



# San Diego Tribal Energy Collaborative

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# Overview

- Current project
- The partners
- How did we get here?
- What does collaboration look like on the ground?



# Current Project: DOE Deployment of Clean Energy & Energy Efficiency on Indian Lands

- Design, install, inspect, and interconnect 42 grid-tied, solar electric systems
- 40 low-income single-family homes located within the San Pasqual, La Jolla, and Mesa Grande reservations
- Grid tied systems for the San Pasqual tribal education facility and the La Jolla tribal community center
- Community volunteers and Tribal job trainees will assist with the installations, gaining valuable hands-on experience

# Project Outcomes

- 42 grid-tied solar electric systems, totaling 170 kW
- Generate over \$1.8M worth of power for low-income families over the next 20 years
- Eliminate 3,750 tons of greenhouse gas emissions
- Provide hands-on solar installation training to at least 20 Tribal community volunteers and job trainees
- Homeowners educated on energy efficiency and renewable energy



# Further Details

- Not “off the grid”
- Net metering – still tied into the grid
- No battery backup –  
blackout = power outage to the home
- Homeowners see a 35% to 75%  
reduction in their electrical usage
- 3<sup>rd</sup> party inspector verifies all work completed by GRID before the  
system can be energized

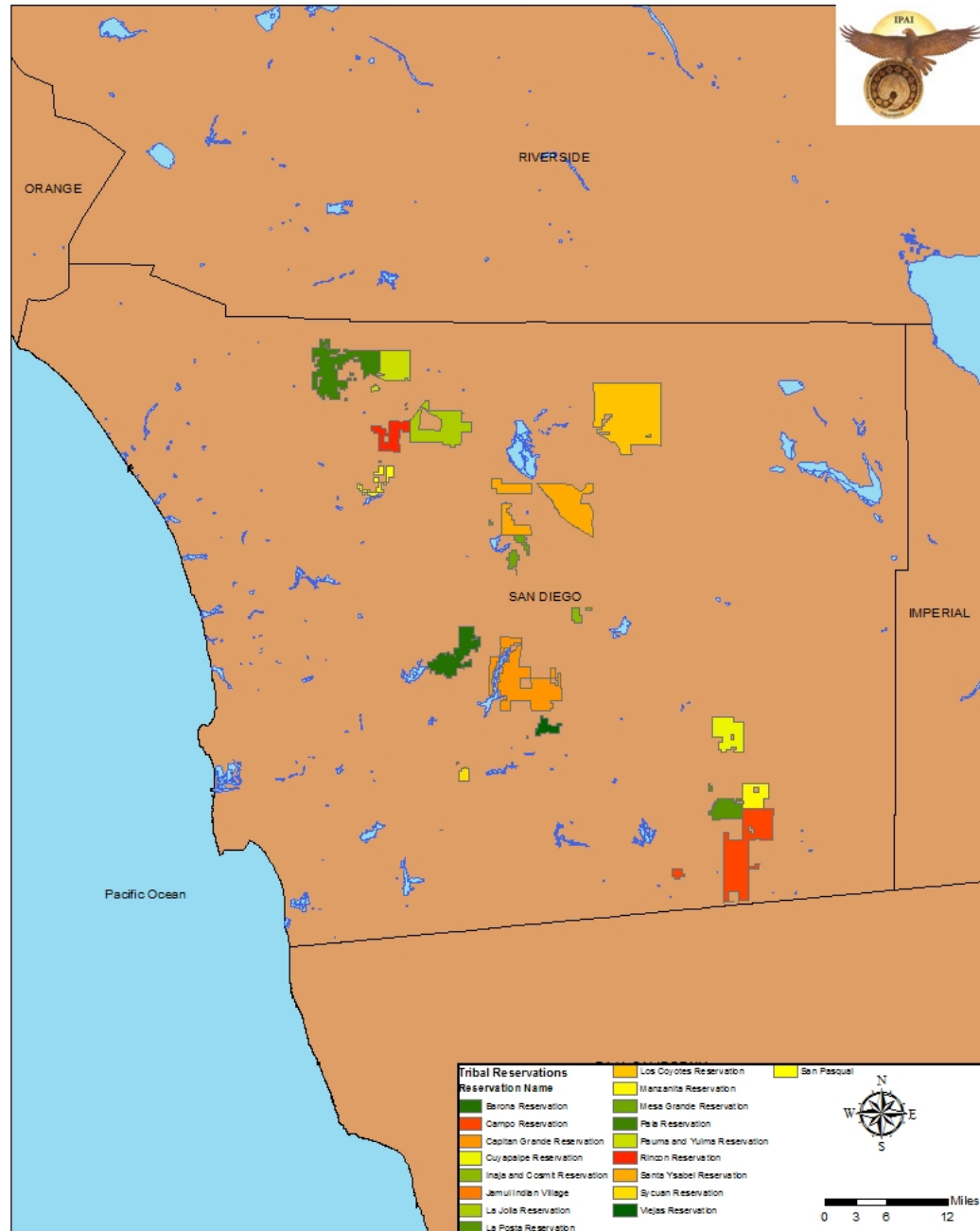


# Project Partners

- La Jolla Band of Luiseno Indians
- Mesa Grande Band of Mission Indians
- San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians
- GRID Alternatives – San Diego



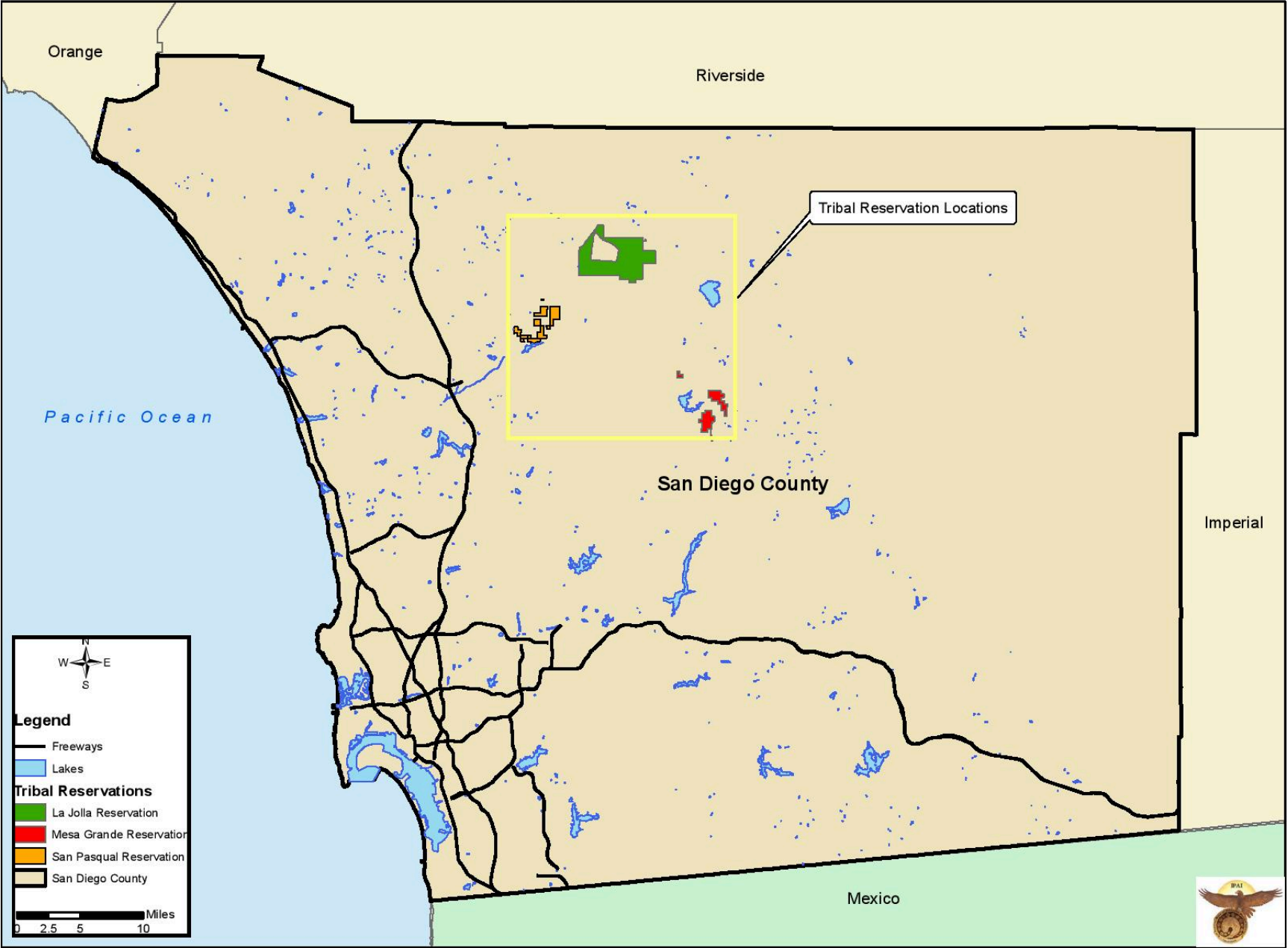
## San Diego County Tribal Nations



San Diego County

18 Tribal Nations-  
more than any other  
county in the US

Location of Participating Tribal Nations in San Diego County



# San Pasqual Band of Indians

- The Reservation encompasses approximately 2,988 acres
- The Reservation population is between 1400 - 1600 total residents, occupying about 335 homes

# La Jolla Band of Indians

- The Reservation encompasses approximately 9,998 acres
- The Reservation population is between 1200 – 1400 total residents, occupying about 280 homes

# Mesa Grande Band of Indians

- The Reservation encompasses approximately 1,820 acres
- The Reservation population is between 130 - 150 total residents, occupying about 36 homes



# GRID Alternatives

We make solar technology and job training accessible to underserved communities

Work with tribal communities thru GRID's 10 local offices and thru our Tribal Program based in Denver, which works with tribes not served by regional offices

550 tribal families served, 2.450MW installed, which will produce \$23M of energy

Over 450 Native American volunteers

# Shared Cultural Values

- GRID Alternatives
  - People, Planet, Employment
  - Clean and renewable energy needs to include everyone
  - Solar and environmental justice
- San Pasqual
  - Strives to help our people care for our lands
  - To have a better life together, leading the way to a better future
  - Believe in fairness in providing opportunities to improve the lives and prosperity of our community
  - Build a sustainable economy for future generations

# How did we get here?

**July 2010:** Southern California Tribal Chairman's Association meeting

**April 2011:** First installation with La Jolla Band

**2011 – 2016:** 90+ installations with the 3 tribal partners

**2015:** Tekamuk Energy job training effort



# What does collaboration look like?

- Communication! Communication! Communication!
  - Regular meetings, “office hours”
- Tribal support of outreach
  - Contact families
  - Follow up with application, documents
- Tribal support of construction
  - Grading, trenching, shade mitigation, and site mapping
- Tribal support of workforce
  - Recruit and coordinate trainees
- Common goal: People. Planet. Employment.
  - Rely on our history / relationship / accomplishments when challenges arise















# Questions and Comments

Thank you

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