

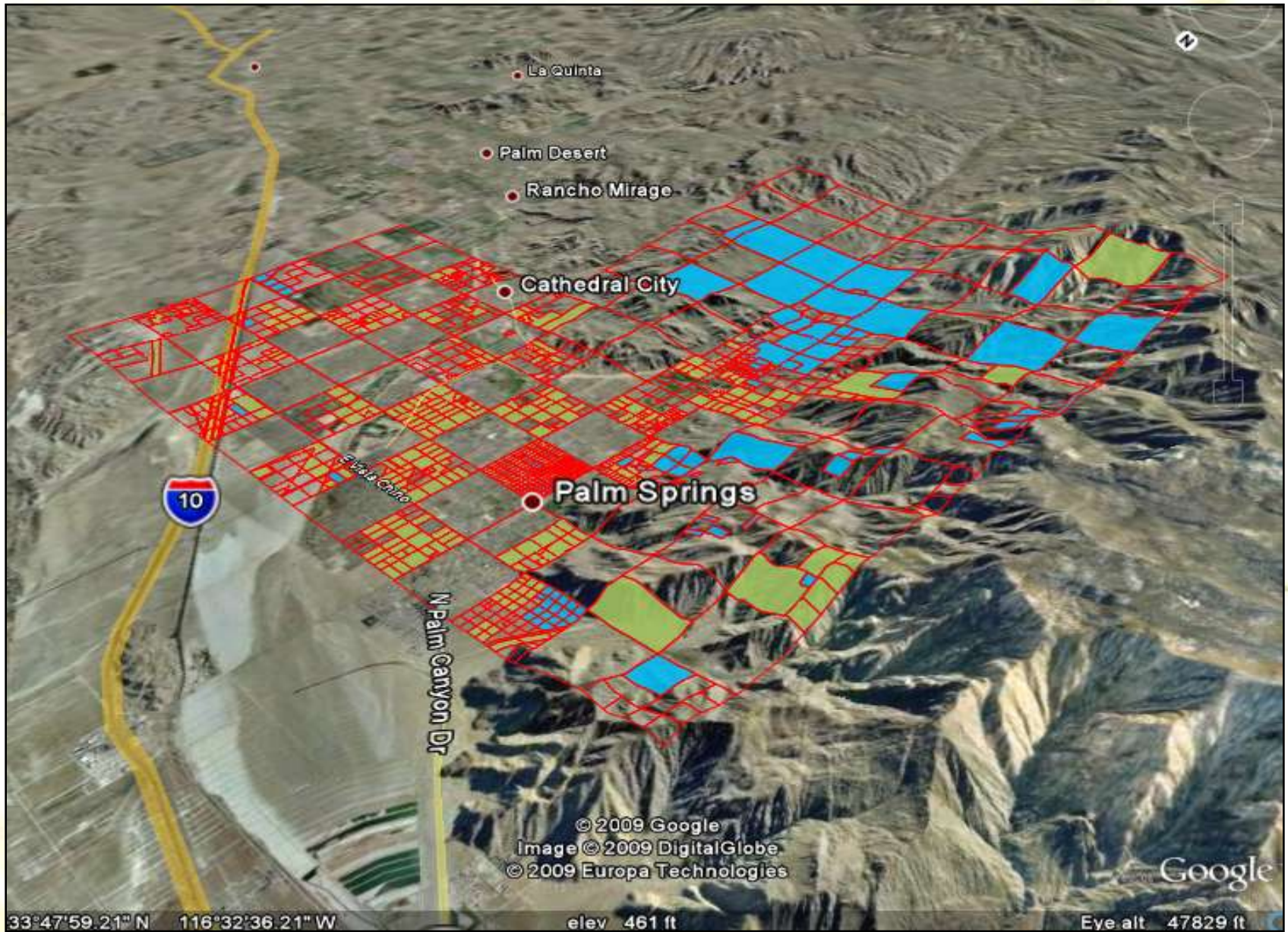


**Department of Energy
Tribal Energy Review
October 25th – 29th**
Solar Feasibility and Pre-Development Study

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians

- **Tribal ancestors resided in the area surrounding the San Jacinto Mountains in the Southern California region for centuries.**
- **The Agua Caliente Reservation (approximately 32,000 acres) was deeded in trust by Federal Order in 1876 to the Agua Caliente Tribe.**
- **The Tribe was deeded the even numbered sections as the odd numbered sections were deeded to Southern Pacific Railroad in 1860; Creating a checkerboard reservation configuration.**
- **Portions of the cities of Palm Springs, Cathedral City and Rancho Mirage lie within the Agua Caliente Indian Reservation.**

Agua Caliente Indian Reservation



Project Overview

- With prior DOE support the Tribe developed a Strategic Energy Plan in 2006. This plan encompasses the vision for the energy future of the Tribe.
- Several of the near-term objectives from the Strategic Energy Plan have now been implemented and the Tribe now seeks to assess the feasibility of larger scale renewable projects on the reservation.
- The feasibility analysis will allow the Tribe to evaluate and select best energy development options on Tribal lands.

Project Location

- Three primary sites are being assessed through the DOE feasibility study:
 - Whitewater Ranch – A 217 acre property near the western edge of the Coachella Valley
 - Tribal Administration Plaza
 - A 20 Acre parcel south of the Agua Caliente Resort



Project Participants

- Tribal staff has continued to work with Red Mountain Energy Partners throughout the feasibility stage of this project. Their assistance and expertise have been invaluable throughout this process.



Project Objectives

- Thoroughly assess the solar renewable energy potential of each of the Tribal sites identified.
- Based upon the initial assessment of the various sites identified; determine the pertinent technology options.
- Select the optimal technology for the sites identified and create viable project options.
- Develop detailed economic models for the projects identified with a goal of creating project-ready plans for solar renewable financing and implementation.

Current Project Status

Agua Caliente Resort – 20 acre parcel

- Initial focus has been on the 20 acre site just south of the Agua Caliente Resort.
- The site has already been graded and transmission connection would not be difficult.
- A 1MW solar field would require 5-7 acres of land, provide approximately 8% of annual load for the Resort and qualify the site for the California Solar Initiative.

- A site requirement package was distributed to 5 vendors.

- Analysis from vendors has resulted in two vendors who met criteria and appear to be capable of installing the desired project.

- Staff approached Tribal Council with initial project estimates and will return to Tribal Council with refined project information after obtaining direction.

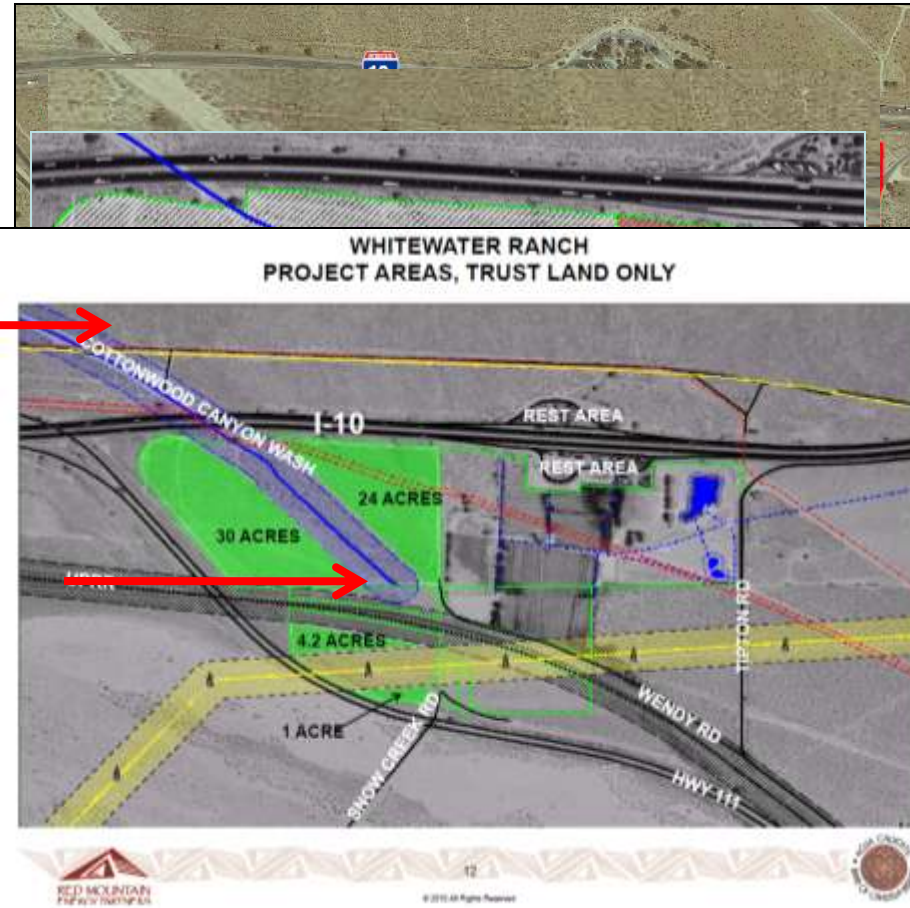


Proposed
Solar
Field
Location

Current Project Status- continued

Whitewater Ranch – 217 acre property

- Portions of the property are in the BIA fee to trust application process.
- The focus will be solely on Federal Trust status parcels.
- The 83 acre northwest parcel appears to be the most feasible option/location.
- A phase 1 survey of the site was completed by our Tribal Historic Preservation Division.
- Initial site analysis completed and constraints are now known.



Current Project Status- continued

Tribal Administration

Plaza

- Energy efficiency audit is planned later this year for this relatively new building.
- Upon initial analysis, rooftop PV or carport PV structures would appear to be best options.
- Additional analysis forthcoming once audit is completed.



Tribal Energy Activities

- **Western Area Power Administration (WAPA)** – The Tribe currently receives a 1MW annual allocation of power from the Parker/Davis Hydroelectric Dams. As part of the agreement with WAPA, the Tribe will receive this power allocation for the next 19 years.
- **Water and Energy Resource Authority (WERA)** - The goal of this entity is to manage ongoing water and energy resources in a more efficient manner. WERA continues to meet on a quarterly basis and has proven to be a useful coordinating entity for all Tribal energy and water related issues.
- **Desert Cities Energy Partnership (DCEP)** – The Agua Caliente Tribe continues to play a vital role in energy efficiency, conservation and renewable energy development within the Coachella Valley.
A member of the WERA committee represents the Tribe on DCEP, a partnership representing the Tribe and other local municipalities, which guides policy on energy efficiency throughout the Coachella Valley.

Future Plans

- **The Agua Caliente Tribe continues to assess energy options that can be incorporated into the Tribe's Overall Strategic Energy Plan.**
- **Stewardship of the land and efficient use of resources in the desert region are critical to continued prosperity of the Tribe and the region for future generations.**
- **QUESTIONS?**