TRIBAL ENERGY & CLIMATE COLLABORATIVE

TRIBAL CLIMATE HEALTH PROJECT

Tribal Energy & Climate Collaborative eXchange (TECC-X)

March 24, 2026

BEGIN MEETING RECORDING

Today's Agenda

Meeting Purpose:

To learn, share, and discuss important climate- and energy-related opportunities and issues affecting California Tribes

- Welcome and Featured Opportunities
- Opportunity Roundtable
- Breakout!
  - TECC - #1: Rights of Way (ROW) and Easements for Tribal Energy Projects
  - TCHP - #2: Tribal Climate Adaptation through Public Health
- Peer-Sharing and Discussion, Closing

Host Introductions

Josh Simmons

Co-Director
Tribal Energy & Climate Collaborative (TECC)

President & Principal Consultant,
Prosper Sustainably LLC

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www.prospersustainably.com

ATTENDEES: Please introduce yourself in the chat (Name and Tribe/Organization)

Host Introductions

Angie Hacker

CEO & Principal Consultant

Prosper Sustainably

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Dr. Shasta Gaughen

Environmental Director

Pala Band of Mission Indians

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ATTENDEES: Please introduce yourself in the chat (Name and Tribe/Organization)

Tribal Energy & Climate Collaborative (TECC)

Capacity Building & Technical Assistance (TA)
Energy and climate TA, grant writing, training, capacity building (Strategic Growth Council Regional Climate Collaborative)

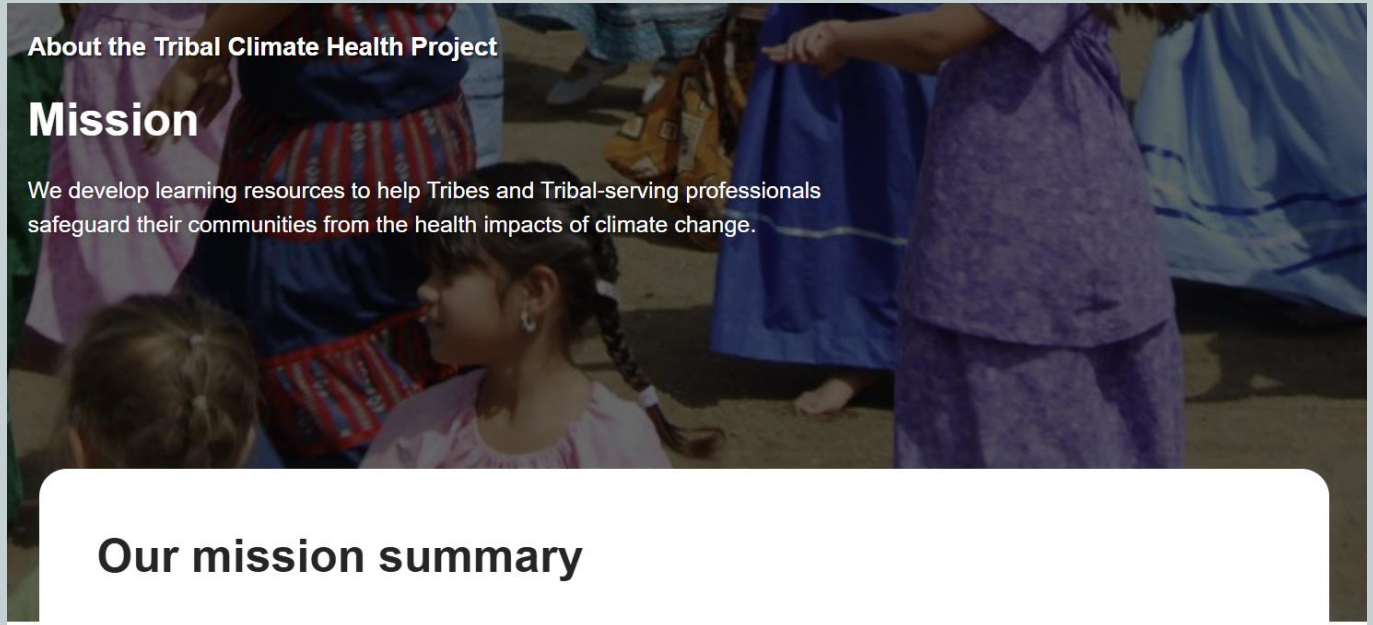
Economic and Workforce Development
Planning, due diligence, and support to accelerate Tribally-led innovative clean energy and climate technologies and ventures

Policy & Regulatory Advocacy
Education, training, and engagement in climate and energy policies, programs, and regulatory proceedings

Identify and advance climate, energy, and related economic and workforce development goals of SCTCA Tribes

TRIBAL CLIMATE HEALTH PROJECT

https://tribalclimatehealth.org



Our mission summary

9 years
Providing capacity-building support to US Tribes

94
Trainings and presentations

9,685+
Views of recorded trainings

About

In 2016, the Pala Band of Mission Indians was awarded a grant from the U.S. EPA under a solicitation called “Building the Capacity of Tribes to Address the Health Impacts of Climate Change.” The grant funded the development and distribution of online trainings, a resource clearinghouse, and other capacity-building tools that help tribal health and environmental professionals across the nation prepare their communities for the public health impacts of climate change. Pala has since been awarded funding from the US Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Tribal Resilience Program and the National Indian Health Board, among others, to expand upon this work..

Pala selected Prosper Sustainably, a consulting firm with extensive Tribal and climate governance experience, to help develop and implement the Tribal Climate Health Project (TCHP). This includes development of curriculum, a resource clearinghouse, and tools and templates that can assist Tribes in assessing their climate and health vulnerabilities and implementing adaptation strategies. Resources offered by the TCHP include this website, online and in-person trainings, and national outreach efforts. The program has provided training to numerous tribal serving professionals. Trainees are invited to participate in continuous engagement through our ongoing learning community.

For additional information about this project, please contact Shasta Gaughen (Pala Environmental Director) or Angie Hacker (Prosper Sustainably).

Opportunity Roundtable

This is an opportunity to share timely funding and other assistance opportunities

Please put any grants, incentives, events or other capacity building opportunities for California Native American Tribes in the chat

Featured Funding Opportunities

Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Funding Round 2 – Opens in April

California Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation

- Community services and physical improvements to protect Californians vulnerable to extreme heat
- Awards $600,000 to $4 million
- Applicants can begin preparing submission materials now

California Resilience Implementation Accelerator Call for Proposals – April 1

Resilient Cities Catalyst, California Forward, and Climate Resolve

- Supports implementation-ready resilience projects and provides targeted funding and coordination support to help advance projects toward implementation.
- Awards $5,000 to $25,000
- Applicants must be a local or regional government, nonprofit or community-based organization, or Tribal government or community.

Featured Funding Opportunities

Endangered Species Conservation and Recovery Grants – April 6

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

- Funding for projects that support the conservation and recovery of federally threatened and endangered inland fish and wildlife species
- Award Amount: $40,000 to $400,000
- All proposals require a CDFW staff lead. Eligible partners include Tribal governments.

Wildfire Smoke Preparedness in Community Buildings Grants – April 15

U.S. EPA

- Wildfire smoke hazards assessment, prevention, control, abatement in community buildings
- Awards $350,000 to $2.5 million
- Federally recognized Tribes, public and private nonprofits eligible

Featured Funding Opportunities

2026 Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Grants – April 15 for Step 1 and Escrow Ready Applications

California Natural Resources Agency

- Funding to advance land acquisition with multi-benefit nature-based solutions projects
- Ancestral Land Return grants are $1 million minimum
- Escrow Ready Grants are up to $9.2 million
- California Native American Tribes and Tribally-led entities eligible

2026 Fisheries Restoration Grants – April 16

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

- Projects to enhance or protect salmon and steelhead habitat
- Proposals over $2 million must submit a concept proposal by March 2
- California Native American Tribes and nonprofit organizations are eligible

Featured Funding Opportunities

Food Justice for Kids Prize – April 28

Newman's Own Foundation

- Funding for children to access, learn about, and engage with nutritious, culturally relevant food
- Up to $100,000
- Federally recognized Tribes, Indian Tribal governments, public schools, and nonprofits eligible

Modeling and Monitoring Air Quality and Co-Benefits of Energy Interventions Funding – April 30

California Energy Commission

- Funding research and development projects that inform a transition to equitable, climate-resilient zero-carbon energy system
- Award Amount: $2.9 million to $3 million
- Native American Tribes, Tribal Organizations, and Public or Private entities eligible

Featured Funding Opportunities

Next-Generation Geothermal Field Tests and Geothermal Resource Characterization and Confirmation – April 30

The Department of Energy's Office of Geothermal

- Supports next-generation geothermal field tests and drilling for next-generation and conventional hydrothermal resources
- $4 million to $25 million dependent upon project area
- State and local governmental entities, and Native American Tribes eligible

Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) Round 10 – May 4

Strategic Growth Council

- Funding for housing and transportation near jobs and key destinations
- Technical Assistance available now
- Minimum award for Tribal Entities is $1 million

Featured Funding Opportunities

Business and Workforce Development Grants – May 20

CAL FIRE

- Supports forest fuels management by expanding capacities of businesses that remove and utilize forest fuels, fire reintroduction, and reforestation of degraded forests, and further the purposes of AB 32 and related goals
- Award Amount: $10,000 to $3 million

2025 HOME Projects Loans or Grants – Tribal Applicants – June 22

California Department of Housing and Community Development

- Loans and grant funding for transition to electric vehicles
- Awards: $8 million for Rental Projects: New Construction or Rehabilitation; $2 million for First-Time Homebuyer (FTHB) Projects
- Multifamily and FTHB Application Workbooks available

Featured Funding Opportunities

Power Your Drive for Fleets – July 2026

San Diego Gas & Electric

- Funding to transition to electric vehicles
- SDG&E fleet service owners/operators in eligible service territory
- Resources, charging rates, and infrastructure incentives
- Tribal entities are specifically recommended for "Option 2" installation
- Rebates up to $75,000 per charger

Water Finance Exchange Pre-development Funding – Ongoing

Water Finance Exchange (WFX)

- Pre-development capital to catalyze project success or mitigate a barrier to progress
- Up to $250,000
- WFX supports small, rural, and underserved communities

Featured Funding Opportunities

California Forest Improvement Funding – Ongoing

CAL FIRE

- Reimbursement program
- Landowners with 20 to 5,000 acres of forestland eligible
- Encourages private and public investment in California forest lands and resources

Other funding opportunities? Please share in the chat!

Forecast Funding

CAL FIRE's Tribal Wildfire Resilience Grants
Expected Early 2026

TechWerx's Building Access to Tribal Energy Resilience (BAxTER) Funding
Expected Soon

SGC's Community Resilience Centers (CRC) Grants Round 2
Expected Spring 2026

SGC's Tribal Capacity Building Program Round 2
Expected May 2026

SGC's Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) Grants Round 6
Expected Spring/Summer 2026

Featured Events

Caring for Our Relatives Technical Assistance Program: Project Scoping
ITEP Tribes & Climate Change Program
March 25 at 10 am

2026 Tribal Community Resilience Webinar Series: Resilient Infrastructure
American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC)
April 2 at 12 pm

Tribal Meeting on FERC Order No. 1920 and Long-Term Transmission Planning
California ISO (CAISO)
April 9 at 1 pm

California Climate Policy Summit 2026
The Climate Center
April 13 in person at the Sheraton Grand Sacramento Hotel

Featured Events

U.S. Indigenous Data Sovereignty & Governance Summit 2026
U.S. Indigenous Data Sovereignty Network
April 14 – 17 in Tucson, AZ

Summit on Tribal Energy Enterprise and Workforce Development
The California Energy Commission (CEC)
April 23 – 24 at the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation's Cache Creek Casino in Brooks, CA

ACT Expo: The Largest Fleet Technology Conference and Expo
May 4 – 7 at Las Vegas Convention Center, NV

2026 CA Tribal Leaders Energy & Safety Summit
Southern California Edison, Pacific Gas & Electric, San Diego Gas & Electric, Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians
May 18 – 22 at Viejas Casino & Resort

Featured Events

Second Annual California Native American GIS Summit
California Tribal GIS
May 21 – 22 at the University of Redlands

17th Annual California Climate and Energy Collaborative Forum
California Climate and Energy Collaborative
June 24 – 25 at the Los Angeles Hilton

2026 National Tribal Health Conference (NTHC)
National Indian Health Board
August 17 – 21 at the Sheraton Grand in Phoenix, AZ

Other upcoming events? Please share in the chat!

Featured Input Opportunities

Ashes to Action: California Climate and Community-Building Survey

Sacred Places Institute for Indigenous Peoples

Deadline: March 31

- Statewide community-building research project to understand the impacts of climate change and extractive industries on California Tribal Nations & Peoples
- Research centers the lived experiences of workers, families, and communities most impacted by climate change

Tribal Housing Pre-Development Fund Draft Program Guidelines

Strategic Growth Council

Comments Due: April 6

- Will fund activities related to affordable housing development
- Maximum award $3 million
- Please send comments, questions or feedback to Tribalinfo@sgc.ca.gov

Featured Input Opportunities

Tribal Capacity Building Program Round 2 Draft Guidelines

Strategic Growth Council

Comments Due: April 6

- Funding and technical assistance to advance Tribes' climate- and housing-related work
- Individual awards $350,000 to $420,000
- Please send comments, questions or feedback to Tribalinfo@sgc.ca.gov

Extreme Heat Action Plan Input Sessions

California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA)

- Comments Due: April 8
- Updated draft of the Extreme Heat Action Plan last updated in April 2022
- Upcoming public input sessions will be held in-person
- Alternatively, feedback can be e-mailed to icarp@lci.ca.gov and climateresilience@resources.ca.gov

Let's Breakout!

Tribal Energy & Climate Collaborative (TECC)

Featured Topic: *Rights of Way (ROW) and Easements for Tribal Energy Projects*

Agenda:

- Introductions
- Roundtable Announcements
- Expert-led Discussion:
  - Karen Woodward, Realty Administrator, Morongo Band of Mission Indians
- Q&A

Stay Here

Tribal Climate Health Project (TCHP)

Training: Climate Resilience in a changing world

Featured Topic: *Tribal Climate Adaptation through Public Health*

****Tribal representatives only please***

Agenda:

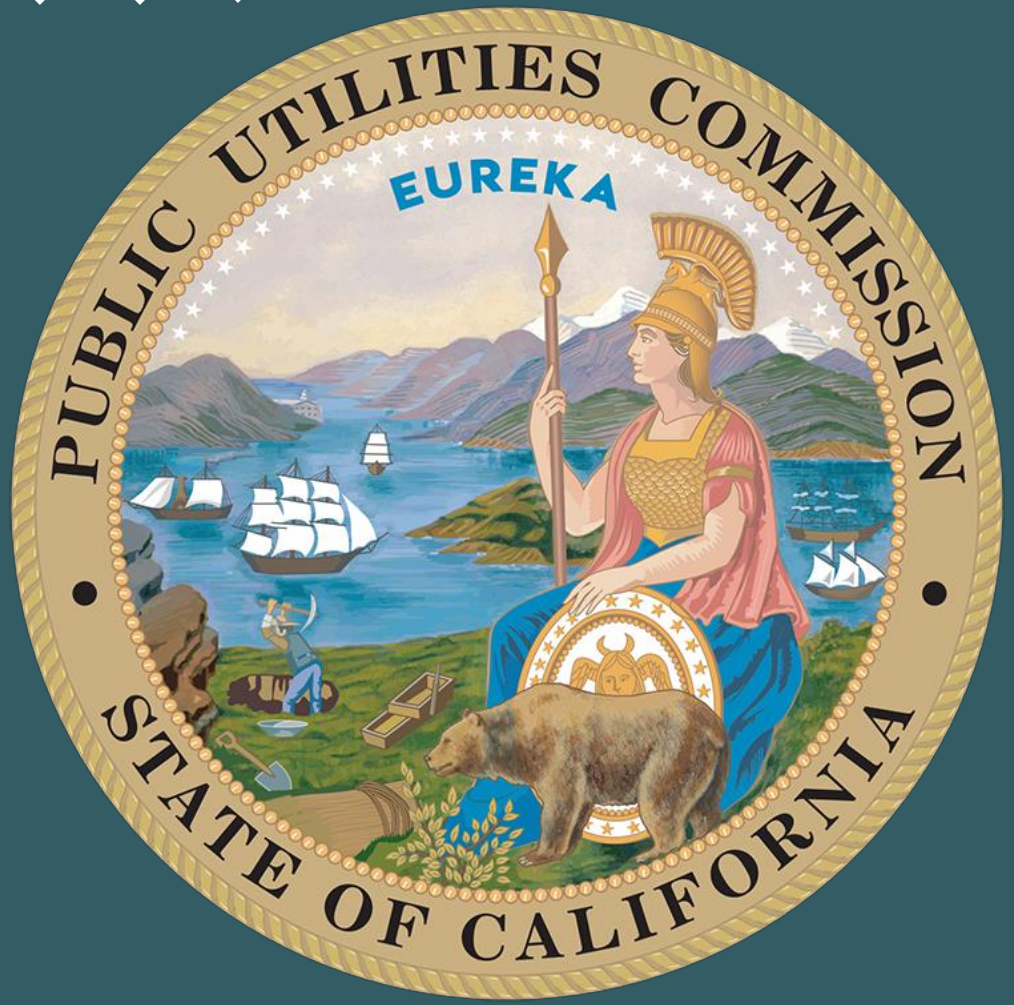
- Introductions
- Guest Presentation by the California Department of Public Health
- Facilitated Feedback Session
- Additional Resources

Join Us in Breakout Room #1!

TECC-X BREAKOUT
Rights of Way (ROW) and Easements for Tribal Energy Projects

Josh Simmons, TECC

Karen Woodard, Morongo Band of Mission Indians



Program Funding

- This work was supported with grants from the California Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) **Equity and Access grant program.**

- The California Legislature recognizes that some California communities face systematic underinvestment, higher pollution burdens, and higher barriers to clean, safe, and affordable utility and transportation services. To address these challenges, it allocated $30 million dollars to the CPUC to establish the E&A Grant Program that empowers members of Environmental and Social Justice communities to participate in CPUC proceedings and decision-making processes.
- The Equity, Engagement, and Education (EEE) Grant Account awards grants up to $200,000 for the purposes of building CBO, Tribal, and community capacity to understand and engage with CPUC decision- making processes. The EEE Grant Account will increase participation within CPUC decision-making and build the long-term capacity of Tribes and CBOs to make participation in the Intervenor Compensation program and other funding sources more accessible. This will enable CBOs and Tribes to have more influence over clean energy programs and support making these programs more accessible to their served communities.

Disclaimer

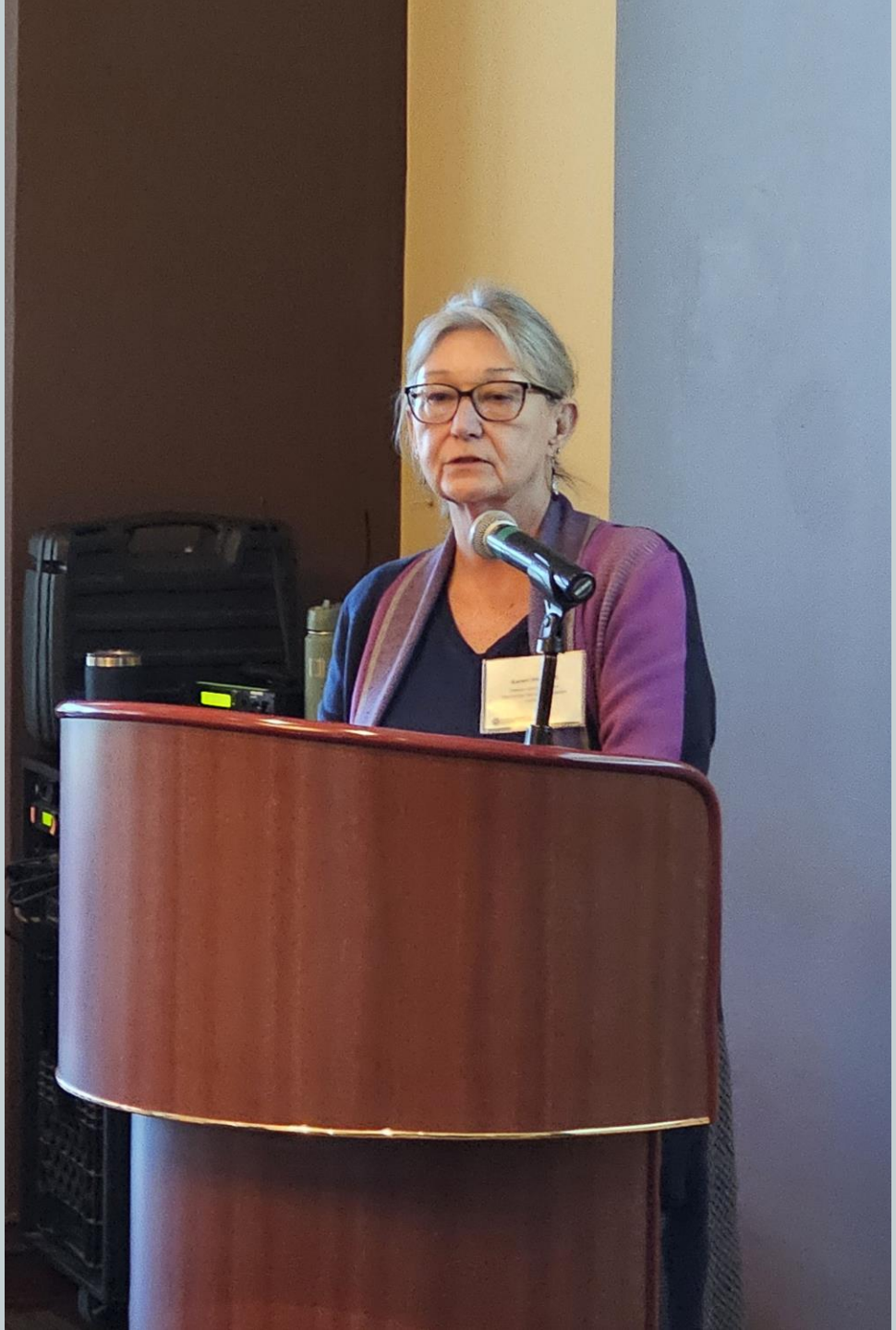
The information provided in this meeting is for general educational and informational purposes only and does not constitute legal, financial, or professional advice. The speakers and organizers make no representations or warranties as to the accuracy or completeness of this content. Views expressed are those of the presenter and not necessarily those of the Tribal Energy & Climate Collaborative (TECC). Any reliance placed on this material is strictly at your own risk. The presenters and TECC shall not be held liable for any damages or losses resulting from the use of this information.

Speaker Introduction

Karen Woodard

Realty Administrator

Morongo Band of Mission Indians



What electricity related rights of way challenges has your Tribe faced?

What solutions have you found or used, if any?

Please respond in the chat

ATTENDEES: Please introduce yourself in the chat
(Name and Tribe/Organization)

Addressing a Common Barrier to Tribal Energization and Interconnection Projects: Rights of Way (ROW)

California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Joint State-Federal Workshop & Consultation – Rights of Way for Utility Infrastructure Development on Tribal Lands

- 7/9/24 ROW Workshop in Sacramento (slides, recording)
- 11/14/24 ROW Workshop at Rincon Reservation (slides, recording)
- Click here for CPUC notes from both events

TECC-Led Convening with Agencies and IOUs

- 2/18/26 Presentation and discussion on Tribal energization and interconnection issues at Pala Reservation

BIA Land Encumbrance Regulations

Rights-of-Way Over Indian Land (25 CFR § 169)

- **§ 169.4 When do I need a right-of-way to authorize possession over or across Indian land?**
  - (b) You do not need a right-of-way to cross Indian land if:
  - (2) You are authorized by:
    - (iv) Another land use agreement not subject to this part (e.g., under 25 CFR part 84)

Leases and Permits (25 CFR § 162)

- **§ 162.003 What key terms do I need to know?**
  - *Permit* means a written, non-assignable agreement between Indian landowners or BIA and the permittee, whereby the permittee is granted a temporary, revocable privilege to use Indian land or Government land, for a specified purpose.

Encumbrances of Tribal Land – Contract Approvals (25 CFR § 84)

Encumbrances of Tribal Land – Contract Approvals (25 CFR § 84)

§ 84.002 What terms must I know?

- *Encumber* means to attach a claim, lien, charge, right of entry or liability to real property (referred to generally as encumbrances). Encumbrances covered by this part may include leasehold mortgages, easements, and other contracts or agreements that by their terms could give to a third party exclusive or nearly exclusive proprietary control over tribal land.

§ 84.003 What types of contracts and agreements require Secretarial approval under this part?

- Unless otherwise provided in this part, contracts and agreements entered into by an Indian tribe that encumber trial lands for a period of seven or more years require Secretarial approval under this part.

§ 84.004 Are there types of contracts and agreements that do not require Secretarial approval under this part?

- Yes, the following types of contracts or agreements do not require Secretarial approval under this part:
- (e) Contracts or agreements that do not convey exclusive or nearly exclusive proprietary control over tribal lands for a period of seven years or more;

§ 84.005 Will the Secretary approve contracts or agreements even where such approval is not required under this part?

- No, the Secretary will not approve contracts or agreements that do not encumber tribal lands for a period of seven or more years. Within thirty days after receipt of final, executed documents, the Secretary will return such contracts and agreements with a statement explaining why Secretarial approval is not required. The provisions of the Act will not apply to those contracts or agreements the Secretary determines are not covered by the Act.

A ROW Band-Aid: Granting Temporary Access (<7 Years)

- Why has Morongo used these <7-year grants of access for energy infrastructure?
- When and how did Morongo start applying this solution?
- What is the process for issuing temporary access for energy projects? How is this similar and different from obtaining a full, BIA-approved ROW? How do they relate?
- Please explain Morongo's BIA contract/compact for programs, functions, services, and activities (PFSA), including realty and title programs
- How is Morongo helping other Tribes?

Encumbrances of Tribal Land – Contract Approvals (25 CFR § 84)

§ 84.002 What terms must I know?

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Legislative Effort to Address ROW

- S.3383 – Unlocking Native Lands and Opportunities for Commerce and Key Economic Developments Act of 2025 (introduced by Senator Brian Schatz, D-HI on 12/8/25)

"SEC. 8. TRIBAL GRANTS OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY.

"(a) RIGHTS-OF-WAY.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), an Indian tribe may grant a right-of-way over and across the Tribal land of the Indian tribe for any purpose.

"(2) AUTHORITY.—A right-of-way granted under paragraph (1) shall not require the approval of the Secretary of the Interior or a grant by the Secretary of the Interior under the section 1 if the right-of-way granted under paragraph (1) is executed in accordance with a Tribal regulation approved by the Secretary of the Interior under subsection (b).

"(b) REVIEW OF TRIBAL REGULATIONS.—

"(1) TRIBAL REGULATION SUBMISSION AND APPROVAL.—

"(A) SUBMISSION.—An Indian tribe seeking to grant a right-of-way under subsection (a) shall submit for approval a Tribal regulation governing the granting of rights-of-way over and across the Tribal land of the Indian tribe.

"(B) APPROVAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary of the Interior shall have the authority to approve or disapprove any Tribal regulation submitted under subparagraph (A).

Discussion

How have ROW challenges affected your Tribe's energy projects?

Has your Tribe faced unique ROW challenges?

What solutions or work arounds has your Tribe used for energy projects?

What ROW ideas and recommendations do you have? How can existing processes be streamlined?

Do you have any legislative insights or updates?

Any other ROW thoughts?

Tribal Climate Adaptation through...
Public Health

Agenda

- 10 min Topic Intro & CDPH Overview
- 43 min Facilitated Feedback Session
- 2 min Wrap-Up

**Tribal representatives only please*

Join us on Mural

- Open Virtual Whiteboard: http://bit.ly/484w9iF
- Sign in and Introduce yourself: Name and Tribal Affiliation

CDPH
California Department of Public Health

Tribal Focus Group

Informing Development of the Shared Vision and Action Plan for Climate Change and Health Equity

Engagement Contractor: Prosper Sustainably

March 24, 2026 || TECC-X Breakout

**Tribal representatives only*

CDPH
California Department of Public Health

TODAY'S FOCUS GROUP

- **SVAP Overview (CDPH)**
- **Discussion**
  - Draft Vision
  - Barriers (pick 2)
  - Actions (pick 2)
  - Implementation Approach

Introduction

Shared Vision and Action Plan for Climate Change and Health Equity

Kickoff and Public Input Session

Elizabeth Rhoades, PhD *(she/her)*
Climate Change Local Assistance Manager

Climate Change & Health Equity Branch
Office of Health Equity
California Department of Public Health

Why a Shared Vision and Action Plan for Climate Change and Health Equity?

"**Collaborate** with **local health departments** and **communities** facing climate and health inequities to develop a shared vision and action plan for **protecting health equity and well-being** in a changing climate."

California Climate Adaptation Strategy,
Priority Partner and Collaborate to Leverage Resources
Goal A, Action 14

The Shared Vision and Action Plan will:

- Chart a course of shared climate and health equity goals and actions over the next **5-7 years** in California
- Guide what CDPH and local health jurisdictions (LHJs) are doing to **understand, prevent, and protect** Californians from inequitable health impacts of climate change
- Support **regional priorities** for climate and health
- Identify service gaps and opportunities
- Support the State's transparency and accountability

Public Health Climate Functions

#1
Assessment, Surveillance & Research

Monitor, collect, and analyze data to identify impacts and inequities.

#2
Communication & Education

Educate the public and decision-makers to promote prevention and resilience.

#3
Emergency Preparedness, Response & Recovery

Provide emergency preparedness, response and recovery services.

#4
Partnership Development & Engagement

Build community and interagency partnerships to advance equitable policies and programs.

#5
Policy Development & Support

Develop and adopt policies, plans and guidelines.

Previous and Ongoing Actions

CA Dept. of Public Health (CDPH)

- Supports State agencies in implementing climate legislation and executive orders
- Reported health impacts of extreme heat events on workers and general population
- Evaluated the potential impacts of prescribed fires on air quality and health
- Developed communication toolkit to reduce risk from wildfire smoke
- Co-created extreme heat guidance for schools with Dept. of Education
- Developing statewide syndromic surveillance system

Local Health Jurisdictions

- Community Resilience Centers
- Vulnerability assessments
- Wildlands fire smoke education
- Active transportation/safe routes to schools
- Increasing tree canopy
- Sea level rise and heat dashboards
- Farmworker health programs
- Heat surveillance, awareness and education
- Involvement in Climate Action Plans

Draft Vision & Mission Statement

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and California local health jurisdictions (LHJs) envision a state where all Californians thrive in healthy, equitable, climate resilient, low-carbon communities.

CDPH and LHJs will work together to achieve this by researching, implementing, and supporting climate mitigation, adaptation and resilience strategies that protect, promote and improve health equity outcomes for all Californians.

Assessment, Surveillance and Research

Public Health Function #1

CDPH

Sample State and Local Actions:

- Monitor the health impacts of climate change events or hazards.
- Analyze data to identify inequities in health and climate impacts.
- Create public dashboards and reports.
- Conduct vulnerability assessments.
- Assess and explore potential health and equity impacts of climate policies.
- Research health and equity benefits of greenhouse gas reduction strategies.

Communication & Education

Public Health Function #2

CDPH

Sample State and Local Actions:

- Engage with communities to learn how climate change and fossil fuel pollution harms health.
- Educate policymakers and general public about the health impacts of climate change, risk reduction strategies, and preparedness practices.
- Engage with partners to learn how people are protecting themselves from the health impacts of climate-related events.
- Educate policymakers about policy options with strong climate, health and equity benefits.

Emergency Preparedness, Response and Recovery

Public Health Function #3

CDPH

Sample State and Local Actions:

- Track and monitor health outcomes following a flood or wildfire smoke event.
- Update public health emergency operations & response plans to incorporate climate-related extreme weather events.
- Coordinate to restore or expand CalFRESH, WIC and other essential services following a wildfire event.
- Provide emergency preparedness training for Tribes and local communities.

Partnership Development & Engagement

Public Health Function #4

CDPH

Sample Local Actions:

- Establish relationships with communities, advocates and Tribes to guide and inform policy development, implementation and evaluation
- Convene partners to develop programs that address inequitable living conditions (i.e., parks, public transit, food access).

Sample State Actions:

- Collaborate with State partners to prioritize resources for climate action strategies that promote health and equity
- Collaborate with local partners and Tribes to develop culturally and linguistically appropriate communications materials

Policy Development & Support

Public Health Function #5

CDPH

Sample Local Actions

- Participate in local climate action group or Climate Action Plan development.
- Develop policies to increase walking, cycling, and transit access.

Sample State Actions:

- Develop guidelines to prevent poor health outcomes for jurisdictions, schools, and most impacted populations.
- Inform the development of State policy recommendations for protecting health in the face of climate hazards.
- Adopt CDPH policy agenda on climate and health.

Assessment, Surveillance and Research Barriers for the Tribal Climate Health Project

- Data is community-ready; meaning that it is publicly-accessible and doesn't require expert analysis
- Dedicate resources to researching and monitoring trends for key Tribal information needs stemming from episodic wildfires, flooding, heat, drought such as:
  - Allergies (location-specific; historical, baseline, and projections)
  - Respiratory illness attributable to climate change (location-specific; tied to episodic climate-attributable events)
  - Other health and mental health impacts such as asthma hospitalizations, or incidents (location-specific; tied to episodic climate-attributable events)
- Work with other agencies to address Tribal data needs that may vary outside of western clinical definitions of health (e.g. Tribal health and wellbeing is interconnected with ecological health and need information on streamflow, tree mortality, and species damage or dislocation)
- Dedicate a joint research unit with CARB, CalFIRE and the USFS and with state and local governments to study the health impacts of good fire and good smoke; which can provide long-term health benefits for humans and the environment
- Develop health data modeling/projections for key Tribal climate vulnerabilities
  - Key data gaps identified by the Tribal Climate Health Project include water supply, wildfire smoke, respiratory impacts of smoke, respiratory impacts of catastrophic wildfire, impacts of water supply shortage, groundwater and streamflow on landscape and the interconnection between Tribal health and landscape

Assessment, Surveillance and Research Barriers for the Tribal Climate Health Project

- Ensure data is location-specific for Tribes; this may require individual consultation with Tribes on Tribal boundaries (e.g. federally-recognized Tribes versus allotment Tribes)
- Dedicate resources to researching climate change co-exposures for AIAN populations
- Provide community-ready data sets on publicly-accessible data dashboards; include Tribal boundaries in this dataset
  - The data and dashboard should focus on Spatial Coverage and Inclusion (e.g. location specificity), Access and Applied Use (e.g. usability, visuals, analysis, interpretation), Reliable Documentation and Sources (e.g. credible sources, up-to-date data and metadata), per recommendations from the Tribal Climate Health Project's Data Scoring Rubric
  - In addition to the obvious data gaps (water, wildfire, health impacts of wildfire smoke, impacts to disease vectors, extreme heat, precipitation changes, sea level rise, mental health) an unexamined impact will be the cascading impacts triggered by large data centers. These centers are increasingly impacting Tribal lands and the human impacts have not been studied.
- Conduct vulnerability assessments by gathering and analyzing the best available public data sets such as those in the Exposures, Impacts, Strategies Inventory (EISI) tool

Assessment, Surveillance and Research Barriers for the Tribal Climate Health Project

- Coordinate with IHS and CTEC to ensure Tribal representation in datasets where gaps exist for AIAN communities
  - Connect with CTEC on the Tribal BRFSS (set to be released in December/January 2026); which includes new Tribal-specific environmental and cultural data
- Ensure data provides up-to-date and relevant information for Tribal communities
- Ensure metadata is accessible and provided by credible sources

Thank you!

- For more info, visit: https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/OHE/Pages/Climate-Health-Equity/SVAP.aspx
- Contact climatechange@cdph.ca.gov with any questions
- For additional comments, fill out our Comment Form

CDPH

Follow us on LinkedIn!

TCHP LinkedIn Page

TECC LinkedIn Page

TRIBAL ENERGY & CLIMATE COLLABORATIVE

TRIBAL CLIMATE HEALTH PROJECT

Thank you!

Next TECC-X is April 28, 2026

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