San Pasqual Band of Indians Microgrid Project

December 10, 2018

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Project Title: SPBMI Microgrid

Topic Area: 3.a. Energy Infrastructure Deployment on Tribal Lands – 2018

Key Personnel: John Flores, SPBMI Environmental Director; David Martinez, Public Works Director; Andrew Orosco, SPBMI Planning Director; Desiree Morales-Whitman, SPBMI Utility Manager

Project Summary: The SPBMI Microgrid Project, a hybrid solar + storage + LP system with 184 kW of PV capacity, 150 kW/300 kWh of batteries, and 44 kW of standby generation, is designed to achieve four primary objectives: 1) Ensure the availability of resilient energy for five tribal facilities identified as essential in the San Pasqual Hazard Mitigation Plan and San Pasqual Energy & Resiliency Plan; 2) Provide solar generation sufficient to achieve net-zero energy consumption at the five essential facilities; 3) Reduce the tribe's lifetime levelized costs of energy (LCOE); and 4) Support tribal energy objectives including reducing greenhouse gas emissions and achieving net-zero energy balance by the year 2021.

Description of Impact:

- Strengthening the tribal administration's ability to provide critical public services including first response (both fire and police), reservation security, emergency sheltering and evacuation capacity, and administration command and control capabilities.
- Saving approximately \$45,190 in electric energy costs per year on average, or \$1.13 million over the system's 25-year useful life.
- Reducing net electric energy imports to the reservation by approximately 278,300 kWh per year, offsetting about 96% of the tribe's grid electricity consumption for five essential tribal facilities.





2017 Usage & Cost

During 2017, the five essential facilities consumed 288,481 kWh of electricity supplied by SDG&E SDG&E billed the tribe \$74,886 for that electricity over a 12month period – representing an average unit cost of \$0.2596 cents/kWh

The tribe pays a relatively high price (\$0.256/kWh) for grid electric service that has been demonstrated vulnerable to outages

Generation/electricity charges on these bills varied by season and time of use

Facility	Essential Purpose	Essential Electric Loads	Square Footage	Electric Load (kWh/year*)
Tribal Administration	Red Cross evacuation center; emergency public shelter; tribal management command and control	HVAC, lighting, telecommunications	19,908	111,283
Housing & Security	First response (police); public safety and security monitoring	Telecom/IT, security camera monitoring, lighting	3,475	76,872
Fire Department	First response (residential fire station); 911 emergency dispatch	Telecom/IT, lighting, overhead door operation	5,362	38,944
Education Building	Emergency public shelter	HVAC, food storage, food service, lighting	10,279	44,239
Preschool	Emergency public shelter	HVAC, lighting	2,874	17,144
Total - Five Facilities			41,898	288,481

Fig. 4.1: Essential Tribal Facility Summary

*Load data derived from SDG&E interval metering data for 365 days beginning 1/2/2017.



SDG&E Power Outages

- San Pasqual Government Buildings (Admin/Tribal Hall, Fire, Housing/Police, Education) experience multiple power outages each year
- Outages can extend for multiple hours; the longest outage in 2017 affected the five essential tribal facilities for a period of 19 to 20 hours
- Tribal Hall is a Certified Red Cross Emergency Shelter



Reasons for Power Outages

Severe weather

> High winds (Santa Ana winds in the fall)

➤ Wildfires

➤ Earthquakes

Localized physical damage to utility distribution systems

SDG&E system upgrades (planned outages)

San Pasqual and Wildfire



Major* Outage	Tribal Admin	Housing/	Fire	Education	Preschool
Duration (2017)	Offices	Security	Station		
Outage Minutes	2,040	2,040	1,275	1,260	1,260
Outage Hours	34	34	21	21	21
Longest Outage - Minutes	1,200	1,200	1,125	1,110	1,110
Longest Outage - Hours	20	20	19	19	19

Fig. 4.2: Major Outages at Essential Tribal Facilities (2017)

*Outage duration derived from 15-minute interval metering data for seven SDG&E electric meters serving five buildings. This data excludes frequent outages lasting less than 15 minutes.



Tribal Benefits

- Strengthening the tribal administration's ability to provide critical public services including first response (both fire and police), reservation security, emergency sheltering and evacuation capacity, and administration command and control capabilities
- Saving approximately \$45,190 in electric energy costs per year on average, or \$1.13 million over the system's 25-year useful life.
- Reducing net electric energy imports to the reservation by approximately 278,481 kWh per year
- Producing approximately 6.5 GWh of renewable electricity over the system's lifetime to offset about 96% of the tribe's grid electricity consumption for the five facilities served.



Tribal & Environmental Benefits

- Reducing the environmental footprint by approximately 1,954 tons of carbon dioxide (CO2), 275 lbs. of sulfur oxides (SOX), and 1,648 lbs. of nitrogen oxide (NOX) over the system's lifetime
- Enabling the safe installation of 4 electric-vehicle (EV) charging stations at the Tribal Administration building parking lot
- Backup propane gensets to provide standby capacity in the event of an outage at a time when the batteries are depleted from daytime load
- Upgrading San Pasqual Government electrical infrastructure to 3-phase service
- First and only tribe in San Diego County with a microgrid.

Fig. 4.3: SPBMI Microgrid Resource Portfolio

Asset	Nameplate Capacity		Estimated Production	
	kW (DC)	kW (AC)	kWh/yr	
Carport PV (New)	114.6	97.4	172,879	
Rooftop PV (New)	69.9	59.4	105,421	
New PV	184.5	156.8	278,300	
Rooftop PV (Existing 1)	9.6	8.6	11,269	
Rooftop PV (Existing 2)	14.4	12.7	18,019	
Existing PV	24.0	21.3	29,288	
Battery Energy Storage System	150kW/300kW			
LP-Fueled Gensets	44 kW			

*Existing 24 kW (DC) system located on Education building will be integrated into the system, but its output is excluded from system economic and environmental modeling to avoid doublecounting its production, which already is offsetting onsite loads.

Economics for SPBMI Microgrid

- Total installed cost: \$1,396,636; DOE \$698,318; SP \$500,000 (cash), \$198,318 (in-kind)
- Life of the proposed system: 25 years (with 15-year BESS and controller replacement)
- Payback period: 20.89 years (12 years for the tribal investment)
- Sources of financing: DOE grant matched by tribal cash and in-kind investment. The tribe intends to apply for California Self-Generation Investment Program (SGIP) rebates applicable to in-state storage investments. SGIP rebates are expected to contribute \$120,000 to project cash flow over a period of six years
- Cash-flow analysis: The tribe's investment is expected to begin producing a positive internal rate of return (IRR) in the 12th year of operation. The net 25-year IRR for the tribe's investment is expected to be 7.5 percent, producing a cumulative return to the tribe of approximately \$1.13 million.
- Financing terms: The tribe intends to invest its own equity in the project. Seeking tax-equity financing for solar and storage assets, as an untaxed entity with sovereign immunity, are difficult and costly to arrange
- Equipment purchasing: The tribe anticipates purchasing equipment, materials, and services on a tax-free basis

Questions and Comments

Thank you

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