



Inland Empire Regional Priorities

Track D: Inland Empire Climate Resilience
and Regional Action



Inland Empire Regional Priorities



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Inland Empire Regional Priorities

SESSION OBJECTIVE

- Share the latest updates on California Climate and Energy Collaborative's (CCEC) Regional Energy and Climate Hub (REACH) initiative since our inaugural event at Morongo in December 2024.
- Facilitate an interactive session with attendees to gather information to update REACH IE materials that elevate the region's priorities and leverage opportunities to advance energy and climate funding and capacity in the region.

AGENDA

- What do we already know about the region's priorities?
- Regional Priorities Activity
- Project Huddles
 - Energy efficiency & electrification
 - Renewable energy, storage, and energy resilience
 - EV and charging stations
 - Sustainable development, housing and transportation
 - Climate adaptation and resilience
- Report Out & Upcoming Opportunities

WRCOG Energy Resilience Plan

- Why develop an Energy Resilience Plan?
 - WRCOG Resilient IE and SCE identified vulnerabilities in our region's energy supply
 - Inland Empire experiences power outages (planned, unplanned, PSPS, etc.)
 - Climate hazards are more impactful, more frequent, and less predicable, sometimes resulting in power outages
 - Multiple socioeconomic vulnerabilities
- A plan to assist public agencies with strengthening community resilience and facilities against power outages
- What does ERP and ERP 2.0 do?
 - Assists with identifying and prioritizing public facilities for investment
 - Literature review and regulatory memo
 - Feasibility studies for microgrids and community resilience centers
 - Explores funding and financing methods, and implementation pathways

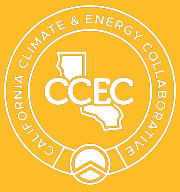


RECORDS BROKEN
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

City	Temp	Old Record
Riverside, CA (Tied)	117°	115° ¹⁹⁵⁵
Escondido, CA	115°	104° ¹⁹⁵⁵
San Jacinto, CA	114°	108° ¹⁹⁸⁸
Ramona, CA (Tied)	112°	102° ¹⁹⁸³
Santa Ana, CA	110°	100° ²⁰¹³

Los Angeles Times
<https://www.latimes.com › story › 2023-04-03 › parts-o...>
High wind warning issued for Southern California, outages ...
 Apr 3, 2023 — Strong winds are expected to hit much of Southern California on Monday, bringing the risk of downed trees, power outages and elevated fire danger.

ABC7 Los Angeles
<https://abc7.com › post › heat-puts-strain-social-grid-kn...>
Heat wave knocks out power to thousands of Southern ...
 Sep 7, 2024 — Thousands of Southern Californians lost power as the heat wave put a strain on the region's electrical grid.



What is SLECC & REACH

State & Local Energy & Climate Coordination (SLECC) Presents Regional Energy and Climate Hub (REACH) CA

Regional Energy and Climate Hubs (REACH) are administered by CCEC, a neutral statewide entity. As REACH Administrator, it convenes and coordinates community serving organizations in the region, helps community serving organizations document and communicate needs to the state, and leverage their capacity and resources. REACH is an extension of the *State and Local Energy and Climate Coordination (SLECC)* effort led by CCEC with facilitation support by the Strategic Growth Council.

We believe more streamlined and sustained coordination among governments, CBOs, philanthropy, higher education, and other assistance providers can help regions better leverage available capacity and resources to accelerate place-based energy, climate, and land use goals. We know CA communities and agencies want to ensure the right investments are made in the right places and projects, but are stretched thin and are overwhelmed by so many siloed engagement and assistance opportunities, making it especially challenging for those most in need to participate.

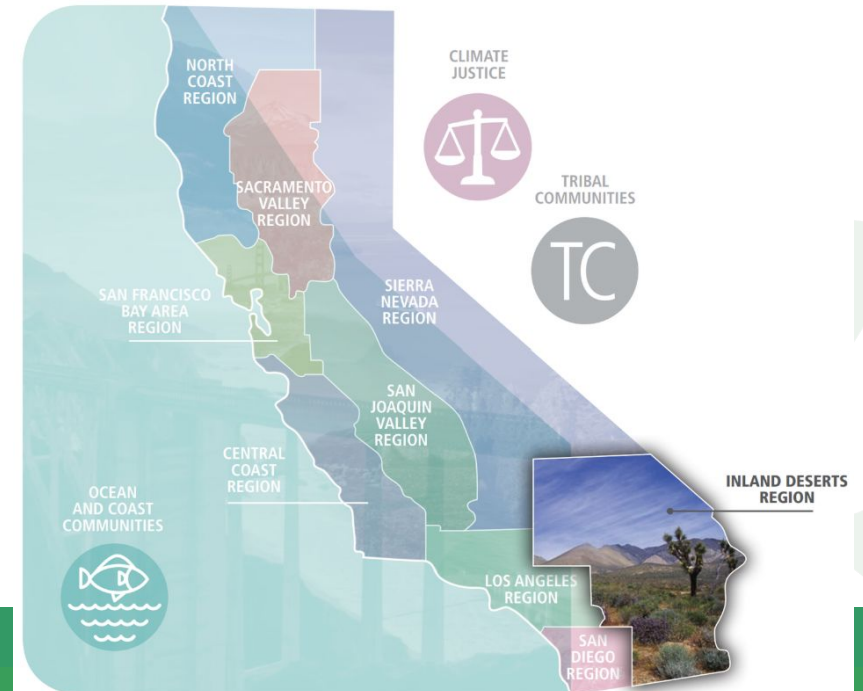
The goals of REACH are to:

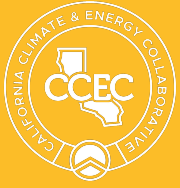
- Help identify, document, and map a comprehensive and cumulative understanding of the region's priorities, needs, challenges, and landscape of stakeholders and assistance providers that can be used guide effective State and regional efforts (through discussions and activities).
- More easily access and inform specific, active State input opportunities on relevant policy, programs and projects, ensuring more inclusive, actionable and participatory decision-making (through State-led breakouts)
- Exchange knowledge, best practices, and successes about community-driven efforts through Region-led breakouts.
- Gain awareness of and access to available State and regional funding, incentive, or technical opportunities - or suitable participants for your programs and services (through our assistance lounge and guide).
- Help develop a bold statewide solution that addresses challenges communities face in accessing sustained funding and assistance for priority projects with less capacity extracted away from action (through discussions and activities)
- Build or deepen collaborative relationships among State and community-serving organizations that can innovate, replicate, or scale up the region's promising efforts (through networking and ongoing communication opportunities)

PURPOSE

A streamlined and sustained communication and coordination hub to help regional and state leaders to work together more closely to elevate and catalyze place-based energy, climate, and land use progress and effectively leverage resources and investments where needed.

REACH = Regional Energy and Climate Hubs





Inaugural REACH Event

REACH Inland Empire

Thursday, December 5, 2024
Morongo Conference Center

Presented by:

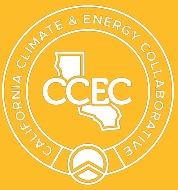


CALIFORNIA
STRATEGIC
GROWTH
COUNCIL

Sponsored by:



AVAILABILITY



REACH IE Materials



State & Local Energy & Climate Coordination (SLECC) Presents REACH Inland Empire

REACH's long term mission is to leverage the collective power of state, federal and regional capacity and resources to advance place-based energy, climate, and land use priorities through lasting regional hubs. It is community-driven (local gov, tribal gov, academic institutions, philanthropy, CBO/NGOs) and partners and engages with State and federal agencies.

In the effort to continue engagement in the Inland Empire (San Bernardino, Riverside and Imperial Counties) REACH is intended as an ongoing series. To that end we have created the opportunities below to stay engaged and begin to plan future events.

[JOIN THE LISTSERV!](#)

[SHARE ORGANIZATIONS YOU THINK SHOULD BE AT THE TABLE](#)

[REQUEST TO JOIN THE PLANNING COMMITTEE FOR OUR NEXT EVENTS](#)

REACH Resources

CCEC and SGC will continuously work to build on what we are learning from the inland empire to build a landscape analysis and [assistance guide](#) for the region. These materials are intended to support community and state leaders as they seek to understand and serve the region and will evolve over time as we continue to engage. Like we said, Regional Energy and Climate Hubs (REACH) are intended to be more than just a convening!

Regional Assistance Guide

The Regional Assistance guide is a constantly updated guide showcasing organizations in the inland empire that provide FREE funding, incentives, or technical assistance to local, tribal, CBOs, NGOs, or schools in the Inland Empire.

[VIEW THE GUIDE](#)

[ADD YOUR SERVICES TO THE GUIDE!](#)

Landscape Analysis

CCEC has been compiling a dynamic report will continuously compile and refine a cumulative understanding of the key climate, energy, and land use priorities, players, and practices in the region known as the Inland Empire or Inland Deserts. This information is intended to help regional and state leaders better serve the region through improved access to funding, technical assistance, and helpful policies while reducing the need for duplicative, siloed, shallow, and time-consuming engagement from agencies and other service providers. Have feedback on our landscape analysis page? Add comments directly using the link [HERE](#). Feel free to comment directly on the page, attend our meeting to be a part of the discussion, or send an email to eeordinator@civicwell.org.

[VIEW THE LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS](#)



Dynamic Regional Landscape Analysis

Inland Empire / Inland Deserts

Continuously compiled with care by the State & Local Energy & Climate Coordination initiative (led by the California Climate and Energy Collaborative and Strategic Growth Council) thanks to generous input from regional stakeholders

REACH Inland Empire Regional Assistance Guide						
Organization	Description	Contact for Assistance	Link to Assistance	Assistance Type	Activities Covered	Eligible Participants
Assent	Assent is an interdisciplinary collaborative, dedicated to advancing community-driven solutions to regional energy, climate, and land use challenges.	Heidi@assent.org	assent.org	TA / Grant Writing / TA / Other	Renewable energy, storage and energy resilience (residential, commercial, industrial, and transportation sectors) Electric vehicles and charging stations (residential, commercial, industrial, and transportation sectors) Sustainable development, housing, and transportation plans	Tribal Governments Cities Counties COGs Nonprofits
California Air Resources Board		Cristina Schevets Patricia Air Pollution Specialist			Energy efficiency, electrification (public sector) Electric vehicles and charging stations (residential, commercial, industrial, and transportation sectors) Climate and/or energy action planning Affordable housing, smart growth, planning and land use Climate adaptation and resilience planning	Individuals
California Climate and Energy Collaborative		Angela Haecker Statewide Best Practices Coordinator	eeordinator@civicwell.org	Technical Assistance	Energy efficiency, electrification (public sector) Renewable energy, storage and energy resilience (residential, commercial, industrial, and transportation sectors) Climate adaptation and resilience planning	Nonprofits Cities Counties COGs
California Climate Investments	California Climate Investments programs facilitate greenhouse gas emissions reductions while providing environmental, economic, and public health benefits to Californians across the state. From affordable housing to clean transportation, urban greening to sustainable agriculture, water stewardship to technical assistance, and more, there are a variety of program and funding types available to support your project. Current opportunities can be found at https://climateinvestments.ca.gov/programs	info@climateinvestments.ca.gov	https://climateinvestments.ca.gov/programs	Grant Funding	Renewable energy, storage and energy resilience (residential, commercial, industrial, and transportation sectors) Electric vehicles and charging stations (residential, commercial, industrial, and transportation sectors) Sustainable development, housing, and transportation plans	Tribal Governments Tribal Residents Cities Counties Individuals COGs Nonprofits
California Energy Commission		Deena Carrillo			Energy efficiency, electrification (public sector) Renewable energy, storage and energy resilience (residential, commercial, industrial, and transportation sectors) Electric vehicles and charging stations (residential, commercial, industrial, and transportation sectors) Climate and/or energy action planning Affordable housing, smart growth, planning and land use Climate adaptation and resilience planning	Individuals
California Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation		Byce Lewis-Smith			Energy efficiency, electrification (public sector) Sustainable development, housing, and transportation plans Climate and/or energy action planning Affordable housing, smart growth, planning and land use Climate adaptation and resilience planning Sustainable Agriculture Organizational development and grant writing	Tribal Governments
California's Climate Change Assessment Inland Deserts	We are a team of dedicated scientists, researchers, and community partners working together to understand the impacts and solutions of climate change in California's Inland Desert areas.	garden@ccca.edu, liz@ccca.edu, krista@ccca.edu, em@ccca.edu		Community Engagement		Tribal Governments Tribal Residents Cities Counties Individuals Nonprofits
CalStart				Incentives		
Center for Employment Training	Non-Profit Vocational Adult School with 11 Campuses throughout CA. Established over 50 years ago. COE Accredited School.	https://cetrnab.org/about-us	https://cetrnab.org/about-us	Grant Writing Assistance Technical Assistance Grant Funding	Energy efficiency, electrification (residential, commercial, industrial, and transportation sectors) Organizational development and grant writing	Tribal Governments Tribal Residents Cities Counties Individuals Nonprofits



REACH Informs Statewide Report

SLECC 2026 Priorities Update



[2025 SLECC Report](#)

Priority 1: AFFORDABILITY & DECARBONIZATION

Scaling up decarbonized and climate-resilient buildings and homes amid affordability concerns

Barriers:

- Energy Affordability & Rates
- Retrofit Feasibility
- Climate Resilient Housing

Priority 2: STREAMLINED FUNDING & IMPLEMENTATION

Streamlining funding access and implementation support for community-driven climate action plans and clean energy, efficiency and decarbonization initiatives in difficult times

Barriers:

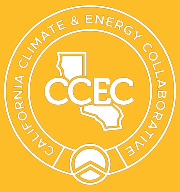
- Transitioning to Implementation: Planning Capacity
- Insufficient Investment
- Unstable Assistance
- Application Burden & Accessibility
- Representation & Inclusion

Priority 3: GRID RESILIENCE & DER INTEGRATION

Building local energy resilience through improved utility processes for interconnection, grid infrastructure, and distributed energy resources

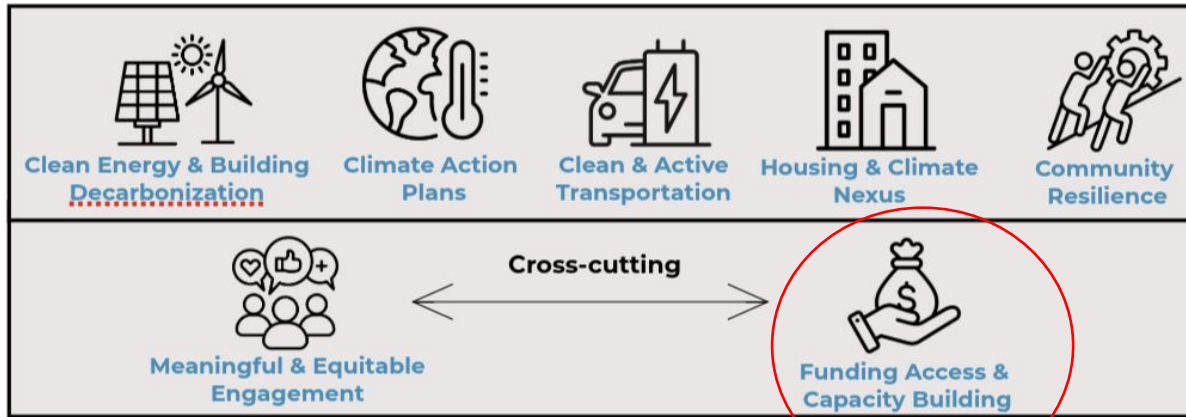
Barriers:

- Grid Infrastructure
- Interconnection and Energization Processes
- Energy Resilience
- Transportation Electrification



What's Holding Back Place-Based Progress

SLECC Report Findings



Barrier 1: Insufficient Investment

Significant budget and funding constraints at local, state and federal levels prevent adequate investments and capacity in needed energy, climate and land use strategies.

Barrier 2: Unstable Assistance

Fluctuations in federal and state politics and budgets result in funding and technical assistance opportunities for local and place-based efforts that are often offered on a one-time basis and do not recur at predictable intervals, and are not reliably available.

Barrier 3: Application Burden & Accessibility

Competitive public grant applications are overly complex, confusing, and inflexible pass/fail processes that are oversubscribed with little standardization, extracting limited organizational capacity that could be used for action while creating prohibitively high costs and low success probabilities that discourage resource-constrained organizations from attempting to apply.

Barrier 4: State & Federal Funding Priorities

State and federal funding priorities often misalign with local needs, favoring rigid rules, reactive approaches, and shifting policies that undermine innovation, certainty, and community-driven solutions.

Barrier 5: Political, Economic, & Structural Risks

When outdated tax systems, fragmented governance, and political or financial mistrust shape funding, communities face unstable revenues and limited access to resources needed for long-term solutions.

Barrier 6: Capacity Building

Local, tribal, and regional entities lack sustained funding, staffing, and representation to engage effectively in state planning implementation, leading to fragmented efforts, inequitable participation, and missed opportunities to build long-term, community-driven capacity.

Priority 2: STREAMLINED FUNDING & IMPLEMENTATION

Streamlining funding access and implementation support for community-driven climate action plans and clean energy, efficiency and decarbonization initiatives in difficult times



Inland Empire Regional Priorities

Let's Prioritize!

We'll use mentimeter to go a step deeper in understanding the IE region's priorities in 2026.



*Join at [menti.com](https://www.menti.com) |
use code 4872 0796*



Inland Empire Regional Priorities

Project Huddles!

Funding energy and climate projects is a big challenge. Let's breakout into tables by topic, workshop your projects, and identify available assistance

**ID someone to fill in handout*

TABLE DISCUSSIONS

1. Join one of the following table "huddles"
 - a. Energy efficiency & electrification
 - b. Renewable energy, storage, and energy resilience
 - c. Electric vehicles and charging stations
 - d. Sustainable development, housing and transportation
 - e. Climate adaptation and resilience

2. Workshop "stuck" projects
 - a. What is the project and where did it get stuck?
 - b. What ways can this project get unstuck?
Please share successes
 - c. What assistance available to the region could help this project? Please help us add providers to the Regional Assistance Guide



Report out

Please share key regional assistance providers you identified that can help get projects in the region “unstuck”

- Energy efficiency & electrification
- Renewable energy, storage, and energy resilience
- Electric vehicles and charging stations
- Sustainable development, housing and transportation
- Climate adaptation and resilience

Upcoming Opportunities

- **Monthly LERN web meetings (April 14) including funding opportunities**
 - LCI Extreme Heat & Community Resilience
 - SGC Community Resilience Centers
 - SGC Transformative Climate Communities
 - Other: Prop 4, SB 54
- **LCI/SGC Catalyst Convening (TBD)**
- **17th Annual CCEC Forum & SLECC Meeting (LA, June 23-25)**
- **Stay tuned for piloted services available to REACH IE**

Sign up for the REACH IE Listserv

