Provolt offered and Chairman James, in addition to
12 releasing those condors we also started a condor aviation
13 company, the most advanced , company on the West Coast.
14 And, so, we're doing that balancing aspect of creating
15 economic, and corporation, and industry standards of tribal
16 businesses within our carbon sequestration.

17 So, I have a few more minutes to wrap up, and I
18 guess in regards to how our carbon sequestration, there's
19 report on the climate crises, page 135 to 137, and it lines
20 out tribal priorities within carbon trends and carbon
21 sequestration.

22 One recommendation. Provide tribes and tribal
23 leaders word documents when you're asking for consultation
24 and participation. The Yurok Tribe believes in
25 consultation, but more importantly believes in decision

1 making. And, so, provide those documents in word format
2 and expect a redline. So, I think that provides the
3 opportunity where there's 30 by 30 with nature-based
4 solutions, whatever that might be, and share with your
5 colleagues. We appreciate the legal doctrines and the
6 transformations and the paradigm shifting and the constant
7 changes. We're making no doubt about that is what we're
8 doing. And, so, we appreciate the attorneys that are
9 looking at those legal doctrines and how that inherent
10 sovereignty can be incorporated because tribal interests
11 and rights are also California interest and rights. And
12 what benefits tribes and envisions peoples will also
13 benefit the state of California, this nation. as well as
14 the world.

15 I also just want to sort of take this time out as
16 well and we utilize our platform, whether it's the
17 legislative efforts regarding MMIP. You've seen that
18 space. But we also believe in the solidarity of our
19 indigenous leaders worldwide. And there should be no
20 violence or assassinations when indigenous peoples are
21 standing up for their rights. We've seen the opportunities
22 and examples of climate dam removal, but when we have these
23 communities and leaders that are being killed for believing
24 and doing what they believe in, we've got to make that
25 change, and we don't do business with those types of

1 entities or economic sovereignty or energy sovereignty
2 comes with that.

3 So, we had recently some of our partners in
4 Ecuador, you know, and all over the global south, so when
5 you hear the Yurok Tribe make those comments, we want to
6 make sure that that comes with meaning and action.

7 Lastly, and most importantly, we want to thank
8 all of you who made that invitation for people to come to
9 this North Coast region and the academic partnerships that
10 will continue with Stanford, UCLA, Harvard, as well as
11 Yale, and now the University of Pennsylvania and Cal Poly.

12 With that, love and respect and understanding.
13 We appreciate the time that you provided me, and more than
14 happy to answer any questions, but also, I think I've
15 exceeded my time, but thank you again and look forward to
16 the exponential work that we're doing.

17 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you so much. Begin with
18 Commissioner Gallardo.

19 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Xavier, I see you
20 leaving. I want to thank you so much for your
21 presentation. It was excellent. And then also really
22 appreciated the opportunity to get to know you over these
23 last couple of days.

24 My question is about the approach you are taking.
25 You emphasized it will be a phased approach. I was a

1 little slow and didn't catch those phases. Would you be
2 willing to repeat what those look like just to make sure I
3 have a good understanding?

4 MR. KINNEY: In regards to our carbon
5 sequestration projects, again, one of the necessary aspects
6 is the financial portfolio, so the approach in regards to
7 our natural resources, division portfolio, again, not only
8 includes carbon, which is one variable, it also includes
9 our fisheries, our forestry, our wild land fire, as well as
10 our environmental program and our wildlife program. So,
11 what you'll see with Yurok's approach is that you have
12 portfolio approach just as in the approach with the
13 nonbipartisan aspect and advocacy. So, indigenous rights
14 are the right thing to do. It's not Democrat or
15 Republican. But it also has to be paid for, and so a lot
16 of these initiatives as we look at not only purchasing
17 ancestral land on the north side of the river, we're not
18 stopping there. We're going from the mouth of the rivers
19 on the north side all the way up to the confluence.

20 And so right now we have a fourth carbon project
21 coming as well. We've utilized partnerships, we're
22 reddening the green movement. So as conservation groups
23 like to save things, we're making that connection for them,
24 and we're really making that exponential growth in the
25 philanthropy space.

1 So, in trade missions, or in philanthropy, or
2 investment we're looking at what those metrics look like as
3 how to talk to investors, whether it's Wall Street, San
4 Francisco, Los Angeles, London, risk analysis and risk
5 management is going to be key on how assets are based and
6 backed. And if tribes aren't at that table either, we've
7 got to make sure and fulfill that.

8 And I think the third leg of that and the most
9 important part is, again, coming to the land. A lot of
10 times in the most recent year, again, we're in Switzerland,
11 Egypt. We're preparing for COP28 in Dubai, Brazil,
12 Bolivia. We have to go there, and we have to make sure and
13 speak and share meals as well. So, that sort of aspect is
14 our approach, and again, we've been able to share that
15 blueprint with others, and again, look forward to working
16 with you and your staff and continuing that work.

17 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner Douglas.

18 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: Xavier, thank you for your
19 presentation and for all the leadership and years of work
20 that you've put into this, and I know your colleagues at
21 the Yurok Tribe on the offset program. It's exciting to
22 see it come together, and I am just reflecting after this
23 presentation and after Jana's, and I know after some of the
24 future ones, too, you know, the dam removal, all of it, the
25 leadership that's being shown by the tribal governments in

1 this region, the leadership of the region as a whole, the
2 partnership with Cal Poly Humboldt and the academic side of
3 this is just so exciting to see the different pieces come
4 together. And for us as state officials to be able to just
5 better understand and think through how -- you know, what's
6 our role, and how to support, and really lifting up and
7 seeing the integration, and seeing how the pieces come
8 together, but also making room for the leadership and
9 innovation that's happening kind of right here on the
10 ground and learning from that. And, so, just want to
11 recognize the tremendous work here and very exciting to see
12 it come together.

13 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thanks. Commissioner Monahan.

14 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Xavier, I appreciate your
15 storytelling and passion in general. I'm wondering if you
16 can share with us just how unique is this effort? Are you
17 seeing it spread globally in terms of opportunities for
18 native people to make money preserving land?

19 MR. KINNEY: One of the requirements, again, as
20 staff that our tribal leadership has laid out for us is in
21 our work. We're going from an extractive economy to a
22 regenerative economy, and this is one of those variables
23 that action is very clear. There's eight tribes in the cap
24 and trade compliance market. If you count the voluntary
25 market, again, that's why we're being tapped and we --

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1 there was individuals that helped us 200 years ago, and so
2 for us to make sure and pay that forward, the Chairman
3 mentioned the past, the present, the future. The Yuroks
4 carbon sequestration didn't just happen overnight. There
5 is thoughtful, strategic action we had as an investment,
6 but then we also have to make sure that it's a sustainable
7 investment.

8 So, those principles of Yurok business is evident
9 in our construction corporations, the Mad River Brewery,
10 the Redwood Lingram Mill, the organic farm we just
11 purchased, and now right now we're working with MIT at the
12 Space Medical Research Lab and the Jet Propulsion Lab and
13 what intellectual property and data sovereignty looks like.
14 So, in the state of California or the Federal Government
15 and our Federal family, again, understands you're coming to
16 the Yurok Tribe or the tribes in the region if it's dealing
17 with our ancestral territory.

18 So, we're reaching out. You're also seeing
19 traditional economic trade routes. We are just in Southern
20 California, and there's that continuous movement. So,
21 economy is not a new principle or tradition to indigenous
22 people. We're just reinvigorating that as well as the
23 resilience coupled with our cultural ceremonies as well as
24 cultural lifeways is happening, and it's been happening
25 here in the region for at least 50 years.

1 And as we talk about the storied history of what
2 bad happened, we're also talking about the resilience, and
3 the vibrance, and the strength that indigenous peoples in
4 our culture, and again, you'll see the economies will have.

5 So, we like sharing that story. We've always got
6 to do better, but people are interested in California and
7 our indigenous people and how we're moving forward. So,
8 it's not the first. We keep hearing a lot of the first,
9 which is wonderful, but what we appreciate is the
10 normalization and the institutionalization of Wahleah
11 James, Commissioner Houck, Assistant Deputy Thompson,
12 that's going to be the norm, and it's not just for the
13 indigenous people, it's for the greater humanity and
14 benefit of who we are today.

15 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Great. Thank you. Unless
16 there's other -- yeah, Commissioner Houck, please.

17 COMMISSIONER HOUCK: Hi, Xavier, how are you?
18 Great presentation. Thank you for being here. The Yurok
19 Tribe took a very creative approach in utilizing state
20 carbon policy to reacquire significant amounts of their
21 ancestral homeland, and can you talk a little bit about
22 your involvement with the 30 by 30 effort and what other
23 potential ways state or federal policy can support land-
24 back efforts for tribes?

25 MR. KINNEY: It's wonderful, and that's, again,

1 where the partnership of conservation fund, the 30 by 30
2 initiative, again, we're proud of, Secretary Haaland, but
3 again as she was in Congress there was also a movement at
4 the state level where the Governor did an executive order.
5 But again, conservation is just the ability to conserve
6 land without the connection of the people is misplaced.
7 And, so, as we're seeing here, is more partnership, we're
8 seeing internationally. That's why we've presented at the
9 United Nations special repertoire on indigenous peoples of
10 how it can work. National parks have to represent and
11 reflect sovereignty, not to criminalize for us meeting, or
12 hunting, or gathering. So, as you're seeing not only the
13 funding associated with the policy of conservation, you're
14 also seeing the tremendous exponential action being taken
15 here locally within the state, but again, at the
16 international level.

17 The nature-based solutions, same thing, whether
18 it's forestry management, cultural burning, we're utilizing
19 that within state policy so it's institutionalized.

20 We had trainings with CalFire. I'm not sure if
21 many people are aware of that. That might be a very
22 bureaucratic culture as well. But Yurok have a lot of
23 veterans, and so if you understand how that chain of
24 command works within all those armed services, you're able
25 to make that exponential change within that culture, and we

1 look forward to seeing that with not only the CPUC, the
2 CEC, but all state agencies and administrations at the
3 State, Federal, and like I said, international levels. So,
4 we support those. We're going to be actively engaged and,
5 so, you'll see those comment letters not only in
6 consultation, but we like to share interdepartmentally in
7 agency, but also that we facilitated those Federal, State
8 nexuses.

9 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Vice Chair Gunda.

10 VICE-CHAIR GUNDA: I don't have any questions,
11 Xavier. Rather, I just wanted to say that thank you,
12 really appreciated the conversation last evening as well,
13 and you reiterating some of the core elements of the
14 change, including the sovereignty elements, but also the
15 cultural diplomacy. Really appreciate your work. Look
16 forward to working -- there's plenty of questions, but I
17 just wanted to support your presentation today and thank
18 you. Look forward to working together.

19 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay. At this time let me
20 just see if there any other -- thank you. Were there any
21 other additional tribal leaders who had arrived but not yet
22 -- well, first of all, before we break for lunch I wanted
23 to just have us recognize all the tribal leaders and teams
24 that worked with the Energy Commission, Public Utilities
25 Commission to develop this agenda. This has been

1 fantastic, so let's give them all a round of applause.

2 This is exactly what we're all here to do. We're
3 going to break for lunch at this time. I have an
4 assignment for everybody which is part of what we're doing
5 here today is actually building relationships, so I really
6 want to challenge everybody to try to introduce themselves
7 to three people you didn't know before you got here this
8 morning, okay. So, that's your assignment over lunch.

9 Would welcome Mona to say a few words about the
10 logistics.

11 MS. BADIE: If we could do -- find a time for the
12 return time so we can announce it on the Zoom and then --

13 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Yeah. Let's reconvene at 1:00
14 o'clock.

15 (Recess at 11:51 a.m.)

16 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay, if we could have
17 everyone take your seats please. Okay. We have a very, very
18 important announcements.

19 SPEAKER KHAN: Welcome back.

20 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All right, welcome back. Thank
21 you for that wonderful lunch. And we will pick up where we
22 left off, which is this meeting is being recorded at this
23 time. Item six, advanced renewable energy micro grid
24 serving tribal community needs. I will welcome Peter and AR
25 Jacobson from the research center

1 MR. JACOBSON: To present here today. I want to
2 especially thank tribal leaders who are here as well as
3 Commissioners from the PUC and the CEC and representatives
4 from other state agencies and federal government. The
5 presentation that we'll be giving here today, I'll be
6 delivering jointly with my colleague Peter Allstone. And
7 we're presenting in many ways representing work that is,
8 that's being planned in collaboration with some of our
9 tribal partners. And so we feel honored to be in a position
10 to present on behalf of or in relationship to that work
11 that we're doing jointly with Hoopa Valley tribe, the Karu
12 tribe, the Yurok tribe, and the Blue Left Rancheria tribe.
13 And so we appreciate that possibility and I also want to
14 just acknowledge all of the colleagues from the shop
15 center, many of whom are here in this room who are also
16 part of this work. So really appreciate that opportunity.
17 So next slide please.

18 So the work that we'll be talking about or
19 focusing on here is advanced renewable energy microgrid
20 serving tribal community needs. We'll be focusing
21 especially on an opportunity to develop what we think is a
22 very exciting possibility to help improve resilience in the
23 Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation, the upriver portion of the
24 Yurok Reservation and for communities of Orleans and SMS
25 bar as well as others who live in those respective regions.

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1 So we'll be focusing on that next slide. In terms of what
2 we'll be covering, I'll first just start off covering a few
3 key points that summarize the presentation. I'll then spend
4 a bit of time focusing on the current situation in terms of
5 electrical system reliability and capacity. And then I will
6 pass it over to my colleague Peter also for the second
7 portion, which we'll really focus on the ways that
8 microgrids can help increase resilience and support clean
9 energy transitions. Next slide. So a couple of key points.
10 First, the Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation, a proportion of
11 the Uroc reservation and the crude communities of seventh
12 Bar and Orleans are all served by a single electrical
13 circuit. That circuit is referred to as the Hoopa 1101
14 circuit by in terms of the nomenclature given to it by the
15 utility, which is Pacific Gas and Electric. That circuit
16 has a very poor record of electricity reliability
17 characterized by frequent and long outages.

18 Microgrids can play a role in helping to address
19 that situation and the shop center is honored to be in a
20 position to be supporting solution oriented efforts working
21 with all three of the tribes that are associated with that
22 circuit. Next slide. Our assessment and then the
23 conversations we've had with our three tribal partners
24 indicate that a coordinated approach involving nested
25 microgrids can offer the best solution for improving

1 reliability and expanding the capacity of the circuit while
2 also streamlining the interconnection process. And we
3 believe that successful development of such a system would
4 certainly have relevance for that circuit in those
5 communities, but also have relevance for many communities
6 throughout California because the solution that we would be
7 developing has relevance for many, many similar circuits.
8 Next slide. So now proceed on to talking about the
9 electricity system reliability and just where things stand
10 today so you can proceed to the next slide.

11 So the electric electricity surface on the Hoopa
12 1101 distribution circuit starts in terms of the
13 distribution part with the Hoopa substation and that serves
14 communities associated with all three of the tribes out. As
15 I mentioned, outages are frequent due to a variety of
16 reasons which are listed there. The circuit outage rate for
17 that circuit is many times the average for pg e territory.
18 We looked at some data from 2014 to 2018 that indicated
19 four times the outage rate of pg e territory as a whole.
20 And the situation has actually gotten worse since then
21 because of the fast Tripp settings that are associated with
22 the e PSS system that pg e has implemented to reduce
23 wildfire risks. And so there's even more outages than there
24 were before on that circuit. Next slide. In terms of the
25 geography of that circuit, it starts at the Humboldt

1 substation, which is in Eureka.

2 We've shown that 60 KV line is highlighted there
3 and it runs overland quite a distance and through Willow
4 Creek and down to the Hoopa substation. So that's the
5 distribution opportunity, the transmission line that feeds
6 that substation. Next slide, it passes through fairly
7 rugged terrain. These are just a couple of images that show
8 some of the country that it travels through and those
9 pictures were actually taken during a period where there
10 was a lot of wildfire smoke in the area. So on the right
11 hand side, that haziness you see in the back is, excuse me,
12 from locally generated wildfire smoke. Next slide. So from
13 a fire threat perspective, drawing from the CPU C threat
14 level system, it passes through areas with both elevated
15 and extreme prior risk. That transmission line, and you can
16 see the area that is

17 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Served by

18 MR. JACOBSON: The distribution circuit.

19 Next slide. And so this is zooming in on the
20 distribution circuit itself. And so you can see the
21 substation is shown there with a red triangle and that the
22 distribution circuit serving the Hoopa Valley tribe, the a
23 spur off to the left serving the Yurok tribe and then a
24 spur up to the right that serves Orleans and SOS bar and
25 associated crook tribe and other communities in the area.

1 So due to physical and safety constraints of the system,
2 there's zero to very little hosting capacity available on
3 the circuit. And so the ability to support new loads or
4 generation is very, very limited currently.

5 And I guess the other thing that it characterizes
6 this circuit is that if you were to certainly increasing
7 the resilience of the transmission line and addressing
8 issues there would only solve part of the problem because
9 the sprawling distribution circuit passes through a lot of
10 rugged country and so many of the outages are caused by
11 things that happen in along the way in those distribution
12 lines. And you also couldn't just solve the problem by
13 perhaps providing backup or a microgrid at the substation
14 alone because communities along the way that are along
15 would not be always supported by that Next slide. And so I
16 will now pass things over to my colleague Peter Allstone,
17 just closing out, noting that these distribution lines run
18 through long distances over rugged terrain and well now start
19 to talk about the microgrid side of the story and possible
20 solutions. So I'll pass it over to Peter.

21 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you Arne, and I'm really
22 happy to be here. Echo all of the thanks that Arne
23 mentioned for the opportunity to speak with y'all today.
24 All the issues that Arne just mentioned are not an
25 accident. These we've heard that these communities have

1 suffered from underinvestment intentionally over many
2 years. And the opportunity that we see is to change that by
3 investing in these communities in supporting economic
4 development, community development in line with tribal
5 priorities. We're really honored at the shot center to be
6 able to be part of supporting those goals. And I think we
7 heard Chair James earlier today and Lena Jackson and others
8 mention the importance of energy development for supporting
9 economic development. Little to no hosting capacity means
10 little to no opportunity to build new facilities. It means
11 no opportunities to build renewable energy generation to
12 purchase electric vehicles that would be needed to
13 participate and decarbonize sort of moving forward with
14 clean energy transitions. So we really are looking for ways
15 to find a solution space here with strategic investment. So
16 next slide. So based on our conversation so far, we believe
17 that microgrids could be a key investment that would be
18 important for supporting these communities. And I want to
19 talk a little bit about how both that work is important for
20 the communities that we're working with, but also how this
21 could be a model and could really push ahead on the
22 technology curve for serving the rest of the state and
23 beyond.

24 So we're looking at the opportunity here for
25 tribally led clean energy microgrid, what that looks like,

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1 microgrid systems that would be deployed to improve
2 electric reliability and increase the hosting capacity on
3 that UPA 1101 circuit, then benefiting all three tribes.
4 There is a model for this. The Blue Lake Rancheria tribe
5 has established a model of tribally led community
6 benefiting microgrids to support the priorities for
7 resilience and clean energy development. That's something
8 that we were very lucky to be part of and would be a way to
9 build from both for the three tribes and in the Hoopa Ocne
10 Kalu area, but also Blue Lake Rancheria has expressed need
11 to double down and increase investments as well. So with
12 support from the shop center in informed by that technology
13 that's been proven at Blue Lake Rancheria and the airport,
14 if anybody flew into the airport, that's another critical
15 facility that is served by clean energy that's resilient
16 here. The Hoopa Valley tribe, Burak tribe and KA tribe are
17 working to develop together to develop solutions for their
18 community. Next slide.

19 We've thankful that we've gotten to learn a lot
20 with our tribal partners about how this stuff works so far
21 and I wanted to take a minute to relay what we've learned
22 and where we're coming from on this. Microgrids can seem
23 mystical. They like a word that gets thrown around a lot to
24 solve a lot of different problems and they do solve a lot
25 of problems, but the technology underlying them isn't so

1 complicated. So we want to demystify it a little bit here.
2 Microgrids are really about integrating generation storage
3 and electrical switch gear to create a set of circuits that
4 can run independent from the regional grid when needed.
5 It's not all the time. Oftentimes this generation and
6 storage assets are there generating revenue, supporting
7 statewide reliability needs and resilience needs. The basic
8 parts of the microgrid though are that we have an isolation
9 switch and microgrid controls that allows this independent
10 system to be able to operate on its own.

11 And we need battery storage there that is
12 sufficient in size to balance the loads with available
13 supply and to provide the kind of fundamental backbone of
14 the grid. This grid service, solid voltage, solid frequency
15 we've proven that works at Blue Lake Rancheria and at the
16 local airport. The frequency is actually in some ways more
17 stable when we're islanded than when we're not in some of
18 these locations. Local generation is key. We need local
19 fuel supply and there's lots of options there. Different
20 tribes have different priorities for how to develop their
21 local generation and there's many options there. And
22 finally, their electrical circuits within the boundary
23 would have that hosting capacity opened up. So currently
24 people who are unable, if you can't build more buildings,
25 can't get interconnected for a new panel for solar by

1 creating a microgrid, one of the key things that we see is
2 that we're able within that boundary to manage the the
3 load, the net load at that point of connection and to
4 manage.

5 And of course there could be strategic upgrades
6 needed within the microgrid boundary in order to support
7 hosting within the microgrid boundary. But we've solved a
8 lot of the grid constraint problems by connecting the
9 microgrid and providing that kind of resilient support.
10 There's two main applications that we see for clean, clean
11 energy microgrids behind the meter for facilities that have
12 critical needs or campuses. And then front of the meter
13 community scale microgrids, which is really the focus of
14 what we're here talking about for the regional landscape
15 scale communities that need to be served. What can
16 microgrids do? What are they doing right now in our
17 communities when the grid is online, they provide a whole
18 range of grid services, generating revenue, reducing
19 utility bills, providing the kind of support to the
20 statewide grid that's necessary for supporting the clean
21 energy transition. So this is a way of deploying clean
22 energy, but it's a way of deploying it so that it works
23 exactly how people expect.

24 If you've got a large solar array in your
25 backyard or on your facility, you expect that your lights

1 are going to stay on when there's a blackout it, it's just
2 one of these things that makes sense to people. Microgrids
3 make the grid make sense, it makes it so that those land
4 use choices about citing solar can actually be followed
5 through with service to the people who live next door to
6 the solar array. So when the grid is down, we can provide
7 seamless resilient backup power with those local generation
8 resources to the community and increase the hosting
9 capacity for renewable energy and new loads without
10 requiring costly upgrades to the transmission and
11 distribution system. And we heard about the long 60 KV
12 distribu transmission line that runs to the Hupa Valley in
13 order to have all electric trucks and all electric cards
14 for these communities in order for them to participate in
15 the renewable transitions that we are all talking about at
16 the policy level, there either needs to be a massive
17 upgrade in the transmission system to serve that load or
18 and microgrids the transmission isn't going to show up in
19 time. We need to have microgrid systems that have local
20 generation support and that may still need to be followed
21 by transmission upgrades to support additional economic
22 development. But those could be right sized upgrades, they
23 could be right sized and they could be in line with the
24 actual need once the local generation is there to support
25 the local loans. Next slide.

1 I've mentioned this is a proven model. Pictures
2 are worth a thousand words. We've got aerial view here of
3 Blue Lake Rancheria on a blue sky day and on the day after
4 the earthquake that shook our region on December 20th,
5 2022, blue Lake Rancher was an island of reliable power of
6 mid to widespread blackout. And that's one of many times
7 then that that's been the case. Next slide. So this is a
8 concept for how nested microgrids that could support rural
9 resilience with overlapping front of the meter microgrids
10 serving multiple communities that share the same
11 distribution circuit. So the concept that's shown on the
12 bottom half of the slide shows transmission lines on the
13 left connecting to the regional power system, a substation
14 in one community long distribution circuit running to
15 multiple communities across downriver upriver. And the idea
16 that there could be a substation scale microgrid, mid
17 circuit microgrids, end of line microgrids enhanced with
18 off-grid systems to serve people who are not reached by the
19 grid today.

20 And that this is part of the potential project
21 concept where multiple sovereign tribal nations could
22 develop their own systems but in a way that is overlapping
23 and in collaborate collaboration with their neighbors. So
24 there's government to government exchange and partnerships
25 that would be both required and a benefit from developing

1 this kind of system. And this could be an economic
2 development model that works for other tribes and other
3 communities. There are many places in California that are
4 isolated rural communities with long transmission circuits
5 reaching them who need support in order to participate in
6 the renewable transition. And I'll mention that we and our
7 tribal partners are in active talks with California Energy
8 Commission staff currently through the California Tribal
9 Energy Resilience Alliance project proposal that's being
10 developed right now for the Department of Energy Grid
11 resilience innovation, partnership funding opportunity.
12 We're very excited about the opportunity to take this kind
13 of a concept and have it match up with the funding that's
14 needed and there's significant funding needed to achieve
15 this project, but we think that the benefits to the
16 communities and the avoided costs of transmission and
17 distribution upgrades that would otherwise otherwise be
18 required are right in line with what those significant
19 investments are.

20 So that's the next slide shows Arne and I smiling
21 faces and we both thank you very much for this opportunity
22 to speak today and be happy to answer any questions or
23 respond to comments. Thank you.

24 Yeah, let just say again, I really think the chap
25 center, you guys are a jewel in fabric of California's

1 energy policy and resources community. So thank you for all
2 you do. I'll open it up. Yeah, vice you going to please?
3 Yeah, thank you for the presentation. Want to start off
4 with a couple of questions. The value proposition for the
5 microgrids as you look at alternative and as you said, the
6 solution matrix for reliability, resiliency and economic
7 development, could you comment on what kind of analysis
8 that you might have done or aware of that comparison? One
9 of the things that's cost that is often kind of talked
10 about. Second, you mentioned the long lead times that are
11 required for upgrades and I think thirdly the tangential
12 element of resiliency outside of the reliability. So if you
13 could comment on the value proposition from those three
14 elements would be helpful. Sure.

15 So there's not currently one study that brings
16 all that together. The value proposition comes from
17 multiple conversations over many years between the
18 different tribal partners who are involved. There's also
19 just the experience of knowing that on the up river part of
20 the Yurok reservation for example, for many, many decades
21 there was a promise that that distribution line would be
22 extended and it wasn't extended and it wasn't extended and
23 it wasn't extended and it was only after significant tribal
24 effort by the Yurok tribe that extension happened and that
25 was reaching people who aren't even reached by the grid. So

1 there's currently, as far as I know, there's not a plan in
2 place to upgrade this transmission system to provide the
3 kind of hosting capa. The lack of hosting capacity isn't
4 the kind of thing that rises to the level of triggering
5 those kinds of upgrades. It's a chicken egg problem.

6 People aren't going to buy electric vehicles in
7 these communities if the power always goes out. So the
8 load's not going to show up. And so we're sort of seeing
9 the microgrid opportunity is one where it creates an
10 opportunity for that economic development and load growth
11 to happen that would have triggered an upgrade. That's the
12 kind of conundrum, it's the more qualitative analysis of
13 how that looks. And I think that doesn't cover all three of
14 your questions though. Sorry, I have a tendency to wrap so
15 I apologize. Well one other piece maybe you could just
16 bring to from your experience, what do you see are the key
17 attributes of evaluation when you're thinking about a
18 microgrid? I mean one of the things you've talked about is
19 just this extended grid that you're trying to do with that
20 is potentially options of segmentation of something else.
21 So we'd really like to get a little bit of advice on how
22 you're thinking about attributes for micro.

23 Well the number one value is providing reliable
24 power to the communities who deserve it and to make it so
25 that it releases just many burdens of living with

1 unreliable power. When we say unreliable, we mean hundreds
2 of hours a year of outage that are often exactly at the
3 times when it's hardest, the snowstorms, the wildfire risk
4 times. So these are, the value to the communities is it's
5 hard to quantify. You can, there's diesel generators,
6 there's diesel fuel, there's lost food, hundreds of dollars
7 worth of lost food when your freezer is lost and all of the
8 different aspects of that. So that's the number one value
9 that we see. There are also values related to increasing
10 the level of renewable energy in the state and down the
11 road proving how these can avoid those transmission and
12 distribution upgrades that would otherwise be required. So
13 that's obviously analysis and study that we would be very
14 happy to work on. And if I build these microgrids, we'll be
15 able to show how these are supporting those kinds of real
16 tangible sort of poles and wires investment deferrals that
17 that's sort of, I think the longer term thinking is
18 decentralized energy would mean that we would want to
19 decentralize the infrastructure, not need to build so much
20 of the traditional conventional infrastructure to reach
21 people. But it's obviously going to be a case by case next.

22 MS. JACKSON: Martha, you have a question?

23 MR. GUZEMAN: I think if I can, just adding to
24 that, the Blue Lake Ranch case I think provides an example
25 of some of the values that can be provided. And I think

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1 it's quite useful to think about it. There are micro grids
2 that are going to serve as points of resilience in
3 communities and they'll be managed in a way that it's
4 providing a lot of public good when there's an outage, a
5 countywide outage or a regionwide outage. The Blue Lake
6 Rancheria ends up serving thousands and thousands of people
7 per event per day with the services that they can't get
8 otherwise. Everything from maybe being one of the few
9 places where you can get fuel or get ice to having hotel
10 rooms that serve people with medical devices that are
11 critically needed. And so there's those types of dimensions
12 and I think there is a living example of that in the Blue
13 Lake Matia.

14 I think that does raise something that's worth
15 thinking about, which is that there will be microgrids
16 developed over the coming years that are managed by
17 entities that are providing public goods and they'll be
18 microgrids that are developed by entities where it's mainly
19 a private good if it's a commercial enterprise or in it and
20 it's really just serving to keep that enterprise going.
21 That's something of a different case. And so I think that
22 there is a policy, the policy thinking that's needed around
23 things that are providing public goods, merit, public
24 support and things that are providing private goods, merit,
25 private investment and how to think all about all of that

1 together I think is an important part of the story.

2 MS. JACKSON: Okay. Well two questions. One, and
3 also to acknowledge that this is very much a model for
4 other places where the conundrum of not having reliable
5 energy is foregoing electrification of building
6 electrification of transportation and of course it's in the
7 area that have been disinvested in historically. So this is
8 tremendous. One question is for you, one is for the pc,
9 what exactly do you need right now? Because we have funding
10 right now. I think this is an opportunity for us to know
11 and take back what boxes this fits into and talk a little
12 bit maybe your governance of how you would apply funding.
13 Is it each individual nation applying or would you be doing
14 it through the shop center? And that doesn't really matter
15 right now, but really what's the need in the next six
16 months to a year and then to the is on the substation side.
17 I mean I thought that pg e had to put in whether it was the
18 whole abuse s supposed to analyze alternatives for a set of
19 substations that it's easy for me to say now that I'm like,
20 but it seems like a very great opportunity from my friends
21 at the P to put at start with some battery, at least at the
22 substation, putting in a good backup there to get that part
23 of the micro.

24 But if you want to, I just made a note as and
25 Peter were talking note to myself to go back and talk to

1 the energy mission staff about what is the status of the
2 hoopa substation and what happened to the pg e psp's effort
3 to its diesel backup generation with clean diesel biodiesel
4 and then also plan to transition off of diesel. So where is
5 that implementation and where does this hoop substation fit
6 into that analysis? I don't have an answer for you today,
7 but go back and ask Can speak to the diesel generators.
8 That's the substation I believe. So I just wanted to say, I
9 want to go back to the data set that you talked about where
10 there is four times at the least more adage minutes in our
11 regions. I mean that is four times the norm and that is
12 something that all the tribes here experience.

13 I understand that when the main grid is shut down
14 and we go to those JI O generators, I wanted to say that
15 those cause power imbalances, they trigger our water
16 treatment infrastructure for the amperage overloads. So
17 we're getting 20 alarms a day on critical infrastructure.
18 There is appliances that burn out from those power surges
19 because you're going from grid to generator back to maybe
20 your regular generator. I mean just to put this at home. So
21 me as the utility general manager when the power goes out
22 because I live in an old trailer is my great-grandma's, you
23 know what I'm saying? So we have to hook up the generator
24 and then I'm daisy chaining these power strips just to hook
25 up to our heater. And that's my reality as the manager of

1 the utility. And it happens, it's happened like four times
2 in the last couple of weeks where we're setting up these
3 generators just for that. So I understand we appreciate the
4 generators beating there, but they also cause imbalance
5 issues with these surges that constant trigger every single
6 time that the power goes out, we have to reset
7 infrastructure, it affects broadband, it affects
8 communications. So yes, they're beneficial but it's not the
9 ultimate goal and there are issues that come along with
10 that. Backup

11 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: And renewable energy, energy
12 microgrids just work better than fossil fuel generators.
13 It's cleaner power, more seamless transitions. I think it's
14 the same way that electric vehicles are more fun to drive
15 and they're faster than their gas cousins. We've got
16 another option here and this is a really important place to
17 try it. You asked about resource need. We're working hard
18 right now to figure out what are the funding resources that
19 would need to be put in place to deliver on these systems.
20 And I can give an order of magnitude of where we're sitting
21 right now with that as a hundred million, which isn't all
22 that much compared to what an upgrade to the grid costs in
23 many other situations, especially one that's serving such a
24 large area, multiple tribal nations and obviously don't
25 hold us to that number because we're still working on it

1 actively. We're all of a sudden there's lots of
2 infrastructure money available, which is a wonderful
3 opportunity. It also means that the planning processes that
4 might have turned taken a year or two are all happening in
5 the next few months. And we're working hard. Our team is on
6 collaborating with partners and identifying need and the
7 kinds of infrastructure investments that are available kind
8 of matched up with the funding opportunities there. But
9 that's just to give a sense of that scale. Director Jones,
10 you have a

11 MS. JACKSON: Question? Yeah, I was wondering if
12 you've calculated the comparison, and maybe I missed this,
13 but current usage loads for all the three travel nations,
14 but also the taking consideration, the generator use
15 everything, the cost of living without having access to
16 electricity or reliable power. Has that been calculated in
17 comparison to if you were going to extend a transmission
18 line to a microgrid? So I'm not sure if that makes sense
19 but

20 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: We've, there's been some
21 analysis, not for all three places, but a master student
22 named Malcolm Monur completed their thesis on looking at
23 the Orleans and film bar case for the code communities and
24 found as expected people are spending hundreds of dollars a
25 month on electricity also on gasoline and diesel and

1 additional hundreds of dollars that it reveals represents a
2 significant fraction of people's income. It's a hardship
3 and that the comparison wasn't made to transmission
4 upgrades there. But in terms of comparing to what people's
5 incomes are and their available income to spend on energy,
6 it represents a significant burden, which

7 MR. JACOBSON: Is why--

8 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: People are saying why are we
9 paying so much for power and the lights are going off so
10 much, it's an understandable deal. It's like it doesn't
11 make a sense to people.

12 MR. JACOBSON: I think another really important
13 part of that analysis was that just recognizing that what
14 the electric loads are now is not what the electric loads
15 would need to be if we're electrifying transportation,
16 electrifying heat, and some of the other things that are
17 currently being supported in other ways through fossil
18 fuels. And so it, it's really important to plan not for
19 what the load is now, but what the load ideally would be
20 over the coming decades as we make this transition. And so
21 that's just another dimension to trying to figure these
22 things out. And so the analysis that was done for the
23 Orleans and so it was bar communities I think is likely to
24 be reflective of some of the other communities in the area
25 and it was multiple times more electricity than is

1 currently being conveyed.

2 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Chairman McDonald and
3 Commissioner Douglas.

4 MR. JACOBSON: Okay. Thank you Mr. Chair. So this
5 conversation, my comment, want to go back to the
6 administrator Guzman's comment about what do you need now
7 got funding now. And that for me is again why my tribe sent
8 me up here today is that hey, let's have these
9 conversations about how we can stack these opportunities on
10 top of each other to make them work together. And I got to
11 go back to, you're coming earlier about small staffing. So
12 all of these opportunities are falling from the sky but we
13 got to cut to collect to these opportunities in. And so we
14 need a bucket or a pool or something different than what we
15 have. It seems to me that there's an opportunity here today
16 with, cause it's not just tribes that are having these
17 difficulties, it's cities, it's counties and southern
18 communities. How do we access these capitals? And I think,
19 and the hope is that through these conversations we can
20 find a model where say doe okay, hand off the CEC. This is
21 right. And I think some of the grips funding is doing that.
22 I think there's, but there's so many different lanes that
23 these conversations are happening in, right?

24 Broadband, right, very important. The last mile,
25 and I've told folks here these us by 17 miles, right? So

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1 there's, there's a big miss, right? And so how do we get
2 that next? We think we have solutions, but it's me and
3 three other guys and a gal trying to figure it out, all
4 these things. So when we talk about technical assistance,
5 that's great, but we need something more. And so for us,
6 and some cases maybe, and I realize this gets into might be
7 one of the bad ideas, but you know, get into matchmaking or
8 bringing other folks together in a room where they can work
9 together, somebody that's figured out this problem for send
10 'em Jim Wavy way or whoever's way to get to those
11 solutions. Because otherwise I think it feels like to me
12 that's why, and I didn't have to beg to come up here, but
13 there's got to be ways for these pots of funding to work
14 together and it's not very clear that they do different
15 deadlines, different what you know want to accomplish with
16 it, but it should all be the same thing.

17 And I understand that feds have different
18 interests than the state, but I don't think in this case
19 and what we're trying to accomplish here, that the
20 interests are misaligned certainly aligned. So if it could
21 be just better timing on when the funding comes out or if
22 it could be, hey, when this funding comes out, we should
23 probably have an idea of how they're going to work
24 together. So I realize I'm broad stroking a little bit, but
25 it's important if we're going to be able to capture the

1 opportunity. And I attended it was the Strategic Growth
2 Council of California and I think they're attempting to
3 define this model a little bit better. I think it's a good
4 one, but we got to move quickly. And I feel like when you
5 have a space where you're dealing with sovereigns that can
6 push things along in different ways.

7 In some ways our tribal governments can move
8 slow, but in other ways we can move very quickly. And so
9 there's opportunities in these spaces. I think some of
10 those opportunities are coming to light through these
11 discussions, but I don't want to take the light off what
12 you guys are doing, but it's like if you add the questions,
13 Hey, what do you need for small tribes, project managers,
14 it's consultant types, it's flexibility of those funds. So
15 hey, we got a broadband issue. Who can I call? I got an
16 energy issue, who can I call and what's that funding going
17 to be? And I realize, so if we can capture it all, if the
18 attempt is to capture it all under the climate control, I
19 think that's great because I think it's a great story. But
20 I think we also can push it a little bit further because
21 we've got to include the equity discussion and we sit
22 around, we talk about equity and it means this all means
23 this.

24 And when you're talking about these tribal
25 communities that have been impacted the way that they have,

1 it's not just a distribution of the resources that are here
2 today. You got to think about, and I think we are, it's not
3 I hope a healthy criticism, but it's not just divvying up
4 what we have in a fair way, right? There was a lot taken
5 from these tribes along the way and folks advanced or
6 cities or communities advanced so rapidly not a function of
7 okay, we've got a hundred million dollars to chop up or
8 whatever the number is, everybody gets 10% right? It's a
9 little bit different I think from our perspective on how
10 you approach that equity and I mean we can sit around and
11 everybody needs to write the essay, what does equity mean
12 to me? And it's going to be different and then we got to
13 find a way to put that together. But for right now, what do
14 we need? The funding's there right now for us project
15 managers. And it's silly to say grant writer, we need grant
16 writers so we can go out and get this. Just I realize that
17 the risk of just sending out blank checks and that's not
18 the ask. I mean I think there have to be some definitions,
19 but when these grant requests come out with three weeks to
20 have a project ready, me and my guys can't put it together
21 in three weeks. So I hope that helps. But that's my
22 comments on that question.

23 MS. JACKSON:

24 Well thank you. And it's exciting to see this
25 coordinated project addressing the needs of RET tribes on

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1 the circuit and it's a fantastic opportunity. I guess my
2 question is just about how we make the most of this kind of
3 opportunity and the needs that people have to benefit from
4 the power in their houses. And I know you've probably
5 looked into this some, but there will be some housing stock
6 that isn't connected, even if when the grid is there and
7 there will be some housing stock that we'll need very
8 significant upgrades to get to a level of code compliance
9 that where it can be interconnected and part of a
10 microgrid. And I wonder what does it take and can some of
11 that work even be done in parallel so that when the
12 microgrid arrives, people can actually also have that
13 reliable service in their homes. And that's hard and it's
14 potentially expensive, but I curious what you would've to
15 say to that and also some of the tribes here in terms of
16 how to address that challenge.

17 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD:

18 I would ask our tribal partners to speak first
19 and I can add my thoughts as well

20 MS. JACKSON:

21 So I can just reply. So I'm going to tell you
22 right now, many of the homes on the reservation are not the
23 code. Some people live in HUD homes that were built in the
24 housing authority, which might be, but then after a 25 year
25 period it gets quick claim, be back to the people and then

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1 they're responsible for maintenance. Some people live in
2 trailers. I live in my grandma's trailer. There's lack of
3 housing, there's lack of infrastructure even for our tribal
4 members, professional development, that professional
5 staffing we need. There's a lack of infrastructure. Some
6 people even live in little fifth wheel trailers, which we
7 hook up to the water and septic. So I mean it varies I
8 think. And also I worry about our tribal government
9 buildings. So the Hupa tribe has 60 different departments
10 and many of them are notated and need infrastructure that
11 probably aren't to code either.

12 So if you come and then I think about the EV
13 charters, there's many people on the reservation that can't
14 afford a EV car. I mean it's a huge undertaking. And then
15 when you talk about the percentage they need, which I'm
16 going to estimate is about 30% towards the energy based on
17 oh increase. Okay. At least. So I mean if you think about
18 just on the energy cost for that, I mean how are they going
19 to upgrade the homes that are already in disrepair and
20 there's lack of economic development, there's low median
21 household income, the infrastructure is also going to have
22 to come with these energy upgrades. And I don't know if
23 that's necessarily your department, but that has to fall
24 suit. How are you going to upgrade a building that is not
25 to code wiring, electrical conduit panels, all of that. So

1 that's something else, that's something that needs to be
2 tackled across the board.

3 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD:

4 I think this ties in also with chair McDonald's
5 or vice chair McDonald's comment as well about multiple
6 lanes in multiple layers of need where we can find a
7 particular funding program that might help to pay for a
8 community microgrid, but it might not pay for the panel
9 upgrades that people need in order to host solar on their
10 roofs to participate in the microgrid where it might not
11 help to also pay for the electric vehicle. That would be a
12 core of mobile backup resilience for an off-grid home where
13 they're able to use that electric vehicle both for mobility
14 but also to back up their power and to provide resilience.
15 So I think it speaks to the imperative that we work to,
16 it's a trope to break the silos like we hear it over and
17 over again. It still remains true that there needs to be
18 support that's available that is broad and multifaceted and
19 can be coordinated.

20 So that I've heard Lena mentioned in dig one, we
21 want to have one project that reaches a particular
22 neighborhood and it's cheaper to do it that way. It's more
23 effective to do it that way and it might actually work
24 compared to these kind of disconnected layers. The
25 timelines don't quite add up the right way. We see a need

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1 to also provide support in terms of regional technical
2 assistance that could support tribal priorities in these
3 areas. We're working here and I know others are working in
4 other parts of the state to establish technical assistance
5 hubs where we can provide some kind of a unified support
6 that cuts across these areas so that there don't need to be
7 a dozen different points of contact that a tribal staff
8 person needs to maintain in order to get access to the
9 resources. And that dance of the grant writing and all of
10 the kind of interface between funding and tribal need is
11 something that might be served in the short term by these
12 technical assistance hubs that can help to create that
13 framework of support.

14 MS. JACKSON:

15 I just had one other comment when we talked about
16 bridging all of these funding opportunities that are there.
17 So I'm currently engineering a cyber to the home project.
18 We're working with CDT and Golden State net on minimal
19 infrastructure and then we talk to the engineers at shop
20 and they also need fiber connectivity for the energy
21 projects. I going to design them all at once. So we're
22 designing for those interconnections that we need planning
23 for that future that will come with the energy that we know
24 is going to happen over time. So I feel like I'm designing
25 something at about 75% when we know there's going to be

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1 connections for energy, water, broadband, SCADA systems,
2 all of that communications and how do we per all that, and
3 I hope you guys can solve that for me.

4 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD:

5 Let's go to Commissioner

6 MS. JACKSON:

7 Peter and Arne, thank you so much for your
8 presentation giving us that wonderful insight. Really
9 appreciate it. Peter, I heard you talk about this as an
10 economic development model and I was curious if you have
11 more information about what types of jobs could be
12 generated, if you have any information about that, and then
13 also the business enterprise type of opportunities that
14 there could be, if there are any tribally owned or led
15 businesses participating, et cetera. I would love to hear a
16 bit more if you have any information or from the tribal
17 leaders as well.

18 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD:

19 Yeah, well I think again, I think our tribal
20 partners have a lot to say about economic enterprise and
21 economic development. The kinds of jobs that are needed are
22 going to depend on the specific infrastructure that gets
23 built obvi. There's going to be distribution system trades,
24 skill trade, electrical labor required for all this. Beyond
25 that it just, it's construction project management, there's

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1 environmental permitting, environmental sighting, cultural
2 practitioners need support so that they're able to engage
3 fully in the process. And the specifics of tribally owned
4 or tribally managed businesses and economic enterprises are
5 the priorities of each tribe to decide based on what their
6 priorities are. And

7 MR. JACOBSON: I guess just one other thing on
8 top of that is that the ability to develop certain kinds of
9 economic enterprises really depends on reliable power. And
10 so there's lots of economic enterprises that haven't even
11 been conceptualized yet because they're just not a
12 possibility given the power regime that people are
13 operating in. And so I would ask some of our tribal
14 partners to speak to those questions, but I really do think
15 that the having reliable power itself will open up
16 opportunities, many of which are not even conceptualized
17 yet.

18 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Mr. how?

19 MS. JACKSON: Yeah, just to follow up on some of
20 the comments that we've just heard from those around the
21 room, that tribes have been left behind in so many ways and
22 then we've seen in the pandemic the internet issues going
23 automatically from in-office to internet has also
24 disadvantaged tribes that don't have adequate broadband.
25 But we did that very quickly. And if we're serious about

1 not leaving vulnerable communities behind, I think we need
2 to find ways to get these technical assistance hubs that so
3 many of us have been talking about into place and to look
4 at how we can pivot to something that's more efficient and
5 more practical that can get tribal communities the
6 resources they need. Because it was just said, without
7 reliable power, without reliable internet, tribal
8 communities are going to be left behind again and it's just
9 going to get exponentially worse as there's less gas
10 stations and more electric cars and gas gets more expensive
11 and all of these non-electric appliances are more expensive
12 to get.

13 And so I think we need to really prioritize the
14 issues we're talking about today and see how we can partner
15 and look at the work that we've been doing with tribes as
16 an example for how we're addressing vulnerable communities
17 across the state. I think shots has done an excellent job
18 of leading the way in partnering with tribes and we should
19 really sit down and brainstorm on what and how we can do to
20 further some of these efforts. And I know that the
21 distribution system is an issue that we're looking at very
22 closely at the PUC right now. We've got proceeding and
23 we've done some tribal consultation and want to do further
24 consultation on looking at that and you know had pictures
25 and showed how the distribution system here, the lines are

1 going into some very difficult terrain and that makes all
2 of this even more difficult. So I guess one question I have
3 for you is how do we address that issue for the grid
4 connection in being able to maintain those lines and is
5 there areas where microgrid, solar and batteries may not be
6 the best option for getting reliable energy in? And what
7 other technologies are we potentially looking at so that we
8 can really have a sustainable clean energy future for all
9 Californians?

10 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: So some of the other
11 technologies that are in play here, one is undergrounding
12 distribution lines. That is a technology to harden the
13 system. It doesn't necessarily apply in all cases. We have
14 geological and landslide hazards in this area that make
15 that costly or just as unreliable as the lines running
16 through the forest. Yeah,

17 MR. JACOBSON: I think there's a right on the
18 generation side of things, of course solar's not going to
19 be necessarily the only option depending on where tribe is
20 located and what the available resources are in the area. I
21 know there's some interest in small scale hydro obviously
22 needing to do that in a way that is ecologically sound and
23 fish friendly. But those are things that can be looked at
24 in some circumstances and there can be other clean
25 generation sources that could be considered as well.

1 Batteries. And the ability that being able to isolate a
2 segment of the grid can provide is I think quite
3 significant. And so it's not the whole story, but I can
4 imagine it being a really important part of increasing my
5 liability in many, many circumstances.

6 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: So we do need to keep moving.
7 So let's thank our speaker. That was terrific.

8 MS. JACKSON: Chair. I apologize only because on
9 the assigned Commission to micro grids, could I just say
10 one more minute?

11 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Yeah. Although the next topic
12 we're going to move, which is a microgrid topic. Alex is
13 going to present You might am I? You're okay with it.
14 That's just recommend.

15 MS. JACKSON:
16 I'll wait until this

17 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Is very much along the same
18 lines and then we'll open it up again. So welcome Alex
19 Horangic who's going to present on the grip proposal.

20 MS. HORANGIC: Great. So good afternoon,
21 Commissioners, tribal leaders. Before I jump in, I just
22 want to say I feel privileged following all of these
23 beautiful presentations from thought leaders in this space.
24 So thank you for having me. Could you go to the next slide?
25 Thank you. So I'm here today to discuss the California

1 Tribal Energy Resiliency Alliance or satara is what we're
2 calling it. And it's a coalition that the Energy Commission
3 has been assembling to support tribal energy resiliency
4 across the state and also to support the development of an
5 application to a department of energy grid resilience and
6 innovation partnership program funding opportunity. Next
7 slide please.

8 So late last year, the Department of Energy
9 released the grid resilience and innovation partnership
10 funding opportunity. It's a 5 billion program that's
11 focused on innovative approaches to transmission storage
12 distribution to enhance energy, reliability and resilience.
13 And at a high level what the program's trying to achieve is
14 enhanced grid flexibility and improve resilience to
15 accelerate the deployment of transformative projects to
16 ensure reliable power and to promote innovative approaches
17 to advanced technologies, partnerships and many other
18 things. Next slide please. So the Energy Commission is
19 submitting an application to this opportunity that includes
20 two main components. And so the first component is a
21 portfolio of grid serving clean energy projects, tribally
22 LED grid serving clean energy projects. And so these
23 projects are going to serve the needs of tribal communities
24 and their critical facilities. They're also going to act as
25 resilience and sustainable transportation hubs for

1 surrounding communities. We're looking to incorporate 10 to
2 15 projects in this portfolio, 500 million, so 250 50
3 million of those funds we're requesting from the Department
4 of Energy.

5 And then California is going to bring 250 million
6 forward in match funding. So we're actively working to
7 identify the match funding sort of component of this
8 portfolio through various state energy clean energy
9 programs such as our distributed electricity backup assets
10 program, a long duration energy storage program, and many
11 other related clean energy programs that are across the
12 state. The other component to our applications, which is
13 very timely to the discussion we just heard, is the
14 formation of two regional energy technical assistance hubs.
15 We're looking right now for one in Northern California and
16 one in southern California. And these technical assistance
17 hubs will provide services to accelerate the adoption of
18 clean energy solutions, enhance community resilience,
19 support economic and workforce developments, and to ensure
20 that all tribes and other communities as well statewide are
21 well positioned to access and benefit from future funding
22 opportunities. So specifically creating hubs across the
23 state that develop capacity.

24 So when these various funding opportunities roll
25 out at these differing timelines with different objectives

1 and goals we're positioned and communities are positioned
2 to go after them effectively. Next slide. So the types of
3 projects we're considering to include in our C-TERA
4 portfolio kind of cover different types of flavors, but
5 many are in line with what we heard from Peter from shot.
6 So community microgrids or front of the meter microgrids.
7 We're looking at campus and facility microgrids. So behind
8 the meter we're also looking at sustainable transportation
9 hubs that are providing EV charging and other
10 transportation services. And then we're also considering
11 other grid serving renewable energy and storage projects to
12 include within the portfolio. Next slide please.

13 Okay, so kind of how are we going about this? So
14 through this portfolio that we're working to develop right
15 now, we're pulling together partnerships, networks, and
16 resources that are allowing these projects to move forward
17 in the scoping phases. And really through these
18 partnerships and resources and networks, we're kind of
19 developing the foundation for these technical assistance
20 hubs that we're talking about. And ultimately those will
21 serve as sort of lasting environments that are helping us
22 reach scalability with these types of projects and
23 replicability as well. Sorry. So that's kind of the goal
24 with what we're doing here. And then critical to the
25 success of this is the type of services we're bringing into

1 this process. So this includes technical services,
2 workforce development networks, and then also really
3 critical supporting partners in this process. So working
4 with the PUC in this process, working with the utilities in
5 this process and other load serving entities as well.

6 Next slide please. All right, so this is our
7 current SATARA application team organization. So the Energy
8 Commission is going to be the prime applicant to do and we
9 are going to be partnering directly with tribes on our
10 application. We've also assembled a team of groups that
11 have a proven track record of working with tribes
12 successfully on clean energy projects. So that includes
13 shas, energy research center, prosper sustainability, as
14 well as grid alternatives, many of which are represented
15 here today. And then what we're doing within our
16 application is we've assembled a multitude of working
17 groups that are tackling different components of this
18 really transformative and robust application we're going
19 after, such as the developer and technical kind of working
20 components of our projects. We're looking at workforce
21 development components, you know how to make sure our
22 tribal partners are participating in this process to the
23 degree that they have the capacity and interest to what do
24 these TA hubs look like, et cetera.

25 And so our partners are working on these various

1 components in a coordinated way to bring together a
2 coordinated application and also in coordination with the
3 critical partners such as CPUC and utilities. Next slide.
4 Okay, so what's our timeline? So we have an ambitious
5 timeline. Do OE has set a very ambitious pace. We were
6 successful at submitting a concept paper, sort of
7 articulating this application on January 13th, and right
8 now we're in the process of collecting project ideas from
9 various tribes across the state up to March 10th. And while
10 we're going through that process, our working group leads
11 are also pushing forward the various activities such as
12 workforce development, the scoping of the TA hub, et cetera
13 forward. And then we're looking to get all of our project
14 materials kind of in and finalized towards the end of April
15 to have a successful submission of our application by the
16 end of May. And that's my last line. So I just want to
17 thank everybody for their time and listening and I welcome
18 any feedback or questions on our approach to this
19 particular application. I would just echo that I feel like
20 this approach is in line with many of the comments we've
21 been hearing and our goal is to try and address some of its
22 challenges through this particular application and set up a
23 system that has scalability and will create lasting impact
24 across the state. So thank you

25 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD:

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1 And thank you so much Alex to all the tribal
2 partners for working on that together. Let's continue
3 discussion. Commissioner,

4 CPUC COMMISSIONER SHIROMA: Thank you so much.
5 Thank you for the presentations and for this effort to
6 garner the DOE monies, the federal monies. I don't see why
7 they wouldn't say yes, California, you get this money, go
8 watch I book for it. Okay, just very quickly I wanted to
9 mention only because at the CPU c I am the Commissioner on
10 the market grid proceeding and I became with present levels
11 and we have felt the urgency of this effort and hearing
12 everyone speak today, I just go, I'm just done already. We
13 are voting this month, our voting meeting on March 16th. We
14 are voting on the proposed decision for the market
15 incentive program. And that program, the statute that
16 enables us to do this effort says no cost shifting, but
17 there are other statutes that would also govern what we do.
18 And we felt that it was appropriate for equity to provide
19 for a 200 million program statewide that is customer
20 funding from the customer bills that this program would be
21 very important for addressing the needs of low income
22 communities, tribal communities, communities that have
23 experienced public safety, fire, public safety, power
24 shutoff, and also could provide an opportunity for testing
25 as the shops representatives have discussed.

1 So the decision that we are voting on that the
2 five Commissioners are voting on proposes to bring forth
3 the implementation of this effort to that up net of an up
4 to a 15 million allotment per project. These are intended
5 to be large scale market grid efforts such as, as we've
6 described in terms of the needs here in these tribal
7 regions. There's a requirement for the utilities to produce
8 a handbook because stuff is complicated and it is tough to
9 navigate and you you've got to have expert people to
10 helping. And so there are various things proposed that's
11 true up for our vote this month towards hopefully, and if
12 the Commissioners all agree anyway, hopefully to provide
13 for at least more of a step by step how to apply for these
14 monies and how to put together applications. And so the
15 proposal would allot 79 million to the PPG E area 83
16 management in the California Edison area and 17 million to
17 the San Diego Gas electric area, but smaller for San Diego
18 Gas, not just because they have a smaller footprint.

19 So the proposal has been out for a comment that
20 replies are due on March 6th and it is agenda for a vote.
21 We have a website where you can find a proposed decision.
22 It is in the docket if you simply search for microgrid in
23 that docket, the proposed decision should pop up for you to
24 take a look at. Okay. All right. Thank you. Thank you
25 Commissioner. Commissioner Houck. Yeah, I just want to

1 commend the Energy Commission for putting this proposal
2 together. A game changer if this funding comes through and
3 it's going to implement and allow some of the things we've
4 been talking about theoretically for a long time to come
5 into play. And I just want to recognize you chair shield
6 and all of the vision you've had on working on this and all
7 of the staff and that have put this together and your
8 vision for just today's workshop. I know this was your idea
9 initially and it's been I think two years in the making and
10 you haven't given up on that, so I just wanted to
11 acknowledge that and just say that this is very impressive.
12 Yeah,

13 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD:

14 Thank you. It's a staff and Alex has been amazing
15 with the whole team. I do want to say we have more native
16 tribes in the state of California than any other state. And
17 I think what's compelling for me about this vision is like
18 we have examples right here of migrants we've done that are
19 delivering real results right now and working, and we have
20 all these other needs that are clearly identified. I mean,
21 it's actually a great place to be. We have a great story to
22 tell and the need is clear and the technology is there. In
23 fact, to your point, councilman, the technology's improved
24 and we did the Blue Lake installation five years ago, so
25 it's actually a really great time. So I did want to just

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1 mention one other point, which is the role of vehicles
2 actually in supporting, I mean right now. So as of two
3 months ago, every new Tesla, for example, is being made in
4 California and we're making about 2000 Teslas a day in our
5 state's largest car factory now in North America.

6 Every new vehicle is being made vehicle to grid
7 ready. That's new. And you know, think about a typical
8 Tesla power wall backup battery system that's typically 13
9 and a half kilowatt hours. The vehicle is 85 kilowatt
10 hours. So there's a lot of juice in there that can actually
11 help with the resilience. I think going forward, the role
12 of vehicles, in particularly what we're doing together on
13 electric school buses, huge role that those can play as
14 well. So I'm really excited to see how that unfolds. Other
15 comments from colleague? Oh yeah, vice chair please. Sorry.
16 Sorry. Commissioner Monahan, please.

17 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Alex, I think that was
18 really inspirational and let's hope we get the money. Two
19 questions. One is when Will we know? And two is have you
20 explored with the Fuels and transportation division
21 potential for funding on the EV or hydrogen infrastructure
22 side? Yeah, so we potentially could get an encouraged or
23 discouraged this week on our concept paper. So we're
24 eagerly awaiting that email from DOE and then I think
25 applications are due at the end of May. I suspect it's

1 going to take 'em quite a few months to get through. It's a
2 pretty competitive field to our understanding, so we
3 probably wouldn't find out until late summer, early fall
4 with potential awards in winter end of year. And these
5 would be cooperative agreements with doe? Yes, we have been
6 coordinating with the fuels and transportation division and
7 have been specifically looking at some of the Z funds and
8 whatnot as potential match components to the projects we're
9 thinking through in the proposal.

10 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: I always like to just go after
11 Commissioner Monahan. I can just say associate with those
12 words. So Alex, thank you so much for the presentation and
13 I want to elevate Jen, Jen as well for her leadership on
14 this. I know how much internal conversations you've been
15 having in and not giving up internally as well because
16 every, as in a cost member, actually Vice Chair mentioned
17 we cut a lot of the monies we have. They come with very
18 stringent statutes. One thing has to work for 7:00 PM
19 another funding has to work for something else and it's
20 really hard to stitch the money together to ensure there is
21 a broader comprehensive program development. So I commend
22 you all to just not giving up on the monies and trying to
23 think this through. So couple of kind of high level
24 questions specifically to the hubs. So the hub concept, how
25 are we generally coordinating with the POCs capacity

1 building contracts and capacity building money that does
2 was allocated last year and how are we thinking about
3 leveraging those funds and who are we coordinating with the
4 CPUC?

5 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Yeah, so we've been
6 coordinating with Energy Division staff at the CPUC and
7 they have been supporting us into the various divisions and
8 appropriate staff to talk through potential funding buckets
9 that might work to support as match to this program such as
10 the Microgrid Incentive program and others. And then we're
11 aware of the funds that you're talking about, but I think
12 we have further coordination to to understand how they
13 could potentially play a role in the technical assistance
14 hubs. So that's another thread we're going to be running
15 down as we work through kind of the jigsaw puzzle of match
16 that we're trying to put together right now.

17 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Yeah, just want to elevate, I
18 think Commissioner Gallardo now, but last year a huge
19 premise of the integrated energy. The policy report that c
20 c develops annually was that regional technical support
21 hubs or some way of regionally developing these support
22 systems for not just grant funding but technical
23 assessments and such. So really look forward for the two
24 agencies to really collaborate and leveraging our funds to
25 come up with something that's comprehensive that could

1 support Think So I just want to commend your work and
2 encourage you to do so. Well said. We have a travel leader
3 online wishing to comment. Welcome Peter Pitt from the PGA
4 Tribe to unmute yourself.

5 MR. PITT: Good afternoon, I appreciate the time.
6 My name is Peter Pitt and I'm the general manager of
7 Pechanga Western Electric here in Temecula, California. We
8 serve a mix of loads and just wanted to make a quick
9 comment and just appreciate everybody's time and can

10 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: You hear us?

11 MR. PITT: Yes, I can hear.

12 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: You to chat with you. Excuse
13 me. You able to chat? Yeah, I

14 MR. PITT: Apologies. Can you not hear me? I
15 apologize.

16 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay, Peter, can you check the
17 volume on your side? We'll do, we'll come back.

18 MR. PITT: Okay. Sorry. Thank you.

19 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: You can find out what's that?
20 Oh, we can't hear. They can hear us but we can't hear them.
21 Everyone online can hear them. Okay. Oh, we're working on
22 that. Apologies. This is hard for the court with you Mr.
23 We'll we'll come back. Hopefully we get that.

24 MR. PITT: Okay, thank you.

25 MS. JACKSON: I hope he tells us about the work he

1 did up at Warm Spring.

2 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay.

3 MS. JACKSON: And not now.

4 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay, Mr. Pitard, we'll come
5 back to you. Okay. Any other comments on micro grids or the
6 grip proposal from anyone? Yeah,

7 MS. JACKSON: Please. Yeah, thank you. I just
8 wanted to make a brief comment just to kind of pull
9 together some of the things that we've heard today and it
10 was actually going to ask the same question as Vice Chair
11 Gonda on the regional hubs and kind of a little bit more
12 detail on how those would work. So thank you Alex for
13 talking about that a little bit more. But we also heard it
14 from the idea of the rain and the bucket, not the cup, and
15 kind of thinking through the broader, more comprehensive
16 holistic planning that includes broadband and as tribes
17 think about needs and all of these different buckets, I
18 find it confusing myself to keep track of all of this and
19 so I can only imagine if you're small staff and trying to
20 put together proposals and especially their competitive
21 grant proposals and comply with the grant guidelines and
22 everything else.

23 And so it's something that I'm hearing today and
24 also that we have been thinking about at the p c. We're
25 going to talk a little bit about broadband today. I know

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1 this is the energy focused session, but you'll hear a
2 little bit about our broadband grant programs for last mile
3 that include technical assistance grants that proceed the
4 grant applications for the project. And so it's something
5 that we're trying to do. I think we can always get better
6 and I think we need to make sure we're really with the
7 Energy Commission on planning for both the capacity
8 building for tribes and technical assistance and then
9 lining up for the grant proposals themselves and the grant
10 application. So I just wanted to really note that it's
11 helpful to me to hear from you directly that this is
12 important and it's something we'll take back and think
13 about moving forward.

14 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you so much. Okay, let's
15 give Alex three, five. Thank you at this time welcome our
16 tribal advisor Present.

17 MS. LENI-KONIG: Thank you. I'm (inaudible) to
18 share with you today. So I'm going to just begin by reading
19 so I don't miss anything that I'd like to express. So good
20 afternoon. My name is Katrina Leni-Konig. I am honored to
21 be serving the people of California as Deputy Public
22 Advisor and tribal liaison for the California Energy
23 Commission. I want to share with all of you that I take
24 this work very seriously. I recognize the significance of
25 what we are doing here today and the potential of what we

1 can create together. I am grateful for the privilege to be
2 working with tribes, state leaders from the CEC and CPUC
3 and our federal partners to support the transition from an
4 extractive fossil fuel based economy to a regenerative and
5 inclusive clean energy economy. I am still relatively new
6 to this role and I would like to acknowledge my predecessor
7 and mentor Tom Gates who spent many of his formative years
8 working closely with the Yurok tribes and other tribes here
9 in Humboldt County and throughout the state of California.

10 Today I will be providing a brief overview of the
11 Energy Commission and our work with tribes. I think we've
12 got pretty deep into the work right now already, but I'll
13 still do that for some of you. So before I begin, I want to
14 acknowledge the tribal leaders that have joined us today.
15 It is really your work that is inspiring what is possible
16 as we co-create the future of clean energy together. I find
17 it incredibly significant that just about a year ago today
18 I had the honor to join Chair Hope Shield to attend the
19 grand opening of the Stone Lagoon Visitor Center, which is
20 a model for state and tribal collaboration. At the same, at
21 that same time, the Yurok tribe is preparing for the return
22 of the condor to Yurok territory on this region. Tom Gates,
23 myself, Linda Burrera, Jennifer Gallardo, and the chair,
24 we're all here today.

25 It's up, Tom. We're blessed to have the

1 opportunity to view the condor. Tom Gates was preparing to
2 retire and I was stepping more fully into this role during
3 this trip. Chair Hook Shield planted the seeds with us for
4 what we are doing here today. Together with tremendous
5 support of Mona, my public advisor, Cal Poly and the CPUC,
6 we have rolled up our sleeves to bring forward the first
7 ever tribal en meeting at Cal Poly Humboldt. I look forward
8 to future tribal ambo. I work together with Linda and Jimmy
9 to develop the tribal energy sovereignty resolution that
10 the chair will be presenting today. And Jennifer Martin
11 Gallardo and Alex Hiran, who you just heard from are
12 working together with myself. Many of the people in this
13 room, the tribal, the tribal leaders, the tribal staff, the
14 Cal Poly staff, everybody just kind of coming together
15 around this are partners at the CPUC stepping forward.

16 Commissioner (inaudible) with her inspiration and
17 mentorship on tri. And I have to also acknowledge Karen who
18 was the lead for tribal affairs when I came into this
19 position, I learned so much from you and also my friend
20 Courtney Coyle. Courtney, I'm sorry, Courtney Co. Courtney
21 Vaccaro back there for her mentorship as well as I stepped
22 into this. Thank you all so much more to learn but we're,
23 we're together today proposing a half a billion dollars to
24 the state, to the federal government tribes, state leaders,
25 and I think that's probably the most important thing I'll

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1 say today and that was certainly inspired by our last trip
2 out here, my first trip out here with Chair Hope Shield. So
3 thank you for that. All right, next slide. Moving into a
4 little bit less inspirational but still important
5 conversation. Next slide please. So the state, the CEC is
6 the state's lead agency on energy policy and planning,
7 including leading the hundred percent clean energy planning
8 process.

9 We do that in partnership with the CPUC, kaiso
10 and others. Next slide. The Energy Commission is committed
11 to promoting a clean, affordable, and reliable energy
12 supply for all Californians. Next slide. We do this through
13 these different key priority areas, advancing state energy
14 policy, investing in energy innovation, developing
15 renewable energy, preparing for energy emergencies,
16 achieving energy efficiency, transforming transportation,
17 overseeing energy infrastructure and intergovernmental
18 collaboration. My work is tri as tribal liaisons to ensure
19 that tribes are engaged in all aspects of that work and are
20 receiving the funding available for those investments to
21 come to the tribes. Next slide please. Tribal program
22 goals. I think you'll see it in the tribal energy
23 sovereignty resolution that comes before you in just a few
24 minutes, but really the key in the first foundation of this
25 is meaningful government to government consultation,

1 effective tribal outreach, engagement and relationship
2 building. That's the key part of that. Quality cultural
3 resource assessments why? To inform and ensure that we're
4 not impacting culturally sensitive areas that we're
5 preserving sacred places to the best of our ability.
6 Increasing investments in tribal clean energy projects.
7 What you've heard from Alex just before and some of these
8 programs I'll share with you in just a minute. Next slide.

9 So through 2023 thus far, 2022, we've invested 57
10 million in energy resilience through Epic and long duration
11 energy storage. 2 million in planning grants through our
12 tribal government challenge, 3.6 million in clean
13 transportation and workforce for the clean energy tran-
14 transportation transition and \$329,000 to schools that
15 actually came up here to the North coast is well Cal shape
16 through Cal Shape. So acknowledging that next slide, one of
17 our largest branch that also dropped right as we're
18 thinking through the script proposal, what's possible with
19 the script proposal, 31 million for tribal long ration
20 energy storage project landed into the hands of the VIA
21 tribe with in partnership with a native owned energy
22 development company, Indian Energy and our chair was out
23 there just last fall celebrating that and that really also
24 kind of catapulted us to where we are today. Next slide.
25 The Energy Conservation Assistant Act, 1% interest loan.

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1 I want to highlight this program. This program
2 took a bit to bring tribal governments on board. This was a
3 local government program, just a few or just I think last
4 year where we got to the point where tribal governments are
5 now included in this. And what it is it's easy access
6 money, it's no, it's a low 1% interest loan to do the
7 lighting, heating, ventilation onsite clean energy
8 generations such as TVs, building envelope insulation,
9 energy storage systems, electric vehicle infrastructure and
10 so forth. If you'd like to just pursue a really simple loan
11 process, we have that available to revolving loan funds. So
12 it's regenerative. It's also part of that regenerative
13 economy that we're talking about today. Next slide. The
14 tribal research grant program. Janet teed up nicely this
15 morning. If you remember, we are investing in tribally led
16 climate research to help to inform California with our
17 California based climate change assessment with grants
18 ranging from \$20,000 to \$400,000 for collaborative grants.

19 These could be knowledge sharing grants, these
20 could be grants to bring on students to do research, these
21 could be youth programs, et cetera, all in the space of
22 climate change restoration, et cetera. And what that's
23 going to do is also help to integrate some of that
24 traditional ecological knowledge, the knowledge that we
25 hear and learn so much about from the tribes that speak

1 before us today and in other spaces. And so this is a
2 process we'll go through to 2026, but I just want to
3 highlight this program. We've set it up specifically for
4 tribes ops, our partner on this program and they've done
5 incredible job to kind of give us a blank slate so we could
6 create a brand program that's successful. I want to
7 acknowledge Geneva Thompson who has helped to advise that
8 program and really drive it forward and do some amazing
9 tech consultation in that process as well and to help guide
10 us with that.

11 Thank you, Geneva. Next slide. This is a key one.
12 So being partners, being partners and thinking about how
13 are we going to transition to a hundred percent clean
14 energy. We just opened our tribal, our tribal consultation
15 process on SB 100 to inform the 2025 report on how we
16 transition to a hundred percent clean energy. Land use is a
17 critical aspect of that work. And if you don't have the
18 input from tribes as to how you want your lands represented
19 in that planning process or how you want sensitive sacred
20 places to be also considered in that process as well so
21 that we're not planning for clean energy in places that
22 have a real cultural concern. So please, we want to hear
23 from you and want to know how those lands should be
24 assessed. We have listening sessions for staff open March
25 7th and March 16th. Try representatives from welcome to

1 join us and we also have the government to cover, make
2 consultation open and this is how we can plan together for
3 our future.

4 Next slide. I also want to acknowledge we are
5 here in the north coast. The north coast is not the only
6 region that will also be impacted save by offshore wind or
7 benefit by offshore winds. And offshore wind obviously has
8 on land impact, it has economic development opportunities,
9 it has transmission associated with it. So we have an open
10 consultation to all tribes throughout the state of
11 California on our AB 5 25 strategic plan. If we have not
12 met before, consulted before, now is the time to reach out
13 to us. We have continued consultation throughout, its since
14 I believe 2016 and maybe some of you have been working on
15 this before then Karen would know, Commissioner Douglas
16 would know, but it's been a long process and AB 5 25 is not
17 the end of it when the reports due in June 30th.
18 Consultation will nod end. We will continue to work
19 together with our tribal partners to ensure that the
20 transition and the implementation development of offshore
21 wind in California takes into account tribal concerns,
22 priorities and so forth and really to help advise us in
23 doing that. Right. We have a goal of five by 2030 and
24 another goal of 25 gigawatts by 2045. Let me just say that
25 the SC 100 report helped to inform us how many gigawatts of

1 offshore wind we need or we want to strive for, but then
2 there's additional analysis to the potential of that led by
3 our chair and others. Go ahead and move to the next slide
4 please. Yes, it Thank you everybody and just thank you for
5 letting me speak.

6 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Before you. All right, let's
7 give Katrina a round. Thank you. We do have, I believe the
8 technical issue has been your maybe. Okay, we'll try. So
9 Peter pits from the Changa tribe. Are you able to hear us
10 and can we unmute?

11 MR. PIT: Hello, this is Peter Pit from PGA
12 Western Electric. Can you all hear me?

13 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: This time Peter?

14 MR. PIT: Yes. This is Peter Pit from PGA Western
15 Electric.

16 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Sorry about that. Will maybe
17 Keith keep working and come back? Any other comments or
18 questions for Katrina? If not, we'd like to move on at this
19 time to item nine, which is the tribal energy sovereignty
20 resolution. I want to begin by saying this was actually a
21 resolution inspired by some of the p p did when then
22 Commissioner Martha Guzman and Commissioner Howard worked
23 on this together probably three years ago or more, 20 19, 4
24 years ago, which at that time basically directed the
25 investor on utilities when there was surplus land to

1 prioritize tribes for that. And so it's been something on
2 our radar for a while and over the last year this
3 resolution has been developed and Commissioner Gallardo is
4 going to read the entirety of the resolution. It's three
5 pages, so bear with us and then we'll open up to discussion
6 over to you.

7 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: All right, so I am
8 extremely honored to be able to read this resolution into
9 the record, but knowing that the spirit of so many people,
10 including Katrina Leni-Konig who just heard from, who's a
11 incredible balance of brain and heart and bringing all that
12 she is all to her work. And then also our chief counsel's
13 office, specifically Linda Barrera and Jimmy Qaqundah. So
14 you're kind reading this with me in spirit. All right. So
15 this is a resolution committing to support California
16 tribal energy sovereignty. It is resolution number 23-0302-
17 09, whereas the California Energy Commission recognizes the
18 inherent sovereignty of California Native American tribes.
19 And that energy resources including energy reliability, are
20 a critical component of daily life, community independence,
21 self-government and sovereignty. And whereas on June 18th,
22 2019, Governor Gavin Newsom issued executive order N 1519,
23 which acknowledges and apologizes on behalf of the state of
24 California for the historical violence exploitation,
25 dispossession and the attempted destruction of tribal

1 communities which dislocated California tribes from their
2 ancestral land and sacred practices and meaningful
3 reparative action from the state can begin to address these
4 wrongs in an effort to heal its relationship with
5 California tribes.

6 And whereas in furtherance of the goal stated an
7 executive order N-15-19, Governor Newsom issued a statement
8 of administration policy on September 25th, 2020, which
9 encourages every state agency department board and
10 Commission to seek opportunities to support California
11 tribes co-management of and access to natural lands that
12 are within a California tribes ancestral land and under the
13 ownership or control of the state of California, and to
14 work cooperatively with California tribes that are
15 interested in acquiring natural lands in excess of state
16 needs. And whereas entities with whom the Commission
17 conducts business with or otherwise regulates or interacts
18 including but not limited to publicly owned utilities that
19 own and or control land located within the ancestral
20 territories of California tribes. And whereas on September
21 13th, 2022, Governor Newsom issued executive order N-16-22
22 which recognizes that the Infrastructure Investment and
23 Jobs Act provides an opportunity for partnership with
24 California tribes among other entities to modernize crucial
25 infrastructure and accelerate the state's clean

1 transportation progress.

2 And whereas with adequate resources that foster
3 tribal energy, sovereignty and independence, California
4 tribes are poised to be important partners in reaching the
5 state's climate goals while enhancing community resilience
6 and the Commission desires to foster such partnerships. And
7 whereas the Commission desires to develop and adopt a
8 tribal energy sovereignty policy in furtherance of
9 executive order N-15-19 executive order N-16-22 and the
10 Governor's administration policy and the Commission's
11 commitment to support California tribal energy sovereignty,
12 therefore be it resolved that the Commission hereby commits
13 to support California tribal energy sovereignty and commits
14 to among other things work to accomplish the following
15 goals, support tribal self-determination, self-government
16 and energy sovereignty; enhance tribal consultation and
17 participation in decision making related to clean energy
18 planning and development in California; improve the
19 protection of sacred sites, cultural resources, and access
20 to ancestral lands; increase tribal access to federal and
21 state energy funding opportunities, provide opportunities
22 for economic diversification, career development and
23 investment in renewable energy for California tribes; and
24 be it further resolved that pursuant to this commitment to
25 tribal energy sovereignty, the Commission shall seek to

1 support California tribes by taking actions including but
2 not limited to the following.

3 Enter into memoranda of understanding with
4 interested California tribes to establish frameworks for
5 collaboration on key energy policy and planning
6 initiatives. Develop capacity building and technical
7 assistance resources to support clean energy transitions,
8 advance the development of tribal energy enterprises and
9 increase access to clean energy programs, increase tribal
10 set asides within state programs and funding opportunities.
11 Partner with California tribes to pursue federal funding
12 opportunities, prioritize community benefits within
13 programs, policies and planning initiatives. Enhance land
14 use considerations in clean energy planning for the
15 protection of tribal cultural resources. Increase cultural
16 awareness and knowledge of tribal priorities among
17 Commission staff to better inform the development of
18 programs policies and planning initiatives. Be it further
19 resolved that pursuant to this commitment to tribal energy
20 sovereignty, the Commission shall seek and exercise
21 opportunities to facilitate tribal access, use and co-
22 management of state owned or controlled lands and to work
23 cooperatively with California tribes that are interested in
24 acquiring lands in excess of state needs by taking actions
25 including but not limited to the following, provide

1 assistance to facilitate California tribal government
2 access to existing information concerning land that may be
3 of interest to California tribes, including the
4 environmental condition of the land.

5 Encourage and support opportunities for entities
6 with whom the Commission conducts business with or
7 otherwise regulates or interacts including but not limited
8 to publicly owned utilities, to provide California tribes
9 access, use and co-management of lands and to work
10 cooperatively with California tribes that are interested in
11 acquiring lands in excess of state needs and encourage and
12 support local agencies as defined by government code
13 section 54221 subsection A with whom the Commission
14 interacts to transfer ownership of surplus lands with which
15 California tribes have a cultural connection or are within
16 a California tribe's ancestral land. Be it further resolved
17 that all actions taken pursuant to this commitment to
18 tribal energy sovereignty in accordance the administration
19 policy shall one comply with all possible laws and
20 regulations, including those governing surplus and excess
21 lands. Two occur in consultation with California tribes
22 pursuant to executive orders N-15-19 and B-10-11 and the
23 Commission's tribal consultation policy. And three, not
24 conflict with the Governor's stated policy priorities such
25 as housing and homelessness and climate action; and be it

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1 further resolved that the Commission hereby directs the
2 tribal liaison and or their designee to consult with
3 California tribes to develop a tribal energy sovereignty
4 policies which shall develop and include policies related
5 to tribal energy sovereignty, tribal lands and tribal
6 consultations and present it to the Commission for
7 consideration and potential adoption. And be it further
8 resolved that the executive director and staff shall work
9 with the tribal liaison to take all steps necessary to
10 implement this resolution. It is So Ordered.

11 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you so much
12 Commissioner. At this time what we'll do is this will be a
13 voting item for the Commission only. We'll have comments
14 first from tribal leaders and public up to public, any
15 comments on the resolution?

16 MS. JACKSON: I want to commend all these people
17 here that this together when I hadn't read the resolution
18 yet and hearing it and hearing all of the different things
19 that are inclusive, it is such an important motion that
20 you're going to approve and I would really be interested in
21 being involved in the energy sovereignty policy. So as much
22 as we can provide input and feedback and hear ideas of
23 other tribes and how we can learn and grow this, we would
24 definitely be interested in that.

25 MR. JACOBSON: Thank you. Yeah, I hadn't read it

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1 either and I'm a little blown away about the language in
2 here. I think it's very generous. I think it's one of those
3 things to talk about land back, but to actually pass
4 resolutions and take action that really, that's really
5 putting it out front. So yeah, congratulations and thanks
6 for all the thought that went into this. I think there's
7 probably, well I hope I'm not the only one who almost
8 teared up when that was being read. I think this is an
9 amazing document. I want to thank everybody who's involved
10 with writing this and presenting it and I hope to see

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah, hello again. As you
12 mentioned this morning chairman right here in front, again,
13 I'm looking at it as this is good for good for us, good for
14 the Commission, thank you for that. But also good for you
15 Indian Country, not just for California, across the board.
16 That's always the vision I keep in mind, look forward to
17 being part of the policy development of it. Look forward to
18 the funding that's going to go for it, the set aside
19 funding, the empowerment, the co-management of it. And
20 again, I think that's what this is, is setting it up the
21 foundation for it. Again, thank you for the Commission.
22 Thank you everybody for here again, it's a good moment and
23 thank you. Hey there. Please welcome to me.

24 CPUC PRESIDENT REYNOLDS: I just wanted to commend
25 the Energy Commission for this proposed resolution. I hope

1 to see it adopted and I'm here today to hear directly
2 comments from tribal leaders as you're PO poised to adopt
3 the resolution. And I also wanted to just make it clear
4 that we as your sister agency look forward to working
5 together on implementation of the resolution together with
6 implementation of our tribe Tribal Land transfer policy.
7 Thank you. Yeah, I just want to echo the comments and
8 commend the Energy Commission. I know a lot of time, effort
9 and thought went into putting this together and think it's
10 a really positive step in the fact that both energy
11 agencies are so closely looking at and taking these
12 policies seriously in our partnerships with sovereign
13 tribes in California is just really heartening to see.
14 Thank you. It was so gratifying to hear the words in terms
15 of the Energy Commission being a statewide policy maker
16 that influences not only what can happen at investor
17 utilities, we recognize those or rates and what have you,
18 but that you've included the public utilities as well. The
19 publicly owned utilities like my elma mater, SMU that
20 resides on tribal lands and particularly well there resides
21 on tribal lands and with infrastructure and through their
22 hydroelectric facility infrastructure. And it's very
23 important to have that statewide umbrella to ensure that
24 there is equity throughout California. Thank you.

25 MR. JACOBSON: I will simply echo the combinations

1 of my colleagues for the energy from, for the Energy
2 Commission developing this resolution. It's certainly true
3 that we all live with the legacy of the past, but I hope
4 that in combination with our own tribal and transfer
5 policy, this resolution is an important step on the path
6 towards building a future that's much better than that
7 past.

8 COMMISSIONER SHIROMA: And I'll just briefly join
9 in my colleagues comments and join with President Reynolds
10 and lobbying the Energy Commission to move forward
11 expeditiously with the matter at hand. Thank you.

12 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: At this time are welcome
13 comments from the public on item nine. I'm sorry. Director
14 Johnson,

15 DIRECTOR JACOBSON: I'd like to commend the work
16 that went into this I think was, as I hearing all of the
17 words got a little emotional too. So this is something that
18 for me as a tribal member, our ancestors have been
19 advocating for and recognition of who we are and our
20 connection to everything. But to put and see something like
21 this is a milestone and I hope that I'd like to figure out
22 on the federal side how this can we be of support and also
23 build partnership and then it's a model. So I just want to
24 say thank you from me.

25 SECRETARY THOMPSON: Thank you. And yeah, just to

1 echo kind of what everyone else has said, these words are
2 powerful and exciting to hear and really appreciate all of
3 the work that put together in this resolution. And I think
4 it's the first be it further resolved section. I'm already
5 seeing the CEC doing a lot of that work already. It's so
6 really exciting to see this resolution really
7 institutionalized the commitment that the California Energy
8 Commission has been making and furthering the tribal
9 affairs policies that I think we all have been set up to do
10 here at the State of California.

11 I also just really just wanted to further echo
12 the importance of increasing tribal access, youth co-
13 management and special line return. I think those are top
14 priorities that we've been hearing in consultation with
15 California Native American tribes across all of the
16 agencies, departments. And so really warms my heart and
17 really appreciate to see this in the resolution. And then
18 lastly, I think the development of the tribal energy
19 sovereignty policy, Katrina, that's a big task, very
20 excited to see in the resolution and I think that's the
21 moment that that's really where the rolling up the sleeves
22 moment and the development of that policy and how this can
23 be further institutionalized not only at the Commission but
24 serve as an example for the rest of department here at
25 agency across the state, even across the country. And so

1 thank you for all the work that went into this resolution.

2 Thank you.

3 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: This time I would welcome
4 public comment on item nine.

5 MS. JACKSON: So again, we have the blue cards
6 available in the room. If you are in the audience and want
7 to make a comment, you can raise your hand, someone will
8 bring one to you and we also have folks online if you can
9 raise your hand to make a public comment. And if it's okay
10 with you chair, I'm going to kick around a little bit cause
11 I have a couple of sources of public comment. So first I'll
12 go to the online and Michelle Lee, I'm going to allow you
13 to speak. Please state and spell your name for the record
14 and make your comment please keep it to two minutes.
15 Michelle is open your line.

16 MS. LEE: I got it. Can you hear me?

17 MS. JACKSON: Yes. Very welcome. We can hear you.

18 MS. LEE: I apologize that I'm kind of commenting
19 about something else in this item, but I do support this
20 item very much and it is consistent with the initiatives
21 that I'm representing today, which is on behalf of the Pit
22 River tribe. I'm an attorney and also a tribal member at
23 Pit River. And we hope that this new policy, if enacted
24 would allow us to have the communication, continued
25 communication that we want to have regarding our concerns

1 for the Fountain Wind turbine project that we're very
2 concerned about in Shasta County. And as was stated earlier
3 by other tribal representatives from the Hupa yak and Karu
4 tribes, the Pit river tribe was not considered when the
5 grid was developed and when all the infrastructure was
6 built. But extractive industry has taken great greatly from
7 the tribe and we are seeking to have a balance where the
8 tribe can be granted access to the important services and
9 infrastructure that we need and also be protected from
10 extracted resources from our tribal community at foot that
11 injures our tribal community, including the tribal homes
12 and our ability to have our own economic development in the
13 future. And it sounds like this policy does consider those
14 kinds of concerns, so I, I apologize that I'm using this
15 time to speak about another topic, but I do think it is
16 relevant and relates to the policy that is being proposed
17 and I definitely support it. Thank you very much.

18 MS. JACKSON: Thank you for your comment. Next we
19 have met open your line. Please unmute on your end and make
20 your comment.

21 SPEAKER GANJI: Good afternoon. My name is Medi
22 Ghi, M E H D I G A N J I and I'm the Sovereign Resiliency
23 Partner group, smart reservation advisor. We appreciate TC
24 providing this opportunity to be a part of an ecosystem to
25 support tribal reservation and their citizens in

1 maintaining the quality of life despite the different
2 catastrophic events we states in California. We believe
3 every tribe citizens deserve a clean, cleaner, more
4 reliable and resilient energy infrastructure. However, we
5 strongly recommend the state to consider turning our
6 existing vision from only improving the energy
7 infrastructure to a more holistic reservation wide
8 approach. Considering the operation interdependencies
9 between energy infrastructure and other critical
10 infrastructure systems, this will unlock more energy
11 related benefits while making other critical infrastructure
12 system projects bankable and cost effective. To make this
13 happen, we empowered our tribal clients to transform their
14 reservation into the smart reservation of the future by
15 leveraging data, starting with holistic and integrated
16 planning project solution across all infrastructure system
17 of the reservation using the tribal government challenge
18 funding, we implemented the first smart reservation
19 transformation planning for the two river reservation
20 looking at all tribal reservation critical infrastructure
21 systems. This plan was successfully adopted by the tribal
22 council last year and we received the CPUC broadband grant
23 as the first step of this plan. We conduct the same
24 planning work for the Teun tribe was collaborating with the
25 California Energy Commission team to prepare the 500

1 million response to the part of energy to fund the measures
2 defined in these plans. We're looking forward to working
3 with all of you to replicate this solution across all the
4 reservation in California. Thank you.

5 MS. JACKSON: Thank you. I also received the
6 comment in writing from PITA FIT. I'd like to read it into
7 the record. Good afternoon. Apologies for the technical
8 issues (induabile). Western Electric would like to add that
9 the CPUC could aid and assist microgrids and other tribal
10 projects by considering the following. Tribes and tribal
11 members on reservations are not subject to state taxes.
12 Utility terrorists have many elements, some of which pay
13 for state programs and our state approved charges that are
14 not essential for power and delivery. Many of these are
15 actually state taxes that should not be charged on any
16 tribal bills or tribal member bills. When service is on the
17 reservation, these charges are offered buried in the tariff
18 charges. These non-power and non-delivery charges should be
19 removed from tribal bills. It is very difficult for tribes
20 to determine which of these can be removed from the tribal
21 bills in a way that the utilities can accept without CPU C
22 approvals.

23 For example, there is an epic charge. Some tribes
24 use this program, others do not. IT CC charges and other
25 charges and we have a list of all state approved charges

1 that could potentially be determined to be taxes and are
2 removed from all tribal bills or could be opted out by
3 tribe. We would want to have a discussion of each of these
4 charges to make sure the tribe and the state agree that the
5 charges are not chargeable to us and that they be
6 considered, especially in respect to microgrid programs and
7 rules, these non-power and non-delivery charges being
8 evaluated that provide immediate relief to individual
9 tribal members as well as lower barriers to entry for
10 larger grid scale projects spearheaded by tribes and tribal
11 utilities. Thank you. Peter Pitt, general Manager, pgo
12 Western Electric. We also have one in-person commenter.
13 Nicole Bloom from Grid Alternative. I'd like to invite you
14 to the podium.

15 Thank you Elizabeth. Great gratitude that I join
16 you in this conversation and these efforts. I am truly
17 moved. I would like to add to the encouragement and
18 commendation of the tribal energy sovereignty resolution
19 and certainly hope that it will be both passed and enacted
20 in great waves immediately and continuously. I actually
21 would like to comment upon item eight, the see grip funding
22 application to the DOE for the Satara grid alternatives is
23 again very grateful and to be part of the conversation and
24 part of the application process in large part because of
25 our long term involvement with tribes and with workforce

1 development and specifically with energy for all and the
2 focus on equity always being at our core drive today. Just
3 in that vein, I'm going to need to look at some words in
4 front of me. Grid resilience and community benefits are
5 central to the CEC's approach to the DOE grip program.

6 However, the need in California's tribal
7 communities far exceeds the opportunity in this program
8 despite its significance and status in this once in a
9 lifetime funding good alternatives, having developed
10 partnerships in tribal communities from the ground up
11 project by project over decades now through direct
12 community relationships, we feel that there is a critical
13 opportunity to fund smaller resilience projects as for the
14 most under-resourced communities, within the broader
15 portfolio of major infrastructure projects. We should start
16 now with these efforts that include the range of what is
17 possible now and then build from there. The goals of this
18 Terra program and of the Grip program itself are to advance
19 grid resilience and innovation which are not exclusive to
20 larger community microgrids or those who are ready to build
21 those sizes, but also can be achieved with a network of
22 impactful community led resilience projects at critical
23 facilities and other distributed energy system
24 installations.

25 I believe that by funding and approach to bring

1 smaller projects into the portfolio will help achieve the
2 other non-technical goals of the program, including
3 supporting the goals of the Justice 40 initiative,
4 promoting local networks and innovative teaming
5 arrangements, engaging in meaningful community and
6 stakeholder engagement in communities that may not have the
7 size or resources to engage in any other way. We also
8 believe that bringing in an active group of smaller
9 projects that this stage will help deliver the long-term
10 goals of establishing and providing resources to a
11 sustainable pipeline for tribal resilience projects at all
12 states of project readiness, recognizing the administration
13 challenges which we are well engaged with on many programs
14 for large projects being held by the Commission. We also
15 Grid Grid Alternatives offers the tribal Solar Accelerator
16 funds Administration is an opportunity that we might be
17 able to administrate to some of the smaller projects to
18 include them in this effort.

19 I just want to come back to the pathways of
20 equity being certainly collaborative and celebrate that
21 we're here all today in this conversation and that this is
22 just one of many ongoing and it is creative. It needs to be
23 trying those good and bad ideas and ultimately it takes
24 time and trust that we build together. So thank you again
25 for being here and continuing in the good work. We have one

1 more comment online that we'd like to take. I'm going to
2 open your line, you may make your comment, you'd have to
3 unmute on your end. Hana, are you there?

4 SPEAKER KHAN: Yes. Hello, this is Hasna Khan.
5 I'm from Systems and I think it's a very special day today.
6 I want to congratulate CEC and CPUC for this effort that
7 I'm here as an energy expert resident of California and
8 I've been working for the developing countries for many,
9 many years. I'm familiar to some of you, I guess. But the
10 thing is got a chance to work with the Kashia tribe in the
11 last three years and learned a whole lot. That makes me
12 feel like this is a very special moment. It is a milestone
13 where the tribes could come so close to the Commission with
14 the issues that I have observed and I'm really looking
15 forward to this effort that's going on. Thank you so much.
16 Thank you. That concludes the public comments.

17 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you for all those
18 comments. At this time we'll turn to Commissioner
19 discussion.

20 Thank you, Chair. I want to just take this moment
21 to recognize your leadership. It's incredible when these
22 moments happen. This is the first tribal we have and we
23 talked about how special it is. And it's also amazing to
24 recognize they took this long for this to happen and it's
25 the power of personalities and power of commitment that

1 makes these things happen. And I just want to thank Chair
2 for your vision in making this happen. Over the last day
3 and a half we've been talking about looking back seven
4 generations and looking forward to seven growing up in
5 India. I come from a very similar culture of winding up,
6 one upping eight generations back and eight generation
7 forward. I like seven better. So I just want to acknowledge
8 some of the incredible leadership we had at the Energy
9 Commission starting at the Commissioner Douglas and her
10 incredible amount of work that created the momentum for
11 where we are.

12 Commissioner Vaquero now at CPUC, Commissioner
13 Houck in her various roles at CEC and CPUC and other
14 agencies and Commissioner Gallardo. This doesn't happen
15 without so many people persisting. And Jen, Alex, Katrina,
16 Mona, these are people that hopefully you'll all get to
17 know and the power of what they've brought to the table.
18 It's an incredible, incredibly amazing day. I mean, to me
19 the word is auspicious and sacred. It's a moment where I
20 think we are meeting with hearts more than the way we do
21 things historically. So I just want to commend everybody
22 who's here, all the public, everybody around the tribal
23 leaders who are making this moment happen. I want to make
24 one ask as we move forward some of these things. Incredible
25 moments happen because of those power personalities and

1 those of you who are sitting here are making this happen.

2 But we need to ensure that this becomes the DNA
3 of how we do things. It institutionalized, it gets into our
4 cultural values. So I want to make sure that we not only
5 recognize the power of people, but the power of
6 institutions and processes and ensuring that really gets
7 coded into how we do things in California. And before I
8 pass it back to chair, I was worried about how to vote on
9 this resolution, but now that I have support, I think I
10 have no way out here. So I'll get that back to you. Thank
11 you, Commissioner Monahan.

12 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Well, I want to build on
13 the vice chair's remarks. He actually said some of the
14 things I wanted to say. So I'm going not to repeat, I'm
15 not, I'm not going to repeat, but I want to just point to
16 something which I'm guessing I'm not the only one feeling
17 slight discomfort about everybody saying, wow, this is so
18 great, is I, and I don't want to take anything away from
19 this resolution and all the work that has gone into, I'm
20 looking at Karen right now just in terms of building
21 improved relations with tribes and really trying to change
22 what has been just a horrific relationship between
23 governments. And you all are really at the front lines and
24 I felt really deeply moved when you felt so moved by the
25 resolution words matter, but at the same time they're just

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1 words. This is just a piece of paper and it's really the
2 work that goes into, and I think we've all felt just
3 ashamed of the role of our government and ashamed of the
4 way that a lot of tribes don't have access to basic
5 electricity. If they have access, it's unreliable, it's
6 expensive, and that is what we want to change. And I think
7 this resolution, again, is a step towards that. And really
8 the proof is in the pudding is how much we're able to
9 actually actualize this and work the tribes to use our
10 resources and our connections to improve the situation on
11 the ground to make people's lives better. And so that is
12 what I would ask our tribal government partners, is to hold
13 us accountable.

14 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Great. Well I have
15 absolutely have similar thoughts. Yeah, first,
16 Commissioner, just your cadence and the way you read I
17 think was actually very powerful. You really put your voice
18 into the resolution and I certainly felt moved by it. And
19 then I also felt moved again. And even more so hearing the
20 tribal leader partners reactions and thoughts about the
21 resolution when you were reading it, I couldn't help but
22 sort of think about a bunch of the native peoples that I
23 had worked with in South America. And I was a little bit
24 overwhelmed actually with all the history that we know just
25 across the Americas for 500 plus years. And so that's a

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1 burden. And I just want to just echo what Mr. Monahan just
2 said, that there is sort of the danger of feeling almost
3 blinded by that. And so words are important, but they're a
4 start.

5 And so we have to actually create true
6 partnership and it has to be action. And I've been keeping
7 out, I've been listening for the word trust today and I
8 haven't really noticed anybody saying it yet, but true
9 trust, it has to be repaired and it has to be built over
10 time with actual actions. And so I think it's a challenge
11 for all this to really in good faith, keep at the table,
12 keep at it, keep persistence, listening to each other and
13 just really getting in each other's, understanding each
14 other's essence and taking action together in that way and
15 good faith. And so the resolution I think lays out a really
16 wonderful vision for that. And we all have to, I'll be
17 nearly honored to vote for the resolution obviously and to
18 partner with all of you and beyond to execute. Thank you.
19 Commissioner?

20 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: I can't say anything
21 better than what my colleagues have just said. I, I'm ready
22 to act on this. I care about this and beginning with moving
23 this forward for approval if you can.

24 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Ahead. So I feel a lot of
25 emotion in my heart today. I want say, first of all to our

1 tribal leaders, I deeply, deeply inspired by all of you
2 just having a chance to get to know you and visit with you
3 and Chairman James in particular, I can say a few words to
4 you and to the Europe people when Linda Barre and Jen
5 Martin Gallardo and I were here in Katrina Lennie Honig to
6 see the condor, we went in that little room and watch this
7 amazing bird which grows to the age of 75, 9 and a half
8 foot. And I think it was Terra who had explained to me the
9 significance of the condor to the uroc people is the
10 highest flying bird in the territory. And so it's thought
11 to confer wisdom to the people, but also to be the medium
12 for humanity's hopes to the heavens.

13 And to know this bird had been gone for a hundred
14 years when you brought it back and that incredibly
15 beautiful and inspiring. It's like, if that's possible,
16 what else can we do? And that really affected me, affected
17 all of us, but we're there together. I mean we're all tears
18 our eyes. And so this blows from that actually. And I just
19 thank you for what you did and this feels like it's a
20 milestone and a long journey, A lot more journey to travel,
21 yet quite an important milestone. So I want to thank you
22 and to all the tribes here for inspiring us and really
23 helping us stay charged up in our mission ahead. And with
24 that, I would welcome a motion on item nine on Commissioner
25 Gallardo.

1 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: I am honored to move item
2 nine, the Energy Commission's tribal energy sovereignty
3 resolution for approval.

4 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Vice Chair Gunda, would you be
5 one to second?

6 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: I proudly second Item nine.

7 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All in favor say aye.
8 Commissioner Gallardo.

9 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Aye. Aye.

10 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner McAllister.

11 COMMISSIONER McALLISTER: Aye.

12 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner Monahan.

13 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Aye.

14 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: And I vote Aye as well. Item
15 nine unanimously passes.

16 I kind of feel sorry for item 10. This is, thank
17 you all. Alright, so we'll turn now to item 10. Thank you
18 to everyone which is information (inaudible) CPUC overview
19 and tribal engagement. I welcome Commissioner help.

20 CPUC PRESIDENT REYNOLDS: Yeah, thank you. And
21 that's an incredibly hard act to follow, but I think it
22 just in the spirit of really sharing something more about
23 ourselves and here at the CPUC, we wanted to spend a little
24 bit of time talking about programs and welcome the idea of
25 building on these programs, implementing them well as well

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1 as we can and make it stronger. So we wanted to provide
2 some details about some of the things that we have going
3 on. So much more mundane subject, but we're really looking
4 forward to speaking to our programs today. I'll pass it
5 over to Commissioner.

6 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you, President Reynolds.
7 As President Reynolds said, we're going to do an overview
8 today if you want to go to the next slide. One more. Thank
9 you. I'm going to just do a brief introduction to the
10 program and then hand it off to our excellent staff who are
11 here today.

12 They're all in the back and going to hear from
13 them about, you're going to hear from, we're going to do a,
14 I said a quick overview, then we're going to talk about our
15 tribal land transfer policy, the history behind that and
16 how that led to our tribal order instituting a rulemaking.
17 We're going to talk about broadband and our clean energy
18 and resiliency for tribal communities. And then equity
19 initiatives and clean energy access grant program will be
20 presented by Stephanie Green from our executive office. And
21 if you want to go to the next slide. So just a quick
22 overview of our mission and policies. The CPUC regulates
23 privately owned electric, natural gas, telecommunications,
24 water railroad, rail transit and passenger transportation
25 companies. In addition to authorizing video franchises, our

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1 fine governor appointed Commissioners who are all here
2 present today as well as our staff are dedicated to
3 ensuring that consumers have saved reliable utility service
4 at reasonable rates.

5 The CPUC has also created the -- its first
6 environmental and social justice action plan. We adopted
7 the 2.0 version of that recently to serve both as a
8 commitment to furthering esj principles as well as an
9 operating framework with which to integrate SJ
10 considerations throughout our agency's work. Next slide. In
11 our tribal consultation policy goals, the Commission
12 adopted its first tribal consultation policy somewhat later
13 than some of the other states in California in April of
14 2018. That was spearheaded by former Commissioner Randolph
15 and former Commissioner Reamp. Since that policy went into
16 place, I think the Commission has taken many, many actions
17 to help reinforce and build relationships and trust with
18 tribal, with the tribes in California, including our tribal
19 land transfer policy. This slide sets out the goals of our
20 policy, which is to recognize and respect tribal
21 sovereignty, encourage and facilitate tribal government
22 participation in our proceedings, give meaningful
23 consideration to tribal interests and issues within our
24 jurisdiction.

25 Encourage and facilitate tribal government

1 participation in our approved utility programs. Protect
2 tribal cultural resources, encourage investments by tribal
3 government and tribal members and onsite renewable energy
4 generation, energy efficiency, low carbon transportation
5 and energy storage. So this combined with our tribal land
6 transfer policy sets the groundwork and our addresses,
7 issues that are going to be dealt with and are being dealt
8 with in our OI are that you're going to hear from our
9 staff. And before I turn it over to the staff
10 presentations, I just wanted to ask Ken Holbrook if he
11 wanted to come down for just a minute and make sure
12 everybody knows who Ken is. He's our tribal advisor and the
13 Commission has its first tribal advisor, then he started
14 during Covid and before I was appointed Commissioner and
15 while I was at the Energy Commission. So I think it was in
16 2020, yes. Okay. And I just wanted you, if you wanted to
17 just say a couple of words.

18 MR. HOLBROOK: Thank you so much Commissioner and
19 thank you so much for the opportunity to just share a
20 little bit about who I am. Ken Holbrook. I'm a member of
21 the Pit River tribe as well as the Mighty Tribe. I'm
22 originally from the northern end of the Sierra Nevada and
23 I'm, I'm really proud to be the first tribal advisor here
24 and new permanent position at the CPU C. And just one more
25 step in the state's commitment to enhance what it is that

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1 we're doing and building and the resources that we're
2 building at these agencies to address the needs that we've
3 been hearing about all day. So I'm available at any moment
4 to hear concerns, to help be a conduit and serve connecting
5 you with technical experts that we have do many of at the
6 CPUC and certainly to help establish a consultation with
7 our leadership. So that's really the role I play. Feel free
8 to reach out to me anytime.

9 MS. JACKSON: Thank you Ken. If the presentation,
10 if we could bring that back up and go to the next slide.
11 This is just a slide that shows the different kinds of
12 formal proceedings that we have. And then if we go to the
13 next slide, I'm going to turn things over to our staff and
14 Michael Roe's going to give some background on our tribal
15 land transfer poll.

16 MR. ROSAUER: My name is Michael Rosauer. I'm, I'm
17 an analyst with the CPUCs Energy Division and I'm the lead
18 staff for the CPUCs Tribal Land Transfer Policy. And I
19 should acknowledge former Commissioner Uzon as one of the
20 chief architects of the policy as well as Commissioner Hauk
21 and Commissioner Ser. The goal of the CPCs tribal Land
22 transfer policy is to prioritize tribes as the recipients
23 of utility land that the CPUC approves for sale. Four years
24 ago the CPUC adopted the tribal land transfer policy after
25 extensive public participation Two years later, the CPUC

1 adopted implementation guidelines for the tribal land
2 transfer policy that provided the operational steps for the
3 policy and made the policy mandatory on energy and large
4 water utilities. Last year. This the Commission opened
5 rule-making to address possible revisions to the policy
6 based on two years of operational experience and to further
7 address tribal participation in CPUC proceedings last year.
8 And through the end of this year, the Commission will be
9 holding additional tribal consultations and workshop within
10 the tribal O I R. Okay. The tribal and transfer policy
11 establishes a CPUC preference for the transfer to tribes of
12 utility real property within a tribe's ancestral territory.
13 Utilities must under the policy, utilities must offer tribe
14 a right of first offer before putting the property on the
15 open market.

16 Utilities must affirmative affirmatively consult
17 with tribes to determine whether there's interest to
18 purchase the land or a need to protect cultural resources
19 on the land. So even if a tribe elects not to purchase the
20 property or there if there are cultural resources that the
21 tribe is aware of and need protection, that issue can be
22 raised with the utilities at the time of the sale because
23 SE is typically not triggered by the sale of land, often
24 not considered a SE project of a project under CEQA. Okay.
25 The - , A couple points on their land transport policy

1 implementation guidelines.

2 The guidelines, as I said, made the policy
3 mandatory on energy utilities and large water companies.
4 When a utility CPUC approval to dispose of real property
5 within a tribe's ancestral territory, utility must first
6 request the Native American Heritage Commission identify
7 tribal entities where the real property is located. Once
8 the Native American Heritage Committee Commission has
9 identified the tribes that the utility has to provide
10 written notice to the chairperson or their designee of the
11 utilities intents to sell the property, including a request
12 to consult with the tribe, there must further document
13 communication between the utility and the tribe regarding
14 the tribe's interest in acquiring the real property and the
15 substantive negotiations that have occurred as part of the
16 tribe's effort to gain purchase of the property. At this
17 point, I would like to turn it over to ALJ Valerie Gal to
18 talk about the rule making that will further refine our
19 tribal land transfer policy. Thank you.

20 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE GAO: Thank you, Mike. I
21 appreciate the opportunity to share. Mike has already
22 mentioned several of the points I was going to make. The
23 Commission adopted an order instituting the rule making in
24 February 2022 on tribal policies. And the preliminary scope
25 of the rulemaking is, as you see here, it's to consider

1 potential modifications to the Commission's tribal land
2 policy, including the implement implementation guidelines.
3 We also intend to consider data and information exchange
4 needs, consider the protection of sacred sites and places
5 of cultural importance. We also intend to consider
6 potential potential modifications to the Commissioner's
7 tribal consultation policy. And importantly, consider
8 mechanisms developing or establishing mechanisms and
9 processes to assist with capacity to building and access
10 for tribal particip - participation in the Commission
11 programs. Next slide please. So the next steps in the rule
12 making, as Mike mentioned much of last year was spent
13 conducting tribal consultations in furtherance of
14 developing the scope for this rulemaking.

15 And so now we're at the point of preparing to
16 issue a scoping memo that will identify the issues to be
17 determined in the proceeding and we'll provide an initial
18 schedule for addressing each of those issues and confirm
19 the proceeding category, which is Quadi legislative. We
20 intend to continue to hold ongoing throughout the
21 proceeding. We intend to hold workshops on specific topics
22 that will be included in the scoping memo and staff will
23 issue proposals on those issues. We'll have comments from
24 parties on staff proposals. The Commission will issue a
25 proposed decision and then hopefully the Commission will

1 adopt this decision. I will turn it over to Karen Eckersley
2 from the communications division. Just make one quick
3 comment on the, I know that there's been a concern about
4 being a formal party and many tribes don't have that
5 capacity, so through our tribal consultation we've been
6 addressing how to make sure that tribal feedback and
7 comments is able to get into our formal record without
8 necessarily having to be a formal party. So that's an
9 ongoing process, but I just wanted to make sure tribes were
10 aware of that and that you can provide feedback to us even
11 if you're not a formal party in the proceeding.

12 MS. ECKERLSEY: Thank you. I'm Karen Eckersley. I
13 work with the broadband group in the communications
14 division. I have an office in downtown Eureka where the
15 coffee's always hot, so you all very welcome there. Yes.
16 Perfect. Just leave this slide up here for a moment. So the
17 SB 1 56 legislation was a game changer for our work across
18 the digital divide. We now have the structure and the first
19 programs that show us a path to our end game, and that is
20 for every Californian to have affordable, reliable internet
21 and the devices and the technical assistance is the first
22 step program to help fund things like entity formation,
23 preliminary network designs, operational plans, needs
24 assessment, feasibility studies, strategic plans. We
25 evaluate these applications monthly and there's 50 million

1 that was set aside. There is a tribal set aside within that
2 50 million and the funds for each entity are up to 1
3 million per year.

4 We also have an existing tribal technical
5 assistance program that is still operational as well, and
6 that is up to 150,000 per tribe per year for improving
7 communications resiliency with a broad definition of what
8 that is. And we welcome your applications for both. The
9 larger 1 million up to 1 million can really fund those
10 hugely expensive things like lawyers and environmental
11 studies. And as you all know, that stuff adds up very
12 quickly. Okay, the second in line here is the loan loss
13 reserve program and this was designed to provide credit
14 enhancements for bond offerings for infrastructure
15 projects. We're expecting a staff proposal for comment this
16 summer on the types of credit that would be provided and
17 details on the procedures. The federal funding account is
18 the big last mile infrastructure funding. This is the local
19 infrastructure that gets you from your home or business to
20 the rest of the internet.

21 And in California we need it to every location,
22 which brings us to data and maps for those who of you who
23 have seen the maps that we have released. We will be
24 updating that information with new data and we have a
25 better way of presenting our Callen virus screen and

1 socioeconomic vulnerability information on that. And there
2 is a lot of information that is available now we'll be
3 coming out with more and we are specifically looking for
4 tribes and public entities to apply for these funds to help
5 build local broadband networks. Finally, on this slide we
6 have our longstanding California Advanced Services funding
7 programs and we have updates for some of those programs
8 also. Next slide even better news is that more funding is
9 coming nationwide. There is about 42 billion for the
10 broadband access and deployment, the bead program, the CPUC
11 is the lead agency responsible for delivering this funding
12 and this funding is based on the number of locations in
13 California, hence our obsession with the numbers of
14 locations in California.

15 The CPUC has opened a rule making for this just
16 last week we voted it in to figure out the program rules
17 and we would very much like your participation in forming
18 all of these rules. So I'll refer you to our questions we
19 have written down there and you can see me or Ken Holbrook
20 on how to do that. Dr. Green and her team are also here, so
21 we have a lot of challenges before us now as we've spoken
22 today about how to use this money wisely, how to empower
23 the people who are building these networks and how to
24 support each other. So please stay in touch with us and
25 we're looking forward to any feedback you have. And I can

1 also take any questions that you might have on Monday. We
2 went through about three hours with this, so I pulled out
3 what I hoped were the relevant sentences.

4 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you. Have a questions
5 from Vice Chair Powell.

6 MR. JACOBSON: I'm trying to think about how to
7 phrase that. I think I've made my comments earlier on how
8 far the last mile misses Jim wave you by. Yeah. Still
9 looking to sort of figure that one out. So we would look
10 forward to the commitment to contact appropriate people on
11 how to get to where we need to get on that, right? Because
12 yeah, it times clicking and it's going to be here before we
13 know it. I have a plan but I no idea when the funding's
14 going to arrive or if we're applying for the right buckets
15 or cups or of the funding. So I would appreciate the
16 outreach on

17 MS. JACKSON: Certainly. Thank you. And I heard
18 your remark about 15 miles, 17 miles. So that is actually
19 considered last mile in the program. So really there's a
20 lot of definitions of last mile and middle mile and what's
21 the information highway and what's not. What we will fund
22 is your ability to get to a middle mile. So even though it
23 seems like a long way and it's aggregated, that would be
24 rooted in what we fund, if that was the question. Okay. I
25 am talking to some of you.

1 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: You have any questions? Yeah,
2 Michael, please.

3 MR. ROSEUR: I just wanted to take the privilege
4 of acknowledging the staff at the (inaudible), by the way,
5 council member, this is the only woman you need to talk to,
6 but yeah, and also Michael earlier I want to also
7 acknowledge your amazing work on the tribal land policy and
8 implementing it. And I wanted to share a little story about
9 that because we do forget about the importance of these
10 policies. When I first talked to the Commission, the
11 chairwoman of the Potter Valley tribe came and says, we've
12 had an application sitting before the POC for two years on
13 a transfer of land from pg e to on route. And what was it?
14 One of the problem was, am I getting the right one? Yeah,
15 their attorney. Okay. And this is not to diminish anybody,
16 but the mindset and the difference of understanding now in
17 the last few years is so tremendous because the reason they
18 had been sitting there, there had been an objection from
19 one of the neighbors that they received that land.

20 And part of the justification e put in writing
21 was that there's only half a dozen members. It's not a real
22 trial and just the kind of inherit wrongness of the
23 glamorous people that were taken and murdered and all of it
24 was like in this one sentence of the ignorance. And so
25 because of the people that work in this institution that we

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1 don't always get to sit on these chairs, that was the
2 impetus of obviously moving that forward. That transfer was
3 made, but the need to then set a policy was clear so that
4 these types of objections hold things up like that.
5 Especially not the two years. And the struggle continues. I
6 know, but it's, it's so important to have these policies in
7 place so that there's the legal standing and the lack of
8 clarity and the history and thought forward and has to be
9 read. Anyway, I just wanted to thank you all for your work
10 and so many other people judge how has been a leader and so
11 many of these proceedings as well. Thank you. Yeah, please
12 Mr. Chairman,

13 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: I just wanted to just take a
14 brief moment and thank you Karen on behalf of myself, our
15 council, our staff, the Europe tribe, thank you for your
16 work. We look forward to continue to work with you
17 regarding again, thank you. Thank you.

18 MS. JACKSON: Please. So I just wanted to say when
19 I started my broadband journey, I'm not sure where I
20 exactly that, but was basically in 2018 and when I started
21 that journey, I had met Karen at a FCC meeting I believe in
22 2019. And I just want to commend the CPE staff per staffing
23 her up here because she has been integral and even
24 providing that position of that knowledge and that subject
25 matter expert that has provided assets to all of us. So

1 thank you for staffing that regional position. It's been
2 critical to the moves that we are all making. Thank you.
3 And part of that story is also that Director Guzman was the
4 Commissioner who opened all of that up with the initial
5 tribal capacity building with the tribal technical
6 assistance and helped a little bit of that mindset change.
7 And so thank you very much for that as well.

8 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: You have any comment on this
9 item? If not, thank you so much. Oh, did you Commission
10 your house? Oh, oh, two more. Sorry. I'm sorry. Okay, next.

11 MS. RATKEIWICH Hello. Okay. Hi. My name is
12 Roseanne Ratkeiwich. I am on the grid resiliency and
13 microgrids team and the energy division. And while my main
14 issue that I'm working with is the value of resiliency
15 today, I'd like to talk a little bit about some of the
16 energy division programs that we have that may be of
17 interest to the tribe and essentially might serve as some
18 of those layering funds that we were talking about earlier.
19 Next slide, please source select Generation Incentive
20 program, otherwise known as s e p is a program that
21 provides direct incentives for customers of investor owned
22 utilities to support existing new and emerging distribution
23 energy resources. S e provides rebates for qualifying
24 distribution energy re systems installed on the customer
25 side of the utility meter. Qualifying technologies include

1 onsite electricity generating technologies such as wind
2 turbines, waste to heat power technologies, pressure
3 reduction turbines, internal combustion engines, micro
4 turbines, fuel cells, energy storage systems.

5 And as of April, 2022, the CPUC expanded
6 incentives, adopted budgets and further developed
7 frameworks for the s g heat pump heat water program that
8 was authorized in prior CPUC decisions. The new funds that
9 will be subject to the next decision if approved, could be
10 eligible for service areas outside the larger iuss, but
11 currently approved funds would not be a avail. Eligible
12 battery energy storage is covered under as onsite energy
13 storage paired both with solar and standalone storage and
14 is eligible for those S chip incentives. And again, as of
15 August 20th, 2239, tribal government projects have received
16 incentive funds. We hope to increase that. Key pump water
17 heaters, as I spoke to a little bit before, is a cleaner,
18 more efficient technology than natural gas water heating
19 and those incentives added in April, 2022. Decisions bring
20 the total to about 80 million, about half of which is
21 reserved.

22 The low income utility customers, the residential
23 low customer is capped at \$4,885 and 3,800 for other
24 customers. Additional incentives are available if
25 electrical panel upgrades are needed and for systems using

1 low global warming potential refrigerants, a lot of
2 technical information there. And lastly on this, the
3 legislature recently set aside 900 million to the
4 Commission starting in fiscal year 20 23 24. Specific to
5 the 900 million AB 2 0 9 states that 70%, that's 630
6 million of the funding must be directed towards funding
7 incentives for eligible low income residential customers
8 who install either new behind the meter solar, solar PV
9 systems paired with energy storage systems or new energy
10 storage systems. And the implementation policy for that is
11 currently being discussed in the September, 2022. The
12 Commission began the process to explore how best to
13 implement the distribution of those funds. Next slide
14 please.

15 What one of the new programs that we have is the
16 Community Micro Good Enablement and our micro good data
17 portal in track one of the CPUCs microgrid proceeding. The
18 pg e sought and gained approval of its community micro good
19 enablement program that provides technical support to
20 community seeking critical facility energy resilience for
21 extreme weather, psp s or other events. This support
22 includes providing a pg e resilience coordinator to provide
23 technical support as well as cost offsets for certain
24 electric distribution system upgrades. A list of eligible
25 critical facilities are included on their pg e back sheet

1 and is also located in the Community Resilience Planning
2 guide. This is the first program of its kind in California
3 and as such other IUs don't have similar programs yet
4 approved, but we hope to see that coming also in track. One
5 of the microgrid proceeding was in order that the IU set up
6 a data portal for access by tribes and local governments
7 that indicates transmission and distribution lines has data
8 layers showing high fire threat districts areas subject to
9 past psp events and utility infrastructure projects that
10 have been completed or are underway.

11 PG&E and SDGE have launched their first version
12 of the data portal. You do have to request access as a
13 tribe, but it's a fairly simple process within the current
14 track of the proceeding. Discussions are being had to
15 explore the expansion of these data portal capacities to be
16 more of a bidirectional communication portal that allows
17 tribal and local governments to potentially upload the work
18 that they've already done on hazard mitigation plans or
19 climate application and resilience plans so as to provide
20 insight to you as to important intersections and
21 interdependencies that might inform long-term resilience
22 planning at both local and utility levels. Okay, next slide
23 please.

24 Oh, I'm sorry. Oh yeah, so the next one,
25 Commissioner Ser already spoke to this a little bit but I

1 just want to highlight a few bullet points here. Track four
2 of the microgrid proceeding approved 200 million for the
3 community Microgrid Development incentive program and these
4 program funds would provide technical support and project
5 management to help communities plan and implement microgrid
6 projects promoting public health and welfare and
7 preparation for wildfires and grid outages. The Commission
8 issued a pro proposed decision to approve an implementation
9 plan for this program on February 9th, 23. And comment and
10 reply comments are due on March 6th pending final PUC
11 approval. The utilities are anticipated to launch the
12 program with the handbook and tribal governments are
13 eligible to apply for this next slide please.

14 The local government renewable energy system bill
15 credit tariff, otherwise known as REST P C T R E S B C T.
16 Yeah, we did that was established by AB 24 66 in 2008. This
17 tariff enable this tariff enables local governments and
18 universities and as of 2021 by way of SD 4 79 California
19 tribal governments as well to share generation credits from
20 a system located on one government owned property with
21 billing accounts at other government owned properties. In
22 other words, it allows for a tribal renewable generating
23 facility to explore energy to the grid and receive
24 generation credits to benefit other electric accounts
25 servicing buildings of the same government in another

1 location. This helps facilities without the space to
2 install renewable generation to benefit from installation
3 of renewable facilities where there is space to accommodate
4 it and then can facilitate economies of scale by installing
5 one large renewable energy facility rather than multiple
6 small ones. The size limit under R R E S B C T is five
7 megawatts and bill credits are applied at the generation
8 only portion of a customer's retail rate.

9 Next slide please. And lastly, we want, I want to
10 talk a little bit about the equity in grid planning. So the
11 environmental and Social Justice Action Plan 2.0 which was
12 spoken about earlier and you'll hear a little bit more
13 about this. Laughter was adopted in April, 2022 and serves
14 as a guide to ensure the CPU C'S regulatory authority
15 continues to advance equity throughout the state. This plan
16 outlines a work plan to achieve each of the nine identified
17 goals there that you see and promotes high road careers for
18 economically or environmentally disadvantaged communities.
19 Adaptation proceeding in a decision in August of 2020 the
20 utilities were ordered to identify and prioritize actions
21 to address climate change related needs of vulnerable and
22 disadvantaged communities for utility climate related
23 assessment, planning and decision making. The results of
24 this decision were to order the communities, the utilities
25 to create and implement a community engagement plan that

1 implements the ESG action plan and conduct a climate
2 adaptation vulnerability assessment. You might hear kava
3 that util utilizes information from the community
4 engagement plan to guide the assessment of utility
5 infrastructures operations and services that might be
6 impacted in the face of forecasted climate hazard climate
7 change hazards. With that, I'll turn it back over to
8 Commissioner

9 Actually I think so that ends the program. Oh,
10 Commissioner Houck still.

11 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: So wait, hold on. Come back. I
12 think we have a few questions for you. Yeah, go ahead.

13 MS. JACKSON: Thank you so much for the
14 information. This comment is going to be kind of inclusive
15 of some of those programs. So the Hooper Valley tribe has
16 a, the allocation from WAPA, the Western Area Powered
17 Administration and we provide the energy for 30 critical
18 institutions. It's our medical facility, it's the fire
19 department Office of emergency services, our grocery store
20 are mini mark, those facilities that the community requires
21 and counts on when the power is out. We are ineligible
22 because of that WPA allocation for those PG&E programs, the
23 SDG&E, the Community Microgrid Enablement program. I think
24 that is an absolute infringement on tribal sovereignty. Our
25 government relationship with WAPA, which is federal the

1 tribes. And I really think that needs to be a policy change
2 and consideration at this table because we need all of
3 those things. We're low income, we're rural, we deal with
4 energy, we we're going into issues, we have four times more
5 outages yet for these critical tribal locations we are
6 exempted and eligible and that needs to be changed.

7 You pay a distribution charge to PG&E for that.
8 Thank you so much. I forgot about that so I forgot I even
9 wrote that down. So within our WPA billing, which does come
10 from PG&E because there are meters it smart meters, it's
11 their data allocation. We pay a pass through wheeling
12 charge for the wholesale distribution tariff. And I've
13 tried to ask questions from the subject matter experts that
14 I have. It was a first decision, but you know CPU C has
15 some guidance over that, but that wholesale distribution
16 tariff, which just increased as of January one by 64% is
17 killing us on the small tribal utility side I think in the
18 last four months because of, because of that lack of
19 consultation saying, hey, you need to prepare for these
20 increased rates. There was no consultation on that and in
21 the last four months we had gone in the red by probably
22 \$120,000 as a small travel utility with 30 customers.

23 That's a lot of money. We can't sustain that and
24 we pay them, we're a partner, we're paying to use the
25 distribution and transmission line and the cost for that is

1 more than the energy cost for the base resource or custom
2 pur product purchasing. That absolutely means to be a
3 policy change on these programs and I think we need to
4 agree that we should sit down and consult on that and we
5 can ask our legal legal office to look into what leeway we
6 have. I know that in looking at how community choice
7 aggregates, for example, that serve that are the load
8 serving entities within an area that are using the poles
9 and wires for the iu, what level of participation they have
10 and look at what we can do within our current system and
11 then whether or to what extent there may need to be
12 legislative changes. But I think that we should definitely
13 consult if that's something you'd like to do, then sit down
14 and talk about what the options are.

15 Okay, thank you. Just because my colleagues are
16 not as free to talk about things, I just wanted to talk
17 about a couple of really interesting decisions that were
18 made on some of these programs in particular to put 'em
19 into the distribution and transmission charges,
20 distribution in particular here and not public purpose and
21 with the acknowledgement that these are distribution costs.
22 And so I do think generally speaking there's a nexus and in
23 of course like many things you have to be iterative with
24 council, but this is certainly an equity issue that should
25 be quickly addressed. And we have a very timely proceeding

1 where some of these big projects and little projects that
2 we talking about are altogether should be really come into
3 fruition. So if you need a letter of support from the
4 regional administrator of vcp, I'm happy to provide that.
5 We'll be calling on you for that.

6 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay, well let's thank you for
7 the presentation and we'll turn out item 11, Stephanie
8 Green, Eric Sok, this is the PUC participation capacity
9 grant pilot program. Push the button that Morgan,

10 MS. GREEN: How this just go off. Okay. Thank you
11 for having me here today. I'm excited to tell you about our
12 initiative and Clean Energy grant program. Next slide
13 please. This program was authorized in AB 1 79, which is
14 the Budget Act of 2022. And the California legislature
15 approved 30 million to be used by the CPUC for grants to
16 try and community based organizations to increase
17 participation support equity initiatives and provide clean
18 energy access opportunities for the tribes underrepresented
19 hard to reach, access, functional needs and other
20 communities. These funds will be available for grant award
21 until June 30th, 20 squad I and must be spent by June 30th,
22 27th. Next slide. And there are three types of grants that
23 make up our program. We have our public participation
24 grant, the equity engagement and education grant, and the
25 Clean Energy Access grant. And you can see on the slide how

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1 they're divided amongst the three. And I'm going to be
2 going into more detail in this presentation. Next slide
3 please.

4 Now, the applicants who are eligible to apply for
5 the funds under this grant program must be 5 0 1 California
6 sub reform organizations or tribal organizations which
7 include California Native American tribes, tribal
8 organizations, fully owned by the tribe or Tribal Section
9 17 Corporation or tribal utilities. And now I'm going to go
10 into detail on each of the three programs. Next slide
11 please. Our first program is the Public participation grant
12 program and the purpose of this program is to remove
13 financial and capacity based barriers that organizations
14 face when they're attempting to engage with matters before
15 the CPU C. Now we're aware that engaging with the CCPUC can
16 be challenging and that organizations must have the
17 capacity and knowhow and understanding about the CPU C
18 operates. And we really want to expand the pool of tribes
19 that can do this type of work. We're trying to create
20 participation pathways and remove barriers to engagement
21 with the dps. The total amount available for the grant
22 program is 2.5 million with a proposed cap of \$15,000 per
23 organization. Applicants may seek funding after
24 participating in an approved activity such as a working
25 group, a focus group serving as a panelist or a featured

1 speaker. And we don't want the application process to be
2 burdensome. So the application will be streamlined and we
3 receive prop payment which will encourage ongoing
4 participation. Next slide please.

5 So on this list you'll see some of the
6 activities. That's the working group, the focus groups
7 workshops, serving as a panelist or a featured speaker, an
8 advisory board membership, an arm speaker or panelist like
9 today. And our proposed compensation would be \$150 an hour.
10 And next slide please. And our next or second type of grant
11 is the equity engagement and education grant program. Now
12 this grant is similar in scope to the public participation
13 grant, but there are some key differences. The public
14 participation grant program pays the discrete engagements
15 whereas the equity engagement and education grants will pay
16 for ongoing engagement with state decision making
17 processes. We hope that this program will help tribes bring
18 the views of their community to the c c during the grants
19 period and then through this experience build the capacity
20 to continue to appear before us is a repair funded program
21 known as Venal Compensation.

22 This grant will be up to a hundred thousand
23 dollars and should cover the cost of engaging and c
24 proceeding. And it can be used for a number of activities
25 including hiring staff or consultants, bringing community

1 voices to this C, supporting other tribes and partnerships
2 in coalition buildings. Next slide please. Now the funding
3 can also be used by more experienced organizations to
4 assist less experienced tribes or CBOs with navigating the
5 cps, including the work they need to do to get funding
6 through interview compensation. We know it takes resources
7 and know how to navigate the rules and procedures at the
8 CPUC. And this program is meant to level the playing field
9 for those that have valuable input for lack of capacity to
10 provide it. And this will be a competitive grant program
11 with two cycles, one in the summer of 2023 and then the
12 next in the summer of 2024. And we hope that this will help
13 us build long-term engagement with Next slide please.

14 Now our last grant is the Clean Energy Access
15 grant and that's the largest of the grants. That is 17
16 million in the grants range from a hundred thousand to 1.5
17 million. And unlike the other programs, these grants are
18 for community facing work as opposed to agency facing work.
19 While agency work was important, California will not meet
20 its climate or equity goals without the adoption of clean
21 energy technology by underrepresented communities. This
22 grant categories and sent out our Tribes Act trusted
23 intermediaries and this role label will grant information
24 about state and center programs and help their communities
25 find out how they can leverage these programs. Please note

1 that this program does not pay a fixable infrastructure or
2 equipment, but it is meant to assist planning and outreach
3 or leveraging existing incentive programs due to the fact
4 that escape programs can be quite complicated. This program
5 will be implemented through a third party technical
6 assistance provider or providers who will provide guidance
7 and sub grants to the tribe.

8 And we sincerely hope the legislature will renew
9 this program, perhaps our ability to expand it in the
10 future. But with this current funding, we are restricting
11 the projects to two CPU C programs, the Microgrid Incentive
12 Program and the Self-Generation Institute Program. And
13 these were selected based on stakeholder feedback. Now you
14 just heard about these programs earlier today and it is
15 exciting that this grant program that provide us an access
16 to these programs. Next slide please. Oh, and I just did
17 that. Oh, for both of these programs, the master grant will
18 go from the TC to a third party technical assistance
19 provider or providers. And this provider or providers will
20 cover the most of the administration work and we'll have to
21 tribe scope and plan their project and will ultimately
22 provide funding. We're currently working on the
23 requirements for the technical assistance providers, but we
24 want to encourage providers to apply as a coalition in
25 order to ensure diverse backgrounds and expertise and we're

1 we're really trying to make sure the funding is transparent
2 and that they're capable of working throughout the state.
3 Next slide please.

4 Next, and this slides highlights the fact that we
5 have done a tribal R route that's a million dollars that's
6 sole available to the tribe and we allocated across the
7 three types of grants. And I just would highlight that of
8 course the tribes are always eligible to apply for the
9 broader general 27.5 million, but we did want to make sure
10 that at least a million dollars was set aside and carved
11 out for the tribe. And finally, I'll just mention that in
12 terms of next steps, this program would be adopted by a
13 resolution and we're aiming to have that at the April 27th
14 meeting and that we're hoping that the resolution will go
15 out for a public comment late March. And with that I can
16 hand it over to my colleagues. Eric, that ending my
17 comments? Unless you want me to take questions before goes
18 to Eric shall,

19 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Why don't you have Eric answer
20 questions for both?

21 MS. JACKSON: Thank you.

22 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay. Thanks to the next
23 slide. I first want to apologize for those people sitting
24 behind me. I like to face people that I'm talking to. So
25 sorry about that. My name is Eric Sawyer and I am with the

1 public advisors office at the California Public Utilities
2 Commission. We have a couple couple different offices that
3 are called Public Advisor's Office today at the public
4 advisor's office. We, as the name implies, we advise the
5 public and that is handled in a variety of ways, one of
6 which is talking to people about how they can be involved
7 in the various proceedings at the CPUC. We will advise on
8 procedural questions when you're involved in a proceeding
9 and not quite sure about one of the rules. If you have
10 other questions and you're just not sure where to take
11 them, we will also try to answer those questions. And if we
12 don't know how to answer those questions, we will direct
13 you to a person who might be able to do that.

14 At the CPUC, we have lots of different
15 proceedings. We've talked a lot about energy here, but as
16 was mentioned earlier, we cover rail, we cover
17 transportation network companies and so on and so forth.
18 And at the agency we have governor appointed officials, we
19 have attorneys, we have judges, we have analysts,
20 engineers. We have a lot of people and there's a lot of
21 dedicated people who do a lot of work to try to come up
22 with solutions and try to make the best ruling ultimately
23 on the different proceedings. But what we do doesn't just
24 affect CPUC staff. It affects all of us and that's why we
25 need your input. I was thinking about quote from Mr.

1 Rogers. You used to watch him. He said, you are special.
2 You are the only one like you. And I think that's true.
3 Sometimes people when they call our office they think, oh,
4 I'm just one more voice. Nobody's going to listen to him.
5 I'm like, no, you need to give your feedback. We need your
6 input because there's things that you may see that you may
7 be aware of in your community that we may not. Although we
8 do a lot of due diligence and a lot of effort, we do
9 appreciate that feedback. Can I go to the slide?

10 So I want to talk just quickly about how you can
11 do that. The first one was, as Stephanie mentioned, there's
12 a draft resolution that'll be coming out at the end of
13 March. Typically you have a 20 days to make a comment on
14 that. I think we may have 30 on this. I don't know if that
15 has been decided, but if you wanted to review that draft
16 resolution, make comment on that, you can do that. As
17 Commissioner Halk mentioned, you could have a tribal
18 consultation and without becoming a formal party, have your
19 thoughts and your experiences and whatever you would like
20 on the record to go on the formal proceeding.

21 And then there's kind of two avenues with the
22 rest. The of our proceedings, there is a formal route and
23 an informal route. I'll start with the informal route. The
24 informal route is you can submit comments by email, you can
25 submit comments online by mail. We take them in our office

1 and we make them available to the decision makers. There's
2 also other times in which you can make your voice heard. We
3 have Commissioner voting meetings typically twice a month.
4 Those are remote. So you can call in, doesn't matter where
5 you live, you can call in and you can speak straight to our
6 decision makers here in our agency. They're also public
7 participation hearings that we hold. So for instance, if
8 utility company wanted to increase their rates in a
9 particular area, we may hold a public hearing that is not
10 meant for the parties, that's meant for members of the
11 public to come and give their input on the formal route.

12 You don't have to be an attorney to do it, but it
13 is involved. And we have rules that are set forth that have
14 the guidelines for how you can become a party. But if there
15 is a particular proceeding that's not even necessarily
16 tribal related that you wanted to be involved with, you can
17 be involved with any of those and you can file for party
18 status. And when you're a party you have rights, but you
19 also have obligations and responsibilities. So you have
20 just kind of more of a seat at the table in that way. But
21 as was mentioned earlier, the consultation can be a great
22 outlet for tribes who don't wish to do the full party party
23 status route.

24 If you want to get information about what we do,
25 we have a docket card, which is our case file system that

1 has applications, that has documents pertaining to
2 whichever proceeding the tribal order. Instituting.
3 Rulemaking is one that may be of interest to you here. We
4 also have service list. So if you don't want to become a
5 formal party, but you want to receive all the documents
6 that are served in particular proceedings, you can actually
7 be added as an information only, not party, but person on
8 the list. And you can get updates there. You can also,
9 excuse me, you can also subscribe to the various
10 proceedings if that is of interest to you and just get
11 ongoing updates. In closing, I just wanted to share one
12 more quote with you from I think one of four masterpieces
13 that Kenny Ortega directed. It was a movie called Newsies
14 back in 1992.

15 And in it Brian Benson, he's a news reporter. I
16 think he's trying to give a little just a speech to all the
17 newsies. He says this, sometimes all it takes is a voice,
18 one voice that becomes a hundred, then a thousand unless
19 it's silenced. I think too often we silence our own voices
20 by not speaking up. So I'm glad that you are all here today
21 and that you're involved. Some of you are doing a lot of
22 involvement. I think that is a wonderful thing because at
23 the end of the day we can make better decisions when we
24 have more and just good input from all of you. So thank
25 you. Yeah,

1 MS. JACKSON: I'm going to use that voice right.
2 Okay. Okay. This is something that came up last night, but
3 I don't know how this word, so I want everybody, I'm just,
4 I have to say I really do. I wouldn't be myself. Can you
5 put that CPU seal backup so we can talk about that real
6 quick? Yeah. So we passed this monument, monumental
7 resolution, understanding, confirming that what's happened
8 to California tribes through history, how we're going to
9 make that better. And if you look at the CPU C seal, it
10 almost has a Roman person if someone's digging in the
11 ground like a gold miner or min show extraction and then
12 kind of like the invader shift that came, I really don't
13 think that's a representative of the state of California or
14 what you guys should be projecting as a body. I would
15 really like you to be considered cause I don't know how to
16 even submit that as a comment, but if you have any leeway
17 or me, and I was kind of a joke last night, but it's not a
18 joke and I've just been thinking about it and I would be
19 remiss if I didn't bring it up in this platform.

20 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: No, thank you for that. No,
21 and that is the type of public comment we want to receive.
22 It doesn't always necessarily have to do with a specific
23 proceeding. There are other comments that we received that
24 are not in relationship to a rulemaking and that is
25 something that we can look into. I don't know the history

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1 of the seal if that's connected to the state seal. So it
2 might even be above. I looked it up and then on top of all
3 that was actually developed by officer the Civil War. So
4 thank you. I will take that up. Thank you though. Anything
5 else? Okay, thanks. Any other? Thank you. Let's give around
6 close. We're good.

7 MS. JACKSON: Any other questions or comments on
8 any advice you're going to see?

9 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you so much for that
10 presentation. Stephanie and Eric, just a comment to
11 Stephanie as you are thinking about the program design on
12 the 30 million, the governor proposed about 8 million this
13 year for the CEC to do similar work, which is incremental
14 to that. I think it would be really helpful to figure out
15 how we leverage the funding and ensure that we have, I mean
16 I know you're already thinking about it, but I just wanted
17 to make sure that our team is integrating with you on the
18 thinking, I think. Okay, awesome. Thank you so much. Well
19 terrific. At this time we will move to sort of closing
20 comments and reflections. I just want to thank everybody
21 for an incredibly fruitful, rich day of exchange and some
22 new beginnings, new relationships forming and just great to
23 be here. Especially want to thank poll Humboldt for hosting
24 us in this beautiful space, the Native American forum. We
25 will be back. But I would just welcome any closing comment

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1 that yes, we just kind of need to go around the circle if
2 you want to begin.

3 MS. JACKSON: So I just wanted to clarify that
4 this is the first tribal (inaudible) meeting that's ever
5 happened with these bodies. And I would hope that this
6 platform and this opportunity would continue. I think
7 there's great value in being in person with somebody and I
8 know the last couple years we haven't been able to do that.
9 But to hear some of your expertise and where you're from
10 and getting to know the people I think really adds value
11 and strengthens those relationships. So when you're
12 emailing, you understand, oh, they're coming from the north
13 region, this is kind of their things that they deal with. I
14 just wanted to express the opportunity and pleasure it is
15 and to provide comments. Every tribe is structured
16 differently. I look forward to working on energy resiliency
17 projects, broadband water, what have you, and doing the
18 work and being that strong partner and hopefully affecting
19 some of the changes and shaping of how these go. So I
20 appreciate the forum, I appreciate everybody here and all
21 your work and I think that we're going to see some great
22 things here. California. Thank you. There we go. Thank you.
23 I'm speaking for council member Ramos who had to leave for
24 an education meeting. And so if there is anything more
25 important than energy and broadband, it's education. And so

1 he sends his apologies for having to leave early. I have
2 two comments to make. One is that we think that this is the
3 first time that the phrase tribal energy sovereignty has
4 ever been embedded in a piece of written public policy
5 outside of the tribal nation.

6 So when we thank you all for your thought
7 leadership, it it's, it's really bottom list. The phrase
8 that keeps coming up today is healing through movement and
9 healing through action as Commissioner Monahan said. And I
10 think we have ample evidence of that today. And council
11 Member Ramos wanted to say heartfelt thanks for the
12 leadership on the coordination and the tribal state
13 partnership around the grip program. These actions are real
14 and it's not often in our lifetimes that we get to gather
15 at a moment in time and understand that we are changing
16 things for the next seven generations. And this is one of
17 those moments. And I thank you all and on behalf of the
18 Bullock Rancheria tribe council member Jason Ramos, chair
19 Claudia Brandeen and Vice Chair Arla Ramsey. Thank you so
20 much

21 MR. JACOBSON:

22 All well, I'm looking at the agenda. It looks
23 like we got an hour and a half scheduled for this.

24 I listen, you guys have listened to me today. I
25 have and we probably many people have been upset, have been

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1 enraged, been hurt and all of the other things that can
2 think about when it comes to matters under the purview of
3 the uc and the c c. But today I shed a tear and that's
4 never happened on an energy issue for me before. And so
5 again, I just want to thank all of you who put in the
6 effort and the time to put this resolution together and the
7 whole Bon Tim Wavy will commit and has committed to
8 participating in assisting however we can, maybe we do the
9 next on VNC down south. So thank you all very much. I
10 appreciate all of you.

11 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Again, thank you for your
12 leadership. Thank you CPUC Commissioners. Thank you,
13 President Reynolds. Thank you. Thank you to the
14 Commissioners of the CPUC, you guys as a whole. There's 10
15 of you. Speaks volumes. I got the message. I like that
16 message of what we're trying to do here. Again, whether
17 it's an application, whether it's a resolution, whether
18 it's a document, there's always a story behind indigenous
19 people of where we've come from and how far we have come
20 and still how long yet we have to go. And again is that's
21 what you'll get with indigenous people. Again, I'll just
22 speak for (inuaidlbe), it's not an application, not a
23 project. As I said that many times, and I'll keep saying
24 it's more than that, you have the opportunity to we us
25 talking about California to set the stage, to set the

1 example of what we have done. You heard councilman require
2 who first came in, talk about turn back the clock.

3 Look what we were talking about here today. We're
4 not going to write the wrongs in one day or one week, one
5 month, one year. But again, this is what it looks like to
6 partner in the same room and to make change. And again, as
7 I support that, remember today when you go home, got one
8 more day, it's a beautiful day tomorrow, you got one more
9 day, go home. I've heard the things, what's next? That's
10 what things that we could do for us. Co-management,
11 partnership, funding, change the system. That's what we're
12 doing here today with that resolution. You're sending a
13 message no more. I got it, I see it. I see the weight in
14 this room, I see the volume in there. And again as a all
15 elected officials saying no more in a balanced way, in a
16 good way for all of us in California, not in indigenous,
17 not just people.

18 All of us have that opportunity. And that's what
19 we're doing here today. That's what I feel what I bring my
20 heart and wife's chair you mentioned talk about heart. I go
21 that's the only way we operate brother. And it's a good
22 feeling to bring everybody together. Cause I times have
23 changed and we're moving. And again, and I'll go back to
24 almost done here, Ian, when we're talking about utilities,
25 our people coming here, the opportunity to create that

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1 ordinance, that policy, that direction, let's get passed
2 consultation. We know we're doing that. And now we're
3 talking about partnership co-management at the table in the
4 room. And so with that chairman, thank you. That's all I
5 have to say.

6 MS. JACKSON: My appreciation to the tribal
7 leaders and to Cal Poly and CPUC, California Energy
8 Commission, everyone that put their energy here and yeah,
9 it's just nice to be a part of this process and to
10 understand the offerings you have for tribal nations in
11 California. Our office also wants to continue the dialogue
12 with tribal nations that are here in California and still
13 the, there's so much more that would love to share coming
14 from the Department of Energy and all the opportunities. We
15 actually have a formula grant I didn't mention, but it's
16 about 20 close to 29 million for tribes through the grid
17 resiliency 4 0 1 0 1 d. I know that's sort of, but that's
18 what I need to mention. But I did the calculation and it's
19 about 29 million. So would love to figure out strategy and
20 working with tribes and how to take advantage of that
21 because I heard a lot of unreliable power today.

22 But also just recognizing the wisdom again. And
23 I've been doing climate work for many years and indigenous
24 peoples hold 80% of the biodiversity globally. And that's
25 something when we talk about climate and greenhouse gas

1 emissions, there needs to be this unique partnership and
2 investment in tribal, the tribalism and caretaking of land.
3 And so this is something that is globally known and I think
4 if we are really wanting to take tackle climate change, we
5 have to do more investment. And so this is something I
6 always bring to the table too, is at the federal level is
7 that there needs to be more investment for tribal nations.
8 So I'm just really again honored to sit next to all of you
9 and want to be in partnership. So thank you.

10 And just continuing on the thanks, huge
11 appreciation. The tribal leaders who join us today, I know
12 you all have very busy schedules and to spend a whole day
13 today with us to really think about all of these complex
14 issues and really showing your commitment to being
15 collaborative partners. I just really appreciate your all's
16 time and energy that you have spent not only just today but
17 all of the work leading up today, the wado and thank you. I
18 also wanted to express my thanks to all the Commissioners
19 who are here today, hearing all of your remarks and
20 comments throughout the presentations and supporting the
21 staff and understanding these investments and really do see
22 your all's commitment to action and to really seeing that
23 the tribal affairs policies that you all have adopted, the
24 governors adopted and that's we are all pursuing here at
25 the agency. I see your all's commitment and wanting that

1 action to move forward. And so just really appreciate your
2 all's time in doing that.

3 And I think I just want to also a huge
4 appreciation and thanks to the staff who prepared today's
5 agenda in the presentation and walking us through all of
6 the funding opportunities that are available. Something
7 that I learned when joining on the state side is like, oh,
8 that's how the state implements our policies is through
9 these funding programs. It's through building programs that
10 actually support tribal priorities and get the projects on
11 the ground. And I know I'm in the working on my own grant
12 program right now. I know how much work it takes to build
13 up those programs and get the money out the door. And so I
14 just want to say huge wado and think to the staff who are
15 doing that work and making sure that we meet that
16 commitment to partner with tribes and actually get our
17 policies on the ground and working to address the
18 historical wrongs that I think the state that we represent
19 has committed. And so that's the hard work and just full
20 heart and deep appreciation for everyone's time and energy
21 spent today.

22 Thank you as well too. All of the agencies that
23 help put this together and to all the tribal leaders for
24 all the time, it's really just an honor to be here, part of
25 the Biden administration where we have not just support but

1 direction from the president to do this work. And it's an
2 incredible privilege to have some discretion over this
3 funding to make sure we do it. And I look forward to the
4 next conversation with each of you individually and as a
5 coalition. And I'll just make my one final plug for the
6 north coast to come together with some proposals so we can
7 be more competitive for that funding. Thank you.

8 So I'll say that it's been exciting, thrilling,
9 just moving to be a new Commissioner and being part of this
10 is one of my first major activities and it just means so
11 much to be here with leaders, leaders from tribal nations,
12 federal leaders, state leaders and local government leaders
13 as well. And that's the type of connections we need to be
14 making to move these things forward. So I'm just so
15 grateful to be able to be here and do that and commit to
16 that work with all of you. I also want to say that this
17 work is heart work. That's my favorite type of work. It can
18 be very challenging, but it is worth the investment and it
19 makes it so much easier to be able to do our data
20 collection analysis and forecasting all that nerdy stuff
21 when we are able to do this. So it's a great balance to
22 have.

23 I also want to mention vice chair calling us out,
24 having another blanc in Southern California. I would love
25 to take you up on that. The partner, I'm going to be

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1 overseeing a LI or Lithium Valley effort to create an
2 economic engine there. So I feel like it'd be a great
3 opportunity to be able to do something in that area or
4 other area in southern California. And then just lastly, I
5 want to say that last time I was here I had a privilege of
6 going on the Climate River and I was able and authorized to
7 take a rock with me and I have that rock sitting at my desk
8 and when I do work and things get hard, I look at that rock
9 and in the special moments I had here my first visit and
10 now it's the second visit. And especially having those
11 Willow Creek moments, I will never forget this though.
12 Again, thank you everybody, especially those of you in the
13 audience who have been patient and engaging, I really
14 appreciate you as well.

15 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Well thank you for not showing
16 that rock at me when you get frustrated. No, thank you all
17 for a beautiful day. I also feel a lot of seed planting
18 happening and I wanted to just share one person who's not
19 with us in person but very much is in spirit as Secretary
20 Wade Crowfoot of the Natural Resources Agency, which is our
21 mothership agency. And we borrowed a phrase from him, I
22 don't know, a year or two ago, he sign off his note to me,
23 say one team, one dream. I really love that we, that's kind
24 of become a thing at the Energy Commission signing off on
25 that. And it's true. I mean we really are all one big team

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1 and we need to celebrate each other's successes. Best, Mr.
2 Chairman, everybody's success and LE as the same. Dan I
3 think lifted each other. I did have one challenge I want to
4 throw out to the tribal leaders and to this institution,
5 the shop center, which is public agencies are only as good
6 as the people in them and we need your top talent. We're
7 hiring at the Energy Commission, 220 people right now. Drew
8 Bowen, our executive director. Raise your hand, talk to
9 him. President Res, I don't know how many opening you have
10 a lot of openings as well, but the Hey, I was first. Okay,
11 easy.

12 No, but it's really true for all of agencies and
13 I think public service now, we're in a moment where you can
14 really make big things happen If you were excited about
15 some of the presentations from staff, that's because we
16 have amazing staff and we're always looking for not just
17 talent, but talent with fire in the belly for this vision.
18 I mean, that's who we want and that's making things happen.
19 So please help us with that and we'll do a better job of
20 sharing opportunities that get them out. But we need your
21 best to help. And by the way, with remote work, it's now
22 possible to work remotely. This is a new thing just in the
23 last year. So anyway, thank you for all being here.

24 We're all under pressure to say something
25 meaningful. What a blessing today has been for me. It's

1 really, really meaningful on a number of levels. And I
2 think just echoing some of the comments, we are, California
3 are fourth largest economy in the world. We have this
4 incredible diversity. There is just an unbelievable
5 strength to learn how to do things and learn from each
6 other and come together like today and figure out how to
7 chart a path forward and do difficult things, but totally
8 possible things. And with the urgency that we've all been,
9 I think feeling through the course of the day. And one
10 thing I would be, can't neglect, I would be remiss if I
11 didn't mention the work that we're doing at the Commission
12 to build a program for equitable building decarbonization.
13 And so we're going to have a state roughly about 800
14 million and another 500 or so from the federal government
15 ira, so upwards of a billion dollars over the next four or
16 five years to invest in buildings that de pumps.

17 And we've been talking about some of the
18 technologies, but the Clean Electric feature is California
19 Decarbonization Path. And so we are going to start with
20 communities in the most need. And so we are, we're
21 discussing and we've done one workshop, but we're going to
22 really workshop the program design, but we're discussing
23 having a dedicated program for tribes and having a track
24 really in parallel with the rest of the state that just
25 adapt to all the uniqueness that we've heard today and

1 really works in partnership. And so more to come on that
2 we'll be looking through Katrina and our team in the
3 efficiency division in the Brady Division. So heads up on
4 that. I'm super excited about it. And a billion dollars
5 sounds like a lot, but we know we need a couple orders of
6 magnitude more than that to really get to the buildings
7 over the next few decades, three decades. And so it really
8 is a construction project that we're just beginning to lay
9 the first pieces of the foundation. So we've got to make it
10 a success. A lot of urgency. So I'm definitely carrying
11 that baton for that baton forward and look forward to
12 partnering with everyone on that.

13 Just repeating a few words, collaboration,
14 partnership, and those mean a lot. I think as a theme of
15 hearts, just empathy and respect for one another allows us
16 to work together and make our, bring our whole humanity to
17 this proc to project because that's what it's going to
18 take. We have to really live this and on our end we have to
19 be accountable. We have to show results. We all have to
20 measure those results. We've really got to put up here. And
21 so I think all of us, I certainly am feeling that
22 responsibility and a lot of optimism after today. So we're
23 building a better future for all of our kids and all of our
24 future generations. And then we're all in this great
25 wonderful state together. So we've, we're all in the same

1 boat, so we want it to float and go forward it. So anyway,
2 thanks for a wonderful day and look forward to tomorrow.

3 MS. JACKSON: Well, I want to start by saying it's
4 just been wonderful to get to know you personally. The
5 dinner last night was really fun, but also I was thinking
6 just today, Lina, you've really highlighted the fact that
7 the CPUC needs a new logo. Well, we take nothing else from
8 today. There's that. And Janet, I just feel like you have
9 been an inspiration for so many of us and yesterday seeing
10 the MicroG hearing you talk about it, talk hearing, you
11 talk about the four lives that were saved through a psp
12 because of the microgrid, your passion and all you're doing
13 is just inspirational, deeply inspirational, I think, not
14 to me, but many people at the energy agencies feel the same
15 way and apparently says too.

16 And I want to say if I share the comment you made
17 about, it's not the last mile, it's the last 17 miles. I'm
18 going to use that one. I'm going to quote you for a long
19 time because I think we can use that for a lot of
20 situations where we think it's, it's so much bigger than
21 just this one little thing and thinking about all the chain
22 of effect. It was just really appreciated hearing and I
23 hope we have more time to be together. And Chairman James,
24 you're the reason we're all here, which that was a great
25 story from the chair. Just the fact that you have been such

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1 an inspiration on so many different levels, personally,
2 emotionally, your ability to tell stories and to bring
3 people in and to welcome a larger community is just
4 beautiful. So thank you. And I want to say I've been at the
5 CEC four years, the first time that we have all had every
6 CPUC Commissioner together, let alone sister agencies, let
7 alone the federal government. And so it's just kind of
8 amazing to me that this is what brought us all together and
9 I think it's this idea of the heart coming together with
10 the work that we do on a day by day basis. So look forward
11 to continuing this dialogue, to putting words into action
12 and really to making a difference.

13 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: I was saying I really like to
14 go after her and I usually say I second that. By the way, I
15 was writing her comments right here. So I wanted to just
16 again say what a privilege it is. I mean, I tried to be
17 vulnerable this morning. I grew up half the planet on the
18 other side of the world. And to be here in this incredible
19 profound moment is such a blessing and privilege and I just
20 want to honor that as both sacred auspicious and thank you.
21 Thank you for having me be part of this team, having me be
22 at the table to listen and be able to, in the little power
23 of influence that has been given to me to move this in the
24 right direction. So I want to elevate chair your comments
25 on, you know, just call me brother. That means a lot to me.

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1 The word brother is very serious in my community.
2 So now that you call me brother, you better take care of
3 me. It comes both ways. So I accept, acknowledge and I love
4 that you call that. And I also want to elevate Javier, he
5 called me brother too last night. And since Egypt, he's
6 been calling me that and just love the emotion. And he also
7 taught me last night that if I'm offered food here and I
8 did not accept it, I have to wash the dishes up. It didn't
9 teach me that. So I am going to, I want to just raise a
10 couple things. The word that we used, we here today a lot
11 and member of you commented on the opportunity to healing
12 through action healing, through heart healing, through
13 kindness. I have a six year old and a three year old moving
14 onto seven and four.

15 What an amazing time. They're living through an
16 opportunity to be a part of a more welcoming, healed world.
17 So I just so happy for them that they, they're able to
18 potentially go into a world that we all dream of. I want to
19 close by saying in India we say the three important words
20 we are taught when you go to school in sank, and I'm going
21 to just repeat. It means mother is divine, mother is God.
22 [inaudible] means father is divine, father is God. And
23 [inaudible] means teachers are divine teachers of God. So
24 for us to be able, for us to not consider the wisdom of our
25 ancestors, consider the wisdom of eons of light here. And I

1 think it's an absolute disrespect and I wish that we all
2 move with that spirit of our elders, our collective elders,
3 our collective treasure, our collective features that we
4 move forward with. So with that, thank you again. I wish to
5 come back. I, I'm going to apply for an internship under
6 Michael, he said because I'm untested, it's going to be
7 unpaid. So I I'll take that. Thank you. Thank you.

8 MS. JACKSON: It really is truly an honor and a
9 privilege to be here today and to spend the day together.
10 As I think back on just the day, we have had a lot of
11 emotion, both I think sorrow as well as hope for the
12 future. We've had laughter doesn't be nice. We've had
13 frustration, heard frustration and also heard areas to
14 follow up on, which I think is important too that we don't
15 get those areas that we continue need to continue to talk
16 about. I think it is hard to follow sva, but to some SVA
17 mentioned, I think kind of the legacy that we're leaving
18 and the children that come are being raised and in the
19 world today and will come after us. And it does make me
20 think also on a personal note too, it's just getting to
21 know each other a little bit about just my own children
22 also and the world that they'll grow up in. And it just
23 makes me think about their ancestors and not on my side of
24 my husband's side as descendants of indigenous people in
25 New Mexico. And just think about that a little bit more and

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1 think about everyone's children and the world that they'll
2 be living in. On the the CPU C seal, we don't have a fancy
3 splashy seal, like the Energy Commission. We use the state
4 of California seal. And so I believe that symbols are
5 critically important and we'll take a look at it. But the
6 warrior is a woman warrior, it's Athena.

7 So I want to learn a little bit more about the
8 state deal and maybe we can design our own, but for now
9 we're using the state one. So just to recognize where that
10 came from. We're hiring too. I promised our director of our
11 energy division that I would mention it absolutely our
12 hiring. So for anyone who knows anyone coming in even we
13 can learn, you can learn. If it's a person who's just get
14 wanting to get into the energy world, please reach out,
15 please, we can get our information out about job opening, a
16 new applicant. So thank you. Thank you everyone.

17 Thank you everyone. Well my heart is really full
18 and I want to thank the tribes for your dental hospitality
19 and the gracious welcome. And I've had several moments
20 during these past two days of education and learning and
21 it's only through the courage of travel that I've had that
22 including the conversation with Lena last night about the
23 California seal and how these things can perpetuate the
24 pain with the ships showing the invaders that Jesus erect
25 havoc in genocide on the tribal people in California. And I

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1 really appreciated the spirit of innovation partnership of
2 synergies of the viewpoint that reaching out for shared
3 prosperity for mutual benefits, which is again so generous
4 just given the experience of the tribes here in California
5 and appreciated from the corrupt tribe that paused gave us
6 this word. I hope I'm pronouncing it correctly, which means
7 fix it. And that's what we need to do.

8 So I'm anxious to see the program that we have
9 been talking about today come to fruition to actually see a
10 construction hose lines wired, brick and mortar smart
11 devices, whatever they are, the shock center role will
12 inform on and JPO and the MIT and so forth. And I shared
13 that I was born in Lodi last night. We were also talked
14 about how each of us have been shaped by our family
15 experiences, our childhoods, our grandmothers, our mothers.
16 And I certainly have, when I was born, my parents who were
17 a farm worker family took me back home to a barn which had
18 two wounds in this barn. It had, did have electricity, no
19 telephone, it had a prop stove and outdoor plumbing. And I
20 can't even remember that experience of both poverty,
21 poverty and wide open spaces too. I'm looking down the road
22 and seeing ACAP Sierra and thinking about maybe I'll get
23 there some days.

24 And then growing up along the highway 99 and
25 hearing the semi trucks thinking some of them I'm going to

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1 get the Sacramento. And indeed I did. So all the more it
2 was community, it was government at the time that gave kids
3 like me a omega, a chance all them more, I guess let's get
4 that brick and mortar into the ground. Let's leave work
5 together to bring a fruition. And as we've gone through
6 various calamities, wildfires, rolling blackouts, what have
7 you, I have really thought if the tribes who are going to
8 really be being the solution and be the vision for the rest
9 of California. So I really look forward to working with you
10 and I thank you for the to be with you today. Thank you.

11 Thank you. And I'm truly honored to be here
12 today. And I think this meeting with the state energy
13 agencies and tribal leadership, especially here in the
14 North coast where energy development has caused so much
15 harm by the taking of land and impacts to the rivers is
16 really timely and historic given these dams are coming down
17 this year and we're having this bonk now to tear down dams
18 and build partnerships on clean energy with the tribes, I
19 think is just so important and so telling and it just shows
20 how far I think the state has come just even in a few short
21 years. I remember before coming back to the state, being in
22 private practice representing a tribe in front of the
23 Public Utilities Commission and being told that the Public
24 Utilities Commission doesn't have to consult with tribes.
25 We're a constitutional agency, we don't need to follow the

1 governor's executive.

2 And just in a few short years with leadership
3 changes and it's not staff, staff at the energy at the PUC
4 are very committed, very smart, but they're looking at
5 rates and numbers and they're used to setting rules and
6 then telling the utilities what to do and then regulating
7 the utilities and not thinking outside that box. And I
8 think starting with Catherine Sandoval coming on and coming
9 up and visiting here in the north coast, it opened a huge
10 door. And with Leon Randolph and the work that she has done
11 with tribes and her and Cliff being adamant about needing a
12 tribal consultation policy that was adopted by the
13 Commission and Martha coming on board and being insistent
14 on outreach to communities and the fact that we're having
15 this clean energy transition and we can't do it and leave
16 vulnerable communities behind communities that already are
17 facing unreliable energy.

18 We just can't do this transition without reaching
19 out and partnering with tribes and our vulnerable
20 communities. And just the change in leadership that we're
21 seeing here at this table I think has made a tremendous
22 difference. And I know each and every one of my colleagues
23 here is committed to our environmental social justice
24 plans, to our tribal consultation policies and to really
25 looking at how we can move forward with real action and

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1 seeing the discussions that we're having here results in
2 results on the ground that are going to hopefully improve
3 and ensure that we do meet our clean energy goals and do it
4 all together.

5 MR. JACOBSON: Well it's an honor and it's
6 humbling to spend today with everyone here as well as
7 everyone with us. Thank you to the tribal leaders who've
8 been us today, thank you to our sister agency, the C thank
9 you to my colleagues on the PUC as well as the federal
10 agencies who've joined us today. I think that we can really
11 look at today as an important step that really builds upon
12 the work that so many people, including a lot of people in
13 this room have done to persistently work to build a bridge.
14 And I'm humbled to have a chance to walk on the bridge
15 that's been built by those before us and have a chance to
16 really institutionalize the work that we do as agencies to
17 partner and collaborate with tribes to meet really the
18 shared needs and values that we have. I think we all
19 recognize that broadband and energy are engines that
20 provide opportunities for economic development and that
21 they provide services to the people that we all represent
22 and when deliver those services affordably and reliably, it
23 really unlocks tremendous potential in our communities. I
24 look forward to continuing to do that work and umm,
25 grateful to be here with you all. Thank you for sharing

1 your communities and look forward to continue.

2 MS. JACKSON: I guess I close or the last one I
3 want to join in the thank and thank you to the tribal
4 leaders participating with us today. And also thank you for
5 partnership over the years and your commitment to staying
6 at the table with us in the future. It's been a long road
7 and it is a long road ahead and I think we all know that.
8 And as we move forward in representing the state with our
9 leadership climate commitment and the renewable energy and
10 clean energy commitment that comes with that, but also the
11 commitment to move forward with in a way that elevates and
12 equity as a core part of how we approach these goals. And
13 the commitment also to move forward in a way of partnership
14 with tribal government that recognizes and works with and
15 builds on those sovereignty, the ideas, the expertise, the
16 energy that you can bring to us and to California and to
17 the communities is it's a tremendous opportunity. And it
18 also something that isn't always easy. And so we're very
19 committed and we're very committed to be here with you and
20 to work through this future that we're building together.
21 Again, understanding that we've got a long way to go. We've
22 come a long ways, we've got a long way to go. Really
23 appreciate all of you and my colleagues and our federal
24 partners and Geneva, everyone and everyone who's come
25 together with us today. Thank you.

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1 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Well thank you Commissioner.
2 Thank you everyone. I think it's sitting, we're exiting
3 this period of building walls and dams and entering period
4 of building bridges and microgrids. And before we close, if
5 we could just ask all of the staff who are involved in
6 planning and organizing this agenda today to please stand
7 and the tribal leaders as well. Can we ask you all to
8 please stand? Thank you. Adjourn.

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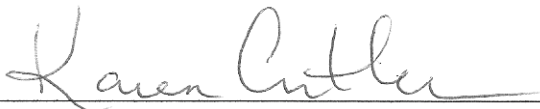
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