



# **GFO-23-701r2 Pre-Application Workshop**

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

California Energy Commission

May 16, 2024



# Agenda

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1:00 pm	Welcome and Introduction
1:05 pm	Fifth Assessment Overview
1:15 pm	Tribal Research Program
1:25 pm	Solicitation Background <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Purpose of Solicitation</li><li>• Available Funding</li><li>• Project Groups</li></ul>
1:45 pm	Application Requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Attachments</li><li>• Submission Process</li><li>• Evaluation Process</li></ul>
2:00 pm	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.
- There will be a Q&A session at the end where participants may unmute themselves to ask questions.
- Updates on solicitation documents and this presentation will be posted at the Grant Funding Opportunity's website:  
<https://www.energy.ca.gov/solicitations/2024-05/gfo-23-701r2-californias-fifth-climate-change-assessment-tribal-research>



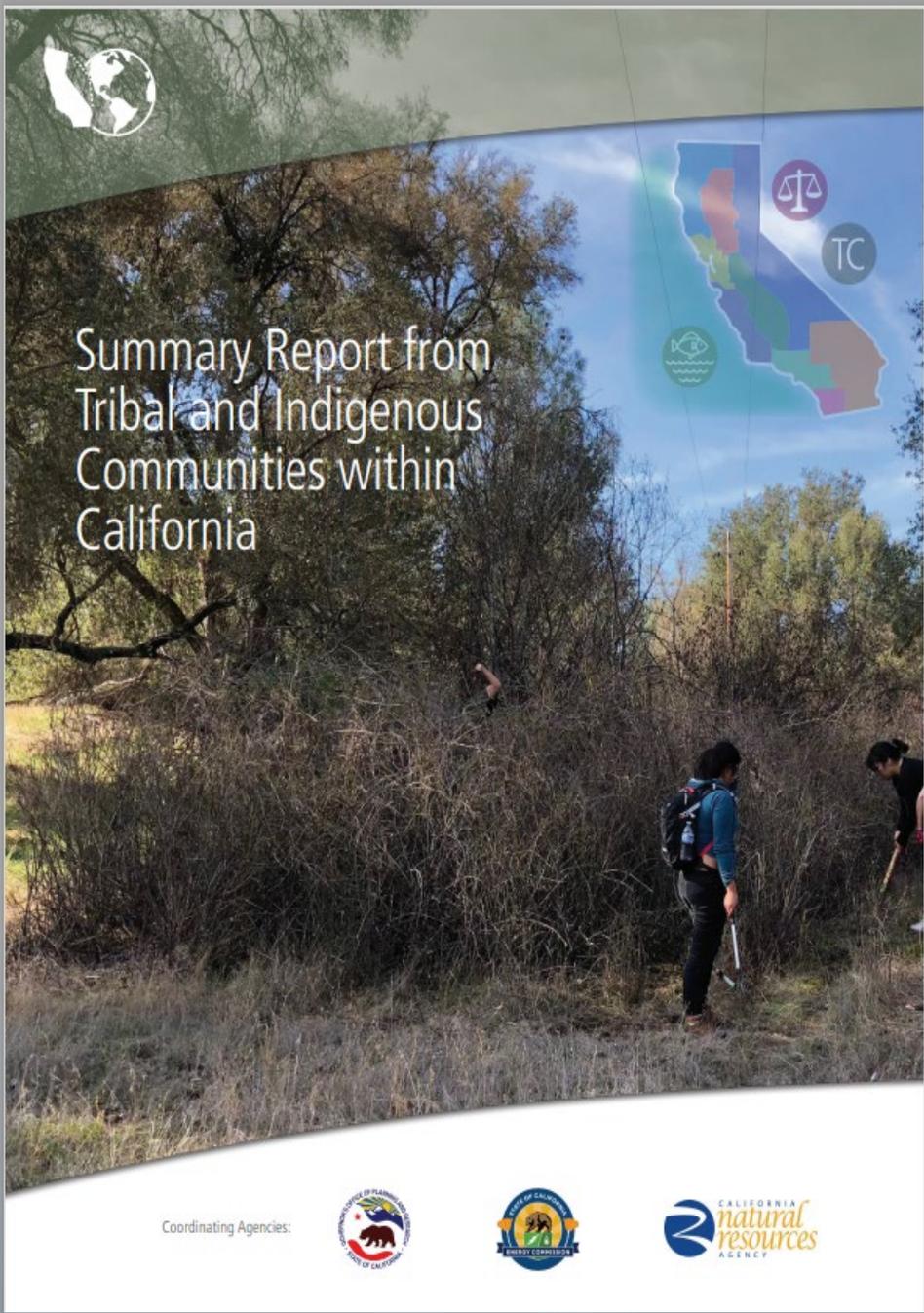
# Background: Policy Drivers

## Senate Bill 1320: California Climate Change Assessment

- Coordinate state, regional and local efforts on climate change adaptation research.
- *Provide an integrated suite of products that report the impacts and risks of climate change, based on the best available science, and identify potential solutions to inform legislative policy.*

## 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 (4<sup>th</sup> 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)

Coordinating Agencies:





# Climate Assessment Tribal Program Goals

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- **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

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- 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, topical, and regional reports to guide climate-resilient planning



# Eligible Applicants

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



# Available Funding – Grant Rounds

## Grant Round

## Funding Amount

**Grant Round 2: 2024-2025**  
**-current round open**

**\$1,767,315**

Grant Round 1: 2023-2024  
-past round already awarded

\$1,857,685

**Total**

**\$3.625 million available**



# Funding Levels

Round 2: Up to \$1,767,315 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

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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

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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

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- 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 p.m. on July 31, 2024.
- 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

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### 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
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Minimum Points to Pass</b>	<b>70</b>



# 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

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- May 29, 2024 at 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- May 30, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- Same meeting link as Pre-Application Workshop
- Note that our official response to questions will be given in writing and posted on the GFO webpage in a Q&A document



# Program Timeline

Milestones	Round Dates
Solicitation Release	May 1, 2024
Pre-Application Workshop: 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.	May 16, 2024
Office Hours: 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.	May 29, 2024 May 30, 2024
<b>Due Date for Written Questions</b>	<b>May 31, 2024</b>
Anticipated Distribution of Questions and Answers	Week of June 10, 2024
<b>Due Date for Submitting Applications: 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time</b>	<b>July 31, 2024</b>
Anticipated Notice of Proposed Award Posting Date	August 23, 2024
Grant Agreement Development Phase, and Anticipated CEC Business Meeting	September 2024 to January 2025
Anticipated Agreement Start Date	February 1, 2025
Begin Fifth Climate Assessment Collaborations	February 1, 2025
Project Deliverables Submitted to Fifth Climate Assessment	December 2025
Anticipated Agreement End Date	March 31, 2026, or before



# Questions and Answers

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- Enter your question in the Q&A window
- If calling in by phone, press \*9 to raise hand and \*6 to unmute.
- In Zoom, raise your hand and you will be called on to unmute yourself (feature found under the Participants panel)
- You are welcome to state your name and affiliation, if you would like
- Note that our official response will be given in writing and posted on the GFO webpage in a Q&A document



# Additional Questions

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Please send questions related to GFO-23-701r2 to:

Eilene Cary, Commission Agreement Officer  
[Eilene.Cary@energy.ca.gov](mailto:Eilene.Cary@energy.ca.gov)

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

Fifth Climate Change Assessment Team  
[ClimateAssessment@opr.ca.gov](mailto:ClimateAssessment@opr.ca.gov)



**Thank You!**

