

**Southern Ute Alternative Energy Announces California Minority-Owned Business Entity (MBE) Certification**

Southern Ute Alternative Energy, LLC ([www.suaellc.com](http://www.suaellc.com)) announced today that it has received certification as a Minority-owned Business Entity (MBE) from the California Supplier Clearinghouse. Southern Ute Alternative Energy, LLC is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe's Growth Fund ([www.sugf.com](http://www.sugf.com)).

Under General Order 156, the California Public Utilities Commission ("CPUC") requires large investor-owned utilities and their regulated subsidiaries in California to implement programs that expand their business relationships with woman and minority owned businesses ("WMBEs"). The Clearinghouse is a Commission-supervised entity which audits and verifies the status of WMBEs and maintains a database of woman, minority and service disabled veteran owned businesses that is accessible to both the CPUC and participating utilities.

"We're pleased to receive the MBE certification from Supplier Clearinghouse," said Southern Ute Alternative Energy President Rebecca Kauffman. "Following certification, we can provide California utilities an option to help them meet their diversity requirements. We look forward to building on the Southern Ute Indian Tribe's strong business connections in the energy sector by partnering with California utilities on their MBE and renewable energy project goals."

Southern Ute Alternative Energy, LLC invests in renewable and alternative energy assets. The Southern Ute Indian Tribe is an AAA credit-rated organization whose commercial diversification division (The Southern Ute Indian Tribe Growth Fund) is involved in operating businesses in conventional and alternative energy, real estate, construction and private equity.