



# Redwood Region RISE

## Renewable and Resilient Energy Activation Plan



**California's Redwood Region**  
Tribal Lands, Del Norte, Humboldt,  
Lake, and Mendocino Counties

**A Product of Redwood Region RISE**  
The California Center for Rural Policy  
at Cal Poly Humboldt

# Executive Summary

## Renewable and Resilient Energy: A Just Transition

California's Redwood Region is positioned to lead a just energy transition—harnessing our natural assets, regional ingenuity, and deep-rooted commitment to environmental stewardship. Through Tribal leadership, cross-sector partnerships, and innovation, the region is catalyzing a Renewable and Resilient Energy (RRE) sector that centers equity, builds long-term economic strength, and models how rural communities can shape a clean energy future.

This Activation Plan outlines an integrated approach to regional sector development through three mutually reinforcing strategies:

- **Workforce Development:** Build inclusive pathways into energy careers by expanding pre-apprenticeship programs, training low-voltage electricians, and aligning regional partners to meet clean energy workforce needs.
- **Community Energy Resilience:** Invest in infrastructure that makes our communities safer and more self-reliant, including microgrids, efficiency upgrades, and support for Tribally and worker-owned clean energy enterprises.
- **Information and Resource Sharing:** Grow public support for clean energy, facilitate Tribal-academic partnerships, launch Clean Energy Hubs, and strengthen local governments' policy capacity.

## Anticipated Impact

We envision a region where investment in energy efficiency and clean power generation creates high-quality jobs, strengthens local supply chains, and benefits those historically excluded from prosperity. Expected outcomes by August 2026 include:

- Increased participation in clean energy careers through training, internships, and workforce programs.
- Deployment of regionally owned clean energy infrastructure, including community microgrids and Tribal-led projects.
- Growth in Tribal and worker-owned energy enterprises.

- Expanded access to energy efficiency upgrades for rural households and small businesses.
- Strengthened capacity for policy and regulatory engagement among local governments.

Economic indicators will be paired with equity and quality-of-life metrics to evaluate progress. These include job creation, funding secured, number of homes and businesses upgraded, and breadth of community participation.

## Regional Partners

This Activation Plan is developed by Blue Lake Rancheria as the Sector Investment Coordinator and shaped by Catalyst project leaders (Pinoleville Pomo Nation, Scotts Valley Energy Corporation, Building Lives Through Building Structure, GRID Alternatives), implementation partners (Redwood Coast Energy Authority, Schatz Energy Research Center, Mendocino Council of Governments, Lake Area Planning Council), local governments, Tribal Nations in the Redwood Region, economic development organizations, educational institutions, utilities, and nonprofit allies. Strategic collaborations such as the WindLINK initiative and the Tribal-led TERAS project exemplify the region's shared commitment to inclusive and community-centered energy solutions.

**This living document reflects the Redwood Region's readiness to lead—not only in advancing renewable energy—but in modeling a regenerative, equitable, and resilient energy economy for California and beyond.**

**As a living document, this plan will evolve as our work advances. Matthew Marshall, Renewable and Resilient Energy Sector Investment Coordinator—and his team at the Blue Lake Rancheria—will collaborate with the Redwood Region RISE Collaborative, Sector Advisory Council, and community partners to conduct semi-annual comprehensive reviews, with the next revision scheduled for February 2026. These updated versions will be shared publicly to ensure transparency and community engagement.**