

MICROGRID KNOWLEDGE™

2023 CONFERENCE

LIGHTS ON!

May 16-17, 2023 | Anaheim, CA

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Resilient Microgrids Empowering Communities:

Takeaways from a California Case Study





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Agenda

1

The Challenge

- Community needs
- The system goals

2

The Solution

- The players
- Delivered system

3

Lessons Learned

- Questions to ask
- Mistakes to avoid

Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians

- Over 500 individuals living on the reservation
- Dedicated to preserving the environment
- Located in a Tier 3 Extreme High Fire Threat Zone





A fire station to combat wildfires, a microgrid to eliminate power outages

The objectives

- 
- **Strengthen resilience**
 - **Reduce cost and emissions**
 - **Education and workforce development**
 - **Demonstrate microgrid for future deployment**

The Core Team



The California Energy Commission
\$1.7M grant for long-duration storage

Grid Alternatives
Grant recipient and project lead



UC Riverside
Technical advisor

Energy Vendors
Hardware and relevant expertise





50 kW solar carport



50 kW/500 kWh Vanadium Redox Flow Battery (VRFB)



Energy Management System



80 hours of paid training

The project challenges



- Equipment availability
- Fluctuating prices
- Supply chain constraints
- Covid delays

Key Takeaways

1

Pull together players early on

- Define roles to eliminate scope gap
- Do your research

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Fully vet all subcontractors

- Worked in the area before?
- Willing to bid prevailing wage jobs?
- Align with your company's mission?

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Get ready to be flexible

- Budget contingencies
- Rule 21 and interconnect
- Unexpected delays

Going forward



**Thank you!
Questions?**



Booth #802

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