

## California Strategic Growth Council: 2024 Catalyst Conference

# Progress in Place: From Power Building to Project Implementation

With historic investment through the Inflation Reduction Act and California's Climate Budget, "Progress in Place: From Power Building to Project Implementation," promotes community and local capacity, while anticipating challenges associated with project development and implementation. The sessions reflect the urgency to make place-based investments that center and support disinvested communities, at the speed at which federal and state funds are being deployed.

February 1 - 2, 2024 | Sacramento, California

## 1.1 Supporting Tribal Energy Sovereignty

### Session Leads

**Shelby Keplin**, Tribal Relations Specialist, Indigenized Energy, [shelby@4indigenized.energy](mailto:shelby@4indigenized.energy)

**David Riley**, Co-founder and Director of Strategy, Indigenized Energy, [david@4indigenized.energy](mailto:david@4indigenized.energy)

### Session Overview

---

The energy transition offers significant opportunities for clean energy development and economic benefits, particularly for communities in need. Across the U.S., from California to Maine, and Alaska to Florida, tribes are focusing on achieving Energy Sovereignty. California alone has 110 federally recognized tribes and about 80 non-recognized tribes, each with their own organizational structures and cultures. Federally recognized tribes, operating as independent sovereignties, are typically exempt from state laws. Both federal and state funding are available to support energy transition in tribal lands. Some questions addressed in this session include:

**What does energy sovereignty mean?**

**Why are tribes seeking to form tribal utilities?**

**How can tribes create plans for achieving energy sovereignty?**

**What are some success stories of tribes?**

**Indigenized Energy** collaborates with tribes to create tailored, long-term energy transformation plans suited to each community's unique needs. There are increasing success stories of tribes initiating renewable energy projects, implementing microgrids, and asserting their sovereignty against utilities. This session will discuss strategies to assist tribes in developing comprehensive energy visions and plans, aiming to achieve both energy sovereignty and economic growth.

## Session Outcomes

---

This session is intended to be participatory and enable the lessons and wisdom of attendees to be shared with everyone. The goal of the session is to grow a better understanding of energy sovereignty and its pursuit among all participants. In addition, we look forward to advancing the collective understanding of how to support tribes in the sacred journey of energy transition.

Specifically, attendees will:

- Understand potential that Energy Sovereignty offers tribes including the motivations driving tribes in their quest to form tribal utilities.
- Be oriented with a framework for organizing tribal energy transformation planning and examples of strategies that are being utilized by tribes
- Have an opportunity to network and make connections across energy change agents in tribal communities and potential catalytic resources.
- Learn about the types of investments that are needed to support tribes in pursuit of energy sovereignty

## Session Resources

---

### [Session Powerpoint.](#)

Indigenized Energy

[www.4indigenized.energy](http://www.4indigenized.energy)



Indigenized Energy

[Prospectus](#)



Bi-Partisan Infrastructure Law  
Tribal Playbook



Tribal Energy Transformation  
[Framework](#)

