Project PEER: PacifiCorp's Equity-aware Enhancement of grid Resiliency

Technology Summary & Key Takeaway: The primary objective of Project PEER is to reduce impact of extreme weather events, particularly wildfires, on the grid that serves disadvantaged communities in areas with the highest risk of wildfires. The project focuses on deploying innovative asset hardening solutions using critical fire-resistant and fire prevention technologies to effectively reduce or eliminate ignition risks caused by overhead utility assets in the area, and significantly improving resiliency of the electrical system. Additionally, Yurok tribal reliability concerns will be addressed by upgrading substation assets and adding advanced microprocessor relays. PEER will catalyze workforce development and introduce 400+ pre-apprentice graduates into the workforce. 100% of the benefits flow to disadvantaged communities in Oregon, California, and Utah.

PEER

PacifiCorp's Equity-aware, Enhancement of Grid Resiliency

SCOPE

- 300+ miles covered conductor
- 6,000+ fire-resistant poles
- 3,500+ non-expulsion fuses
- Yurok tribal substation & relay upgrades
- Energy and forestry workforce programs

BENEFITS

- 5-minute SAIDI improvement
- Eliminate overhead line ignition risks
- 50% reduction in outages per mile
- Zero flood-related outages for Yurok Tribe
- 400+ pre-apprentice graduates

100% in high fire risk areas **100% impact to disadvantaged communities and tribes**

5 national forests **20,000+ people** **8,000+ sq miles** **29 endangered or threatened species**

Project Impact

- Reduce the likelihood and consequences of wildfire
- Minimize the impacts to the electric grid due to extreme weather
- Transformational, comprehensive approach to mitigating multiple hazards
- Align resilience investments with state, tribal and regional plans

Applicant Cost Share and DOE Funding

- Prime Recipient + Sub-recipients = $106.1 million
- DOE = $99.66 million
- Total project cost = $205.7 million

Partners and Key Personnel

Prime Recipient: PacifiCorp

Principal Investigator: *Rohit Nair*

Wildfire Program Owner: *Allen Berreth*

Program Lead: *Kevin Schiedler*

Program Manager: *Blake Wayment*

Yurok Substation Upgrades: *Jake Kathol*

Relay Engineering: *David Heffernan*

DEIA: *Emily Weaver*

Tribal Engagement: *Christina Medina*

Emergency Management: *Nora Yotsov*

Labor Engagement: *Nanette Quitt*

Sub-recipients:

Crater Lake EJATC: *Lance Corley*

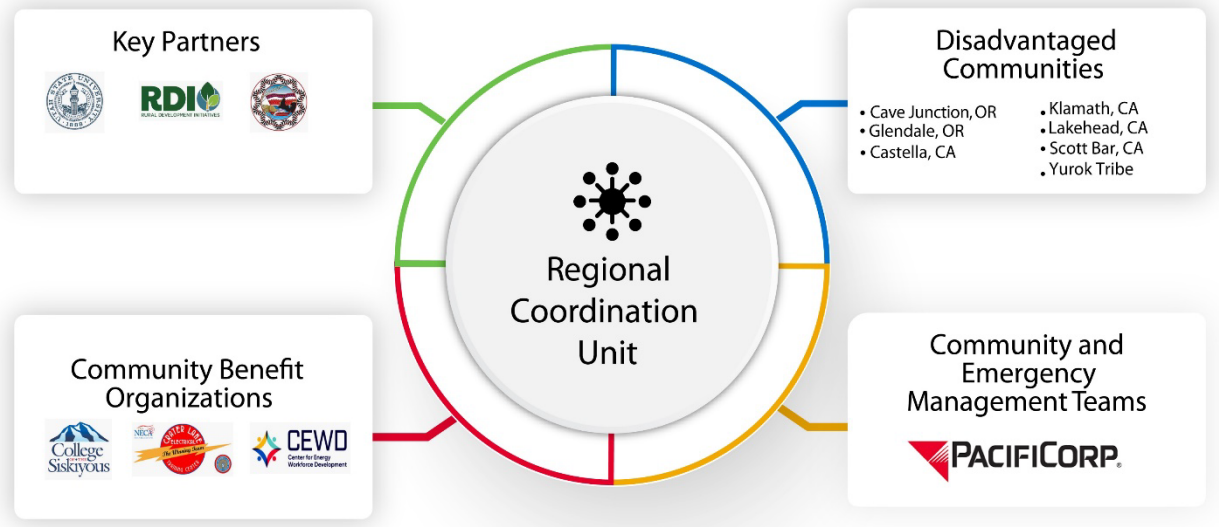
Rural Development Initiative: *Jennifer Groth*

Utah State University: *Regan Zane*

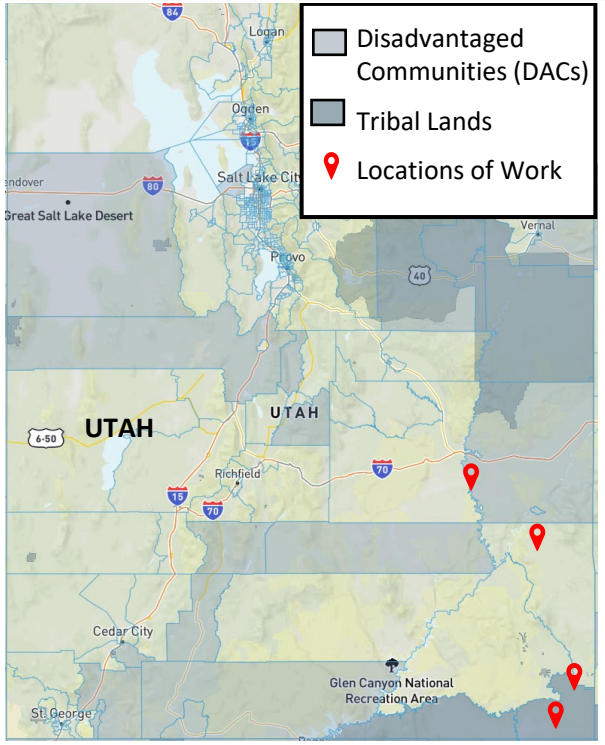
About PacifiCorp: PacifiCorp serves over 2 million customers across 144,000 sq. miles in California, Idaho, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. As the application's prime recipient, PacifiCorp is in a unique position to demonstrate the benefits of the proposed technology across the western United States for a largely rural and disadvantaged customer base.

Project PEER: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MODEL & IMPACT

Key Takeaway: PEER provides significant benefits to several disadvantaged and tribal communities in California and Oregon; its community engagement impact will also extend to disadvantaged coal communities in Utah negatively impacted by the transition to clean energy, and multiple locations in the Navajo tribal area. PacifiCorp will allocate approximately 10% of federal funding towards initiatives for workforce development, improved diversity in workforce and suppliers, and site-specific resiliency initiatives in communities impacted by public safety power shutoff (PSPS) events. By collaborating with universities, training centers, labor unions and high schools, PEER's pre-apprentice training program will introduce 400+ graduates into the workforce benefiting electrical, utility and renewable energy industries. PEER will establish a Regional Coordination Unit, led by Rural Development Initiatives (RDI), to create collaborative engagement between PacifiCorp and rural/local stakeholders. RDI will lead an independent, and data-driven approach to measure impact, optimize implementation structures, and maximize community benefits.



*Organizations listed in the figure are illustrative; do not represent an exhaustive list



Project Benefits

- Wildfire mitigation
- DEIA in workforce
- Energy reliability and resilience
- Workforce development
- Diverse supplier support

Illustrative Objectives*

- ✓ 400+ pre-apprentice graduates
- ✓ 10+ feasibilities for site-specific resiliency initiatives in communities impacted by PSPS
- ✓ Track supplier invitations for disadvantaged business enterprise (DBE) status

** - Complete list of objectives available in Cbenefits.pdf*

100% Project Implementation in Disadvantaged Communities and Tribal Lands