

Equity for Tribes

CPUC's role in ensuring Tribes are heard, understood, and valued in California's energy transition

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Key objectives and takeaways

- Discuss CPUC's deepening work in learning the goals and priorities of California's sovereign Tribal governments, in our search for solutions
- Offer a high-level overview of present-day Indian Country in California
- ESJ Action Plan and Tribal Consultation Plan as guiding principles for improving Tribal engagement at the CPUC and for tracking our progress

- Achieving environmental and social justice has been a focus for Tribes for a long time, offering invaluable insights to long-term planning
- Processes are being refined at CPUC to ensure ongoing engagement
- We've only just begun, much more progress is needed, the work continues to evolve

Background

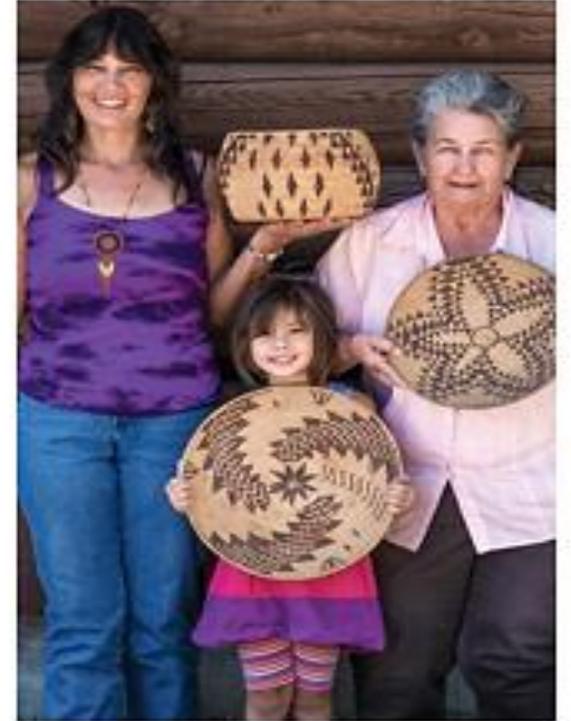
Native American - member of the Maidu and the Pit River Tribes of northern California, descendant of Syntonum of Tasmam Kojom

Prior to current role, worked and volunteered for Tribes and tribal organizations for past 25 years

Was appointed by Governor Newsom as the Tribal Advisor to CPUC in July of 2020.

Serves the CPUC in the Executive Division, supervised by Executive Director Rachel Peterson

Father of three, lives in Davis, CA



State Policies Related to CPUC Consultation Policy

Executive Order B-10-11 (Governor Brown, 2011)

Declares that “the State is committed to strengthening and sustaining effective government-to-government relationships between the State and the Tribes by identifying areas of mutual concern and working to develop partnerships and consensus,” and directs state executive agencies and departments to “encourage communication and consultation with California Indian Tribes.”

AB 52 (Gatto, 2014)

Requires state agencies to develop tribal consultation policies and directs staff to engage in meaningful outreach and engagement

Executive Order N-15-19 (Governor Newsom, 2019)

Reaffirms and incorporates the principles set out in B-10-11. The Executive Order recognizes that the State historically sanctioned for over a century “depredations and prejudicial policies against California Native Americans” and establishes a Truth and Healing Council to be led and convened by the Governor’s Tribal Advisor.

State Policies Related to CPUC Consultation Policy

Statement of Administration Policy- Native American Ancestral Lands (September 25, 2020)

The purpose of the policy is to partner with California tribes to facilitate tribal access, and co-management of State-owned or controlled natural lands and to work cooperatively with California tribes that are interested in acquiring natural lands in excess of State needs, and to act in accordance with the Policy that support such efforts.

Governor Newsom Proposes \$100 Million to Support Tribal-Led Initiatives that Advance Shared Climate and Conservation Goals (March 18, 2022)

The proposed funding would support tribal initiatives that advance shared climate and biodiversity goals including research, development and implementation of traditional knowledge; workforce training, capacity building and technical support; and tribal nature-based climate conservation programs, among others. This investment has led to the creation of the Clean Energy Access Grant Program, set to launch in early September.

Our goals are clear

New Approach to Tribal sovereignty and consultation

Understand how history has led to the current realities faced in Indian Country, and the role utilities have played

Create new pathways to Tribal energy resilience and sustainability through programs that are informed by Tribal Consultation

Ensure that our policies are aligned with State objectives and agency priorities related to equity and justice

Incorporate what we learn from the increasing number our interactions in Tribal communities

Recruit subject matter experts to our agency with lived experience working in Indian Country

Preliminary Tribal OIR Schedule

Improving CPUC's Tribal Policies

Event	Date
Proceeding scoping memo issued	August 2023
First workshop and Tribal Consultation on Commission's Tribal Consultation Policy	September 2023
Staff proposal due for revisions to Commission's Tribal Consultation Policy	December 2023
Opening Comments on Staff Proposal	45 days from the issuance of the Staff Proposal
Reply comments on Staff Proposal	60 days from the issuance of the Staff Proposal
Proposed Decision, expected	2024

CPUC Clean Energy Resources for Tribes

- **Clean Energy Access Grant Program**
 - \$30 million grants program for technical support and planning assistance to Tribes and vulnerable communities seeking to address resiliency needs through long-term planning
- **Community Microgrid Incentive Program**
 - ~\$175 million to fund clean energy microgrids to support the critical needs of vulnerable populations, including Tribal governments, impacted by a grid outages

Blue Lake Microgrid





RESILIENCY AND SAFETY

Blue Lake Rancheria



10K

Californians who still had power during a planned grid outage, thanks to EPIC investments in community microgrids

4

lives saved thanks to emergency power

78

number of minutes the microgrid powered the central command center for fire crews during a wildfire in 2017

3

awards for project excellence

Chemehuevi Microgrid



EPIC Microgrid Projects with CA Native American Tribes



Chemehuevi Indian Tribe	2015	\$2,588,906
Blue Lake Rancheria Tribe	2017	\$1,500,000
Blue Lake Rancheria Tribe	2015	\$4,999,999
Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians	2020	\$1,710,494
Viejas Band of the Kumeyaay Indians	2020	\$1,218,374
Rincon Band of Luiseno Indians	2020	\$7,282,496
The Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians	2020	\$1,998,101
Blue Lake Rancheria Tribe, Pauma Tribe, Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians	2021	\$1,000,000

Total Funding Amount over \$22 Million

CPUC Clean Energy Resources for Tribal Homes

- **Self-Generation Incentive Program (SGIP)**
 - Offers rebates for customer-sited energy storage systems
 - Tribal communities are eligible for the SGIP Non-Residential Equity Resiliency Budget
- **DAC-SASH and SOMAH**
 - Offers incentives for low-income customer-sited solar systems
- **Community Solar Green Tariffs and DAC Green-Tariffs**
 - Offers discounts and power purchasing structures for community solar systems



The work must continue

Continue incorporating what we learn from the interactions we have in Tribal communities

How can once-in-a-generation federal and state investments in energy transmission and distribution networks serve Tribes equitably

Incorporate *Seven Generations* Tribal perspectives on ecological resource stewardship into planning for new sources of energy generation and distribution

EVs are here, we must tackle affordability for Tribes with scarce resources

Generate new opportunities for Tribal enterprises seeking to join and contribute to California's clean energy transition

Grow the ranks of our subject matter experts with lived experience working in Indian Country

Staying connected...

More information about the Commissions Tribal Policies can be found at <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/tribal/>

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