



# Tribal Government Challenge Planning Grant Program

## Proposal Assistance Webinar

March 18, 2020



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# Agenda

- Program Background
- Eligibility Criteria
- Award Amounts
- Key Requirements
- Proposal Components
- Evaluation Criteria
- Program Timeline
- Open for Comments and Questions (*please use Chat function*)

# Background

- The Challenge is administered by the **California Strategic Growth Council (SGC)** and funded by the **California Energy Commission (CEC)** through American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding.
- Funding will support **tribal planning** to identify solutions to **reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve clean energy access, and advance climate adaptation and resiliency on tribal lands and in tribal communities.**

# California Energy Commission

The California Energy Commission is leading the state to a 100 percent clean energy future. As the state's primary energy policy and planning agency, the Energy Commission is committed to reducing energy costs and environmental impacts of energy use while ensuring a safe, resilient, and reliable supply of energy.



# Strategic Growth Council

The mission of the Council is to coordinate and work collaboratively with public agencies, communities, and stakeholders to achieve sustainability, equity, economic prosperity, and quality of life for all Californians



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# Program Eligibility

- The applicant must be a **California Native American Tribe**.
- Proposal activities must be located in the State of California and must apply funds towards planning activities involving:
  - Tribally owned lands, buildings, or facilities
  - Lands over which a Tribe exercises jurisdiction, or lands that the Bureau of Indian Affairs holds in trust for Tribes;
  - Individual allottees;
  - Public domain allottees;
  - Lands managed for the benefit of Tribes through conservation easements, lease agreements, or co-management agreements.



# Eligible Activities

- This grant program will fund **energy, climate, and adaptation planning and feasibility studies, and auditing activities.**
- Applicants must demonstrate a *connection to energy* in all planning activities funded through this grant, and are encouraged to consider climate mitigation, adaptation, and resiliency as well.
- Three eligible focus areas:
  - Energy-Related Planning
  - Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Planning
  - Sustainable Communities Planning

# Energy-Related Planning

- Project examples include:
  - Energy planning study
  - Energy feasibility study
  - Energy audit

- Sample planning objectives include:
  - Reduce energy use
  - Increase energy efficiency
  - Increase renewable energy development and procurement
  - Reduce greenhouse gas emissions
  - Improve energy grid resiliency
  - Inform energy efficiency improvements for buildings, facilities, and transportation



# Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Planning

- Project examples include:
  - Climate change vulnerability assessment that incorporates energy system vulnerabilities
  - Climate adaptation planning for energy system resilience
  - Hazard mitigation planning that incorporates energy system risk
- Sample planning objectives include:
  - Assess climate risks to energy systems, including but not limited to: wildfire, extreme heat, drought, flooding, and sea level rise
  - Determine community members/populations most vulnerable to climate impacts, including those related to energy
  - Develop strategies to mitigate climate risks to energy infrastructure and/or vulnerable groups of people
  - Improve energy resiliency to extreme weather events and other potential disturbances

# Sustainable Communities Planning

- Project examples include:
  - Climate Action Planning
  - Land Use and Energy Planning
  - Transportation Planning
- Sample planning objectives include:
  - Promoting and improving public health outcomes through clean energy and/or clean transportation investments
  - Improving access to renewable energy and clean transportation
  - Improving access to electric vehicles and charging stations
  - Improving energy infrastructure systems
  - Reducing automobile usage and fuel consumption

# Award Amounts

- \$150,000 - \$250,000 per funded proposal
- Total of \$2 million available
- Per State requirements, funds will be distributed on a cost reimbursement basis – advance payments are not allowed



# Indirect Cost Rate

Tribes may assign an approved indirect cost rate to the proposed budget that can be substantiated with supporting documentation.

- Federally recognized tribes may use the indirect cost rate negotiated through their cognizant Federal Agency (generally DOI National Business Center).
- California Tribes that are not recognized by the Federal Government and other businesses and organizations can apply an indirect cost rate of up to 25%.

# Key Requirements

- All Tribes entering into agreement with SGC will be required to provide an authorized limited waiver of sovereign immunity covering the scope of the grant agreement.
- Grant Recipient must submit quarterly progress reports that comply with ARRA and the SGC requirements.

# Proposal Components

- Cover Page & Table of Contents
- **Proposal Questionnaire**
- **Proposal Narrative**
- **Work Plan** (Scope of Work and Schedule of Deliverables)
- Project Team's Qualifications
- **Budget Forms** (Detailed Budget and Budget Justification)
- Contacts Sheet
- Previous Work Products (Optional)

# Proposal Components: Additional Information

- **Proposal Questionnaire** (see Attachment 1):
  - Provides SGC with basic information.
  - Each applicant must complete and sign this form.
  - For a Word version, send request to [tribalprograms@sgc.ca.gov](mailto:tribalprograms@sgc.ca.gov).

# Proposal Components: Proposal Narrative

- **Proposal Narrative** (see Attachment 2):
  - Project Overview
  - Statement of Need
  - Climate and Energy Goals
  - Technical Approach
  - Sharing Plan



# Proposal Components: Proposal Narrative

## Project Overview:

- How objectives will allow the Tribe to better understand and implement climate and energy plans
- How project tasks and planning activities will be conveyed throughout the tribal community to support climate/energy-action
- How project addresses challenging issues and tackles problems or barriers to move towards solutions

# Proposal Components: Proposal Narrative

## Statement of Need:

A clear, detailed justification statement that identifies the need and/or value of the proposal, as well as additional needs and/or values that are reflected through the technical tasks or planning activities proposed.

# Proposal Components: Proposal Narrative

## Climate and Energy Goals:

- Demonstrate how the proposed project would progress the Tribe toward current and future climate and energy goals
- Describe how the proposed project will result in measurable energy savings, greenhouse gas emissions reductions, and/or advance adaptation and resiliency
- Explain how the proposed project will promote a combination of energy resiliency, efficiency, flexibility, as well as health and social equity

# Proposal Components: Proposal Narrative

## Technical Approach:

- Describe the technique, approach, and methods to be used in performing the work.
- Discuss how tasks and activities will be performed and coordinated with various participants and team members.
- Identify and discuss the critical factors for success, in addition to any anticipated risks, barriers, and limitations. Responses should convey strategies or plans that will be developed to address these factors

# Proposal Components: Proposal Narrative

## Sharing Plan:

- Discuss how proposed planning activities could be replicated by other Tribal governments.
- Indicate plans to broadcast and/or showcase the project's implementation and results to the State and other Tribal governments.
- Identify multiple engagement modes that will be used to broadcast and/or showcase your work.

# Proposal Components: Additional Information

- **Scope of Work & Schedule of Deliverables** (see Attachment 3):
  - Please use template
  - Tasks must conform with Proposal Narrative descriptions of activities
- **Budget Forms & Information** (see Attachment 5):
  - Please use budget form provided
  - See required information in *Section III. Proposal Format* of solicitation

# Evaluation Criteria

Technical Evaluation Criteria	Maximum Points
Demonstrated Need or Value	20
Climate and Energy Goals	20
Technical Approach	20
Scope of Work and Proposed Tasks	20
Sharing Plan	5
Team Qualifications	5
Budget and Cost Effectiveness	10
Total Possible Points	100
Minimum Passing Score (70%)	70



# Evaluation Criteria

## Scope of Work and Proposed Tasks:

- Quantifiable performance goals and objectives, including metrics to determine successes and failures
- Tasks are clearly defined and logically presented
- Realistic schedule for completion of tasks and clearly described products for each task
- A plan to successfully complete proposal tasks and deploy results
- Follow up plan and/or funding source(s) to utilize the planning product of this grant program and take action to achieve energy goals



# Evaluation Criteria

## Team Qualifications

Explains how the various tasks will be managed and coordinated, and how the project manager's technical expertise will support the effective management and coordination of all activities in the proposal by the end of the grant period.

# Evaluation Criteria

## Budget and Cost Effectiveness

- Overall proposal cost is consistent with the proposed work and products to be provided.
- Personnel rates/costs, operating expenses, and indirect rates/costs are reasonable for the proposed work and consistent with the experience of the project team

# Program Timeline

Activity	Date
<i>Draft Solicitation Release</i>	2/3/2020
<i>Tribal Comment Period</i>	2/3/2020 – 3/3/2020
<i>Draft Solicitation Tribal Comment Webinar</i>	2/19/2020
<i>Solicitation Release</i>	3/13/2020
<b>Proposal Assistance Webinar</b>	<b>3/18/2020</b>
<b>Deadline for Written Questions*</b> by 5:00 p.m. PST	<b>4/2/2020</b>
Distribute Questions/Answers and Addenda (if any) to solicitation	4/10/2020
<b>Deadline to Submit Proposals</b> by 5:00 p.m.* PST	<b>5/22/2020</b>
<b>Anticipated Notice of Proposed Award Posting Date</b>	<b>6/22/2020</b>
Anticipated Agreement Start Date	July – August 2020
Agreement Termination Date	March 31, 2022

# Application Information

- Applications will only be accepted online!

<https://gss.energy.ca.gov/>

- Questions can be sent to: [tribalprograms@sgc.ca.gov](mailto:tribalprograms@sgc.ca.gov)

All documents and information on the Tribal Government Challenge can be found at: <https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/programs/tribal-program/tribal-government-challenge>

# Questions?

*Please type into Chat Box*

*Direct other questions to:*

## **Elizabeth Grassi, Program Manager**

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