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CONGRESSMAN HUFFMAN MEETS WITH LOCAL TRIBES AND AGENCIES TO DISCUSS MICROGRID CLEAN ENERGY

Eureka, CA [06-21-24]: In a string of Northern California Tribal visits, Congressman Jared Huffman was able to meet with several tribes at the Redwood Coast Energy Authority, which is a local non-profit governmental agency that procures electricity to Humboldt County. This meeting took place in Eureka, CA; a small coastal city where clean energy is sought after and favored. Local Tribes, Energy companies and the Congressman met to discuss Solar Microgrids as a source of clean energy.

Schatz Energy Research Center, from Cal Poly Humboldt, designed a solar microgrid that provides clean energy to one of the tribes at the meeting, Blue Lake Rancheria, who has already been placed on Microgrid energy as their 100 acres of trust land is frequently subjected to power outages due to their remote location and heavy rainstorms. The microgrid consists of a solar array, battery storage and a control system that saves the Rancheria Campus around \$150,000 annually in electricity.

Tribal Energy Resilience And Sovereignty (TERAS) is a joint effort of the Karuk Tribe, Yurok Tribe, Hoopa Valley Tribe and Blue Lake Rancheria that has been working aggressively for the last year and a half to become completely energy resilient in an effort for tribal sovereignty. If awarded the Department of Energy Grant proposal, the Redwood Coast Energy Authority would be the recipient and all the tribes would be sub-awardees. The Karuk tribe would then begin a Three-Phased project benefiting all three of their communities. The First Phase starting in Orleans, that if successful, would initiate the Second Phase of microgrid installation in Happy Camp. The Third Phase will be the installation of a solar array at the new medical compound that is yet to be constructed in Yreka. Rain Rock Casino in Yreka is currently utilizing a 1 megawatt solar array that offsets 95% of their power consumption.

Congressman Huffman heard the concerns of the tribes and will talk to the California Public Utilities Commission on behalf of the tribes as well as be their voice in Congress. Further establishing the relationship between the Congressman and tribal governments. The outlook is promising.



REDWOOD COAST
Energy Authority

