



GFO-23-701 Pre-Application Workshop

California's Fifth Climate Change Assessment: Tribal Research Grant Program

California Energy Commission

September 14, 2023



Agenda

| Time | Item |
|---------|--|
| 1:00 am | Welcome and Introduction |
| 1:05 am | Fifth Assessment Overview |
| 1:15 am | Tribal Research Program |
| 1:25 am | Solicitation Background <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Purpose of Solicitation• Available Funding• Project Groups |
| 1:45 am | Application Requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attachments• Submission Process• Evaluation Process |
| 2:00 am | Q&As |
| 3:00 pm | Adjourn |



Virtual Housekeeping

- This workshop will be recorded.
- Participants will be muted during the presentation. Please enter your question in the Q&A window.
- Updates on solicitation documents and this presentation will be posted at the Grant Funding Opportunity's website: <https://www.energy.ca.gov/solicitations/2023-09/gfo-23-701-californias-fifth-climate-change-assessment-tribal-research-grant>



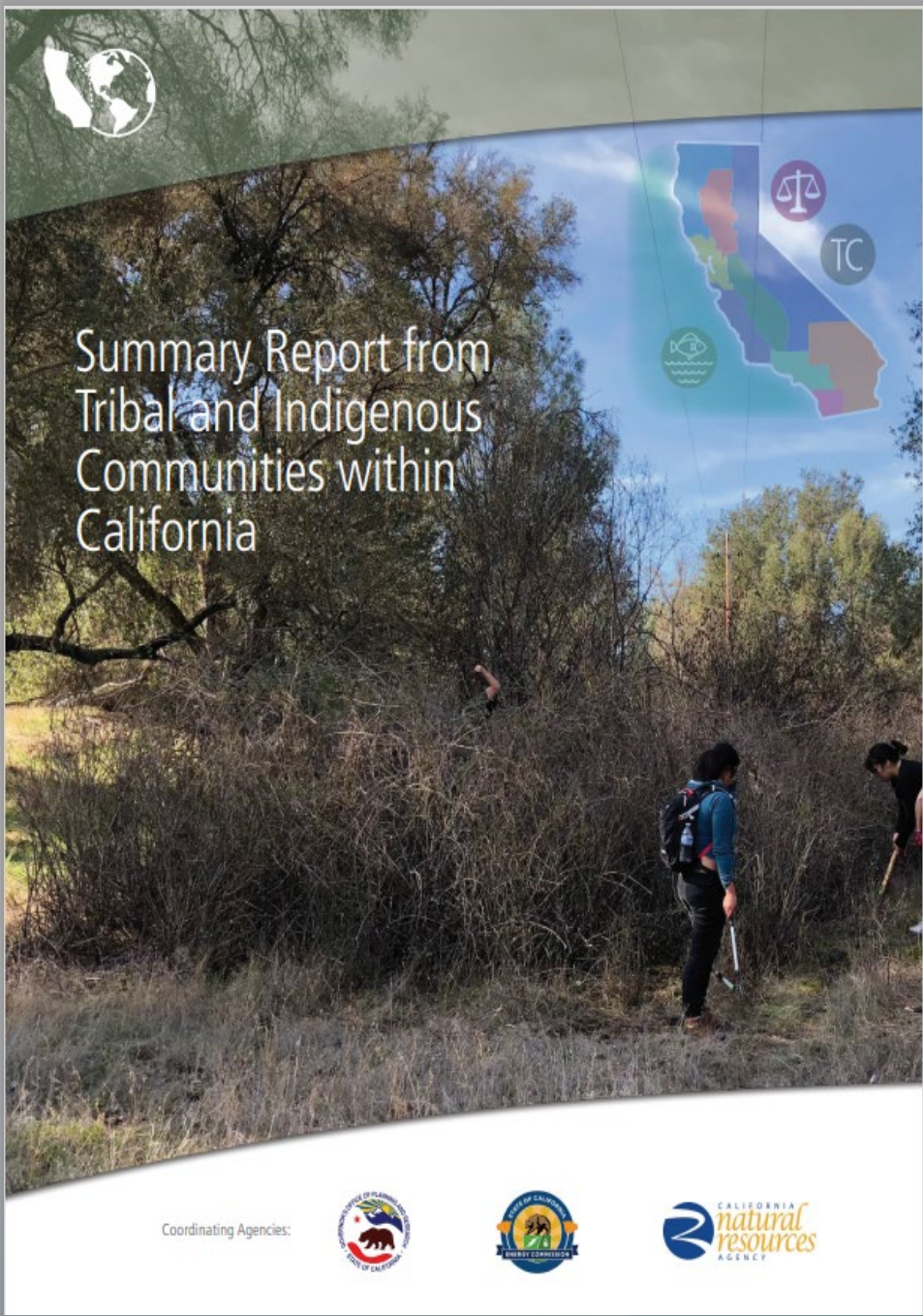
Background: Policy Drivers

Senate Bill 1320: California Climate Change Assessment

- Coordinate state, regional and local efforts on climate change adaptation

Senate Bill 170: Budget Act of 2021

- \$3.625 million for the California Energy Commission (CEC)
- Funding for tribally-led climate change research, assessments, and similar projects deemed a priority by tribes



Tribal and Indigenous Communities Report (4th Assessment)

“This report is the beginning of something truly innovative: **a mutual invitation between tribes and the state to share learning with an urgent focus on climate action, incorporating traditional knowledges and practices.** This synthesis is the starting point of a new productive climate conversation between tribes and the state”

– page 10 of CA Fourth Climate Assessment Tribal and Indigenous Communities Report (2018)



Climate Assessment Tribal Program Goals

- **Engage, consult, and partner** with Tribal Communities
- Establish a **Tribal Advisory Group**
- Support tribally-led research through a **Tribal Grant Program**
- Develop a **Tribal Synthesis Report**
- Develop **Tribally led Guidance** on Collaboration and Protection of Indigenous Knowledge and Tribal Expertise



Purpose of Solicitation

- Support research by California Native American tribes
- Tribal needs and questions related to climate change
- Support participation in California's Fifth Climate Assessment
- Inform tribal synthesis, applicable topical, and regional reports to guide climate-resilient planning



Eligible Applicants

- California Native American tribes
- California tribal organizations
- Tribal-serving non-governmental organizations



Available Funding – Grant Rounds

Up to \$3.625 million available

| <u>Grant Round</u> | <u>Estimated Funding Amount</u> |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Grant Round 1: 2023-2024 | \$1,200,000 |
| Grant Round 2: 2024-2025 | \$1,400,000 |
| Grant Round 3: 2025-2026 | \$1,000,000 |



Funding Levels

Up to \$3.625 million available

| <u>Grant Type</u> | <u>Maximum Funding Award Amount</u> |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Small Grants | \$20,000 |
| Medium Grants | \$100,000 |
| Large Grants | \$200,000 |
| Collaborative Grants | \$400,000 |



Project Categories

Six project groups identified for funding:

1. Topic-specific Research
2. Climate Assessment
3. Project Implementation
4. Information Sharing
5. Tool Development
6. Other



Application Requirements

1. Application Form
2. Project Narrative
3. Project Team
4. Scope of Work and Schedule
5. Budget Forms
6. CEQA/Environmental Compliance
7. Previous Work Products (if applicable)
8. Letter of Support (highly encouraged)
9. Applicant Declaration

*We will not require a Waiver of Sovereign Immunity



GFO Submission – Electronic Delivery

- Energy Commission Grant Solicitation System, available at:
<https://gss.energy.ca.gov/>
- First-time users must register as a new user to access system.
- Grant Solicitation System (GSS) How to Apply presentation:
<https://www.energy.ca.gov/media/1654>
- Electronic files must be in Microsoft Office Word (.doc, .docx) and Excel (.xls, .xlsx) formats, unless originally provided in solicitation in another format.
- Attachments with signatures may be scanned and submitted in PDF format.
- Application documents should meet formatting requirements and page recommendations.



GSS Guidance

START THE PROCESS EARLY!

- Applications must be fully submitted **BEFORE** the due date listed in the solicitation manual
- **The GSS system will shut off at the 5:00 pm due date**
- Applications in the process of being submitted prior to the due date will NOT be accepted after the due date
- Applications will NOT be accepted after the due date



GSS Structure

- Register as a New User
- Log In
- Three-Step Application Process:
 1. Select Solicitation
 2. Upload Files
 - Select documents for upload
 - Tag files with document type
 - Please do not submit confidential documents
 3. Review and Submit

All three steps must be completed BEFORE the due date



GFO Submission – Hardcopy Delivery

- By U.S. Mail, FedEx, or UPS to the CEC Contracts, Grants and Loans Office by 5 pm on November 17, 2023.
- Applications received after the specified date and time are considered late and will not be accepted.
- Postmark dates of mailing, E-mail and facsimile (FAX) transmissions are not acceptable in whole or in part, under any circumstances.
- Attachments with signatures may be scanned and submitted in PDF format.
- Application documents should meet formatting requirements and page recommendations.
- There is no need to submit a hard copy of an application that is submitted through the Grant Solicitation System as it will only cause confusion.



How will my Application be Evaluated?

Application Screening

Admin Screening Process

1. The application is received by the CEC by the due date and time specified in the solicitation and is received in the required manner (CEC Grant Solicitation System or hard copy).
2. The applicant is a California Native American tribe, California tribal organization, or tribal-serving non-governmental organization.



How will my Application be Evaluated?

Application Scoring

| Scoring Criteria | Maximum Points |
|---|----------------|
| 1. Demonstrated Need or Value | 25 |
| 2. Climate, Resilience, and Energy Goals | 25 |
| 3. Methodology, Technical Approach, Scope of Work, and Proposed Tasks | 20 |
| 4. Team Qualifications | 15 |
| 5. Budget and Cost-Effectiveness | 15 |
| Total | 100 |
| Minimum Points to Pass | 70 |



Next Steps After Grant Award

- **Notice of Proposed Award:** Shows total proposed funding amounts, rank order of applicants by project group, and the amount of each proposed award.
- **Agreement Development:** Proposal documents will be processed into a legal agreement.
- **Failure to Finalize:** The Energy Commission reserves the right to cancel the pending award if an agreement cannot be successfully finalized with an applicant.
- **Project Start:** Recipients may begin work on the project **only after** the agreement is finalized (approved at an Energy Commission business meeting and signed by the Recipient and the Energy Commission).



Office Hours

- Thursdays, 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm Pacific Time
- September 21, September 28, October 5, October 12, October 19, 2023
- Same registration and meeting link as Pre-Application Workshop
- Note that our official response to questions will be given in writing and posted on the GFO website in a Q&A document



Program Timeline

| Milestones | Round Dates |
|---|---|
| Solicitation Release | September 1, 2023 |
| Pre-Application Workshop: 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm Pacific Time | September 14, 2023 |
| Office Hours: Thursdays, 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm Pacific Time | September 21, September 28, October 5, October 12, October 19, 2023 |
| Due Date for Written Questions | October 20, 2023 |
| Anticipated Distribution of Questions and Answers | Every two weeks beginning week of October 2, 2023 |
| Due Date for Submitting Applications: 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time | November 17, 2023 |
| Anticipated Notice of Proposed Award Posting Date | December 22, 2023 |
| Grant Agreement Development Phase, and Anticipated CEC Business Meeting | December 2023 to March 2024 |
| Anticipated Agreement Start Date | April 1, 2024 |
| Begin Fifth Climate Assessment Collaborations | April 2024 |
| Final Project Deliverables Submitted to Fifth Climate Assessment | Summer 2025 |
| Anticipated Agreement End Date | January 31, 2026, or before |



Questions and Answers

- Please type your question in the Q&A window
or
- Raise your hand and you will be called on to unmute yourself. Please remember to introduce yourself by stating your name and affiliation. (Feature found under the Participants panel)
- Note that our official response will be given in writing and posted on the GFO website in a Q&A document



Additional Questions

Please send questions related to GFO-23-701 to:

TribalGrants@energy.ca.gov

For questions on the Tribal Research Program or Fifth Climate Change Assessment, please contact:

Patricia Kennedy, Governor's Office of Planning and Research

Patricia.Kennedy@opr.ca.gov



Thank You!

