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Tribal Government Challenge - Tribal Grant Program & Statewide Gap Analysis

Greetings, Mr. Gates and CEC Tribal Program Managers,

Regarding the Tribal Government Challenge, my comments are based on the presentation (7 slides) delivered on May 14.

1. I endorse the concept and encourage CEC to follow through with both elements of the program.
2. The structure is similar to what the U.S. DOE Tribal program has done for years. I'd suggest referencing the presentation and past awards made by DOE to understand who's already done similar work.
3. As a state entity, please open this to SB 18 state-recognized tribes, and not just limit eligibility to federally-recognized tribes. As long as they can prove themselves to have the need and capacity to otherwise deliver on the project, awarding those tribes helps ensure you're reaching new tribes beyond the federal program.
4. For the gap analysis, to ensure greatest benefit to tribal organizations, please provide preferential scoring for Native-owned and tribally-owned firms who propose to do the work. I'd suggest 25% of the score be for Native/tribal ownership.

I appreciate the opportunity to comment, and look forward to CEC decisions regarding this program.