San Manuel
Tribal Utility Feasibility Assessment

Funded through
2017 DOE

‘First Steps Toward Developing Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency on Tribal Lands’
The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians is a federally recognized American Indian tribe located near the city of Highland, Calif. San Manuel is one of several clans of Serrano Indians, who are the indigenous people of the San Bernardino highlands, passes, valleys mountains and high deserts who share a common language and culture. The San Manuel reservation was established in 1891 and recognized as a sovereign nation with the right of self-government.

The reservation is named after Santos Manuel, a great tribal leader, and is located in southern California, in the foothills of the San Bernardino Mountain region, just north of the city of Highland. It consists of just over 900 acres of mostly mountainous land.
MISSION

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To promote our culture, protect our land and sustain our tribal government through education for the advancement of our Tribe and Community.

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San Manuel Today

• With more than 4,000 employees, San Manuel is one of the largest employers in San Bernardino County.

• The San Manuel Casino sees more than 1 Million visitors annually.

• 2016 purchase of more than 1,500 acres commonly known as the Arrowhead Springs Resort

• 2017 land swap with City of San Bernardino for over 120 acres around the western side of the Reservation
Why ‘First Steps?’

- Local utility provider at capacity to meet current tribal demand
- Future growth of tribal business enterprises
- Increased # of homes and facilities on the Reservation next 20 years
- Greater energy security for the Tribe
- WAPA
About the Hoover Product
Schedule D (New) Allocations

Applicant Peak Load
- Non-Tribe: 89% (4094 MW)
- Tribe: 11%

Capacity Allocated
- Non-Tribe: 61% (48.9 MW)
- Tribe: 39% (31.8 MW)
The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians (Tribe) received a power allocation from the Western Area Power Authority (WAPA) for 2,554 kW contingent capacity and 5,575,932 kWh of firm energy on December 18, 2014. The Tribe signed contracts agreeing to the allocation on August 31, 2016. An agreement was signed with Southern California Edison (SCE) to provide the Tribe with a benefit for this power on November 30, 2016. The energy will be delivered from October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2067. Based on this new opportunity the Tribe is decided to evaluate the feasibility of creating its own utility to maximize the WAPA benefit to the Tribe.
Boulder Canyon Project

- Allocation of Hoover Dam hydroelectric power for 50 years
- Tribe received an allocation of 2,554 MW or 5,576 MWh of electricity annually.
- Potential investment that could provide revenue source or cost savings over long term.
- Power is not free but is priced under market.
- Southern California Edison is San Manuel’s Benefit Crediting Partner
Next Steps for First Steps

If San Manuel decides to form a Tribal utility it could assume the energy obligations of the Tribe after providing notice to WAPA and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. The Tribe has the right to terminate the agreement with SCE at any time for any reason, once the tribal utility is prepared to assume the Hoover Dam power allocation to provide the maximum benefit to the Tribe.
Contact Info

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