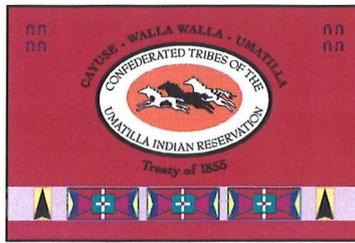


**Confederated Tribes** *of the*  
**Umatilla Indian Reservation**

Office of the Executive Director



4641 Timine Way, Pendleton, OR 97801  
(541) 429-7363 | phone/fax  
<https://ctuir.org> | [oed@ctuir.org](mailto:oed@ctuir.org)

December 28, 2023

via email  
[joseph.abraham@puc.oregon.gov](mailto:joseph.abraham@puc.oregon.gov)  
[puc.publiccomments@puc.oregon.gov](mailto:puc.publiccomments@puc.oregon.gov)

Public Utility Commission of Oregon  
201 High Street SE  
Salem, OR 97301

**RE: CTUIR Support for Renewable Energy and the Tutuilla Solar Project**

**UM 1930 & UM 2177**

Dear Public Utilities Commission of Oregon:

On behalf of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR), I am writing to provide support for the 1.56 MW Tutuilla Solar Project and to reaffirm the CTUIR's position on renewable energy. The CTUIR has adopted a Strategic Energy Plan and a Climate Adaptation Plan, which strongly support renewable energy project development for the benefits it provides to both the community and our planet. For example, the Tutuilla Solar project will directly benefit the Umatilla Indian Reservation community through a subscription agreement whereby 10% of the power generated (i.e. financial benefits) will help off-set low-income tribal households' electricity bills. Additionally, annual fair market lease payments will be paid to the Tribal Government over the life of the project along with property taxes for providing essential governmental services.

The CTUIR is also interested in supporting additional community solar projects, net metering projects, rooftop solar projects, and upgrading the on-reservation electrical distribution grid system to support electrical vehicle charger deployment at numerous CTUIR facilities. Essential to many of these projects going forward is the interconnection and enhancement of the electrical distribution grid system. Without an efficient, timely, and cost-effective process in place for this, many of the proposed renewable energy projects are unable to proceed.

Our request for the Public Utility Commission is to encourage Pacific Power (PacifiCorp) to start the design and equipment procurement phase necessary for interconnecting the Tutuilla solar facility so the project can be completed in 2024. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Patrick Mills at [patrickmills@ctuir.org](mailto:patrickmills@ctuir.org) or Monica Paradise at [monicaparadise@ctuir.org](mailto:monicaparadise@ctuir.org).

Sincerely,

Donald G. Sampson, Executive Director

cc: [ezell.watson@puc.oregon.gov](mailto:ezell.watson@puc.oregon.gov)