

Gila River Indian Community partners with Clēnera for 50 MW Solar Project

Sacaton, Arizona (January 15, 2020) – The Gila River Indian Community (GRIC or Community), along with the Gila River Indian Community Utility Authority (GRICUA), today announced they are working on forming a relationship with Clēnera, a leading solar development and asset management service provider, to create a 50 MW solar project within the Gila River Indian Community Reservation. The relationship will provide the Gila River Indian Community its first utility scale solar resource and is set to create additional operational and energy management jobs.

“In 2018, GRICUA began to explore the potential of creating a sustainable energy facility and in May of that year we issued a request for proposals for the development of a solar photovoltaic energy facility.” said GRICUA General Manager Leonard Gold. “In September of 2018 the GRICUA review team interviewed 6 companies that specialize in solar development. In October of 2018, the review team selected Clēnera because of its expertise and experience in the solar industry and the review team felt it would be a good fit. This new facility will create a clean, sustainable source of jobs, solar power and revenue to the Community. GRICUA looks forward to the completion of this project and to continue the relationship with Clēnera.”

In addition to the creation of infrastructure, GRICUA will enter into a power purchase agreement with Clēnera for a minimum of 10 MWs of solar power generated from the new facility and will also perform the overall maintenance of the facility. The project is expected to reach commercial operations by the end of 2022.

“Clēnera was established in Arizona and has been involved in local Arizona communities working on other solar projects,” said Clēnera Director of Business Development Jared McKee. “Our team understands the opportunities and challenges this project presents. Clēnera is excited to apply its experience to become a valuable long-term partner with the Gila River Indian Community to help them achieve their solar energy goals.”

About the Gila River Indian Community

The Gila River Indian Community is located on 372,000 acres in south-central Arizona and home to the indigenous O’odham (Pima) and Pee Posh (Maricopa) people. The Community is comprised of seven districts, the administrative offices and departments are located in Sacaton, and serve the Community members throughout these seven community districts.

About Clēnera

Headquartered in Boise, Idaho, Clēnera (pronounced “clean-era”) is a privately-held, renewable energy company that provides clean, affordable solar energy and storage to utilities throughout the United States. Clēnera has created industry-leading systems and technology to develop and engineer power systems that deliver and store clean energy to the nation’s largest and most respected utilities helping them become clean energy leaders in their communities while maintaining affordable, reliable energy. Clēnera’s current portfolio exceeds 1.4 GWdc of utility-scale solar projects in construction and operation, and more than 12 GWdc in its development pipeline. Clēnera is one of the top ten solar developers in the United States.

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