



GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY UTILITY AUTHORITY (GRICUA)

EFFECTIVE WAYS FOR TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS TO WORK WITH UTILITIES

JOHN B. LEWIS

CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY UTILITY AUTHORITY (GRICUA)

SPEAKER BACKGROUND

John B. Lewis

- ❖ Chairman of the Board Of Directors for the Gila River Indian Community Utility Authority (GRICUA)
- ❖ Board of Directors for the Gila River Telecommunications Inc. (GRTI)
- ❖ Over 10 years of tribal energy development experience
 - Solar, wind and biomass feasibility studies
 - Strategic energy plan development
 - Tribal utilities feasibility studies
 - Energy related rights-of-way negotiations
 - Power purchase negotiations with utilities
 - Energy and efficiency strategies



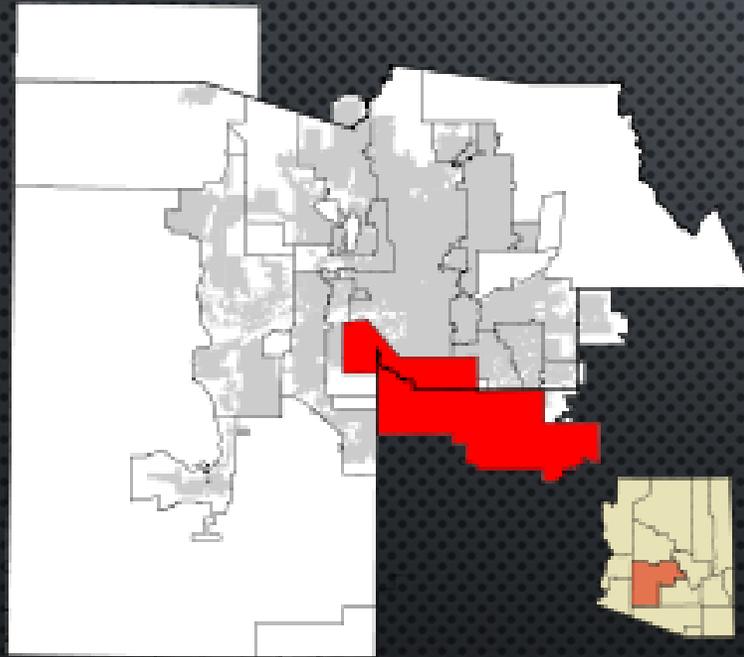
TRIBAL ELECTRIC UTILITIES IN OPERATION

- ❖ Gila River Indian Community Utility Authority (GRICUA), Arizona
- ❖ Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA), Arizona & New Mexico
- ❖ Warm Springs Power & Water Enterprises, Oregon
- ❖ Yakama Power, Washington
- ❖ Tohono O'odham Tribal Utility Authority (TOTUA), Arizona
- ❖ Aha Macav Power (AMP), Fort Mojave Tribe Arizona
- ❖ Confederated Salish and Kootenai
- ❖ Ak-Chin Energy Services (ACES), Arizona
- ❖ Umpqua Indian Utility Coop, Oregon
- ❖ Alaskan Village Electric Coop, Alaska
- ❖ Standing Rock Utilities & Telecom, North Dakota
- ❖ Mohegan Tribal Utility Authority, Connecticut
- ❖ Jicarilla Apache Nation

Handful of TUA currently operating. Various stages of development. Some mature, some newly formed. Some full service, some virtual utilities, some billing entities only.



TUA CASE STUDY: GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY



- ❖ 584 square miles=374,000 acres
- ❖ Home of 2 distinct tribes
- ❖ 26 year old telecom enterprise
- ❖ 23 year old electric utility
- ❖ Water settlement in 2004



GILA RIVER TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEVELOPMENT

- ❖ Gila River Telecommunications, Inc. (GRTI) is 26 years old
- ❖ Eligible Telecom Carrier (ETC) status
- ❖ Composed of parent company and 4 distinct business unit subsidiaries
 - ❖ Native Technology Solutions (NTS)
 - ❖ Alluvion Communications
 - ❖ Gila River Asset Management (GRAM)
 - ❖ Gila River Broadcast Corp.
- ❖ GRTI provides phone, broadband and LPTV broadcast services to the Community
- ❖ RSA-5 Partnership with Verizon Wireless, spectrum owner



GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY UTILITY AUTHORITY (GRICUA)

- ❖ Several unsuccessful attempts to start TUA in 1980's and early 1990's
- ❖ 1998-1999
 - ❖ Tribally chartered corporation fully re-established
 - ❖ Plan of Operations and wheeling agreements finalized and implemented
 - ❖ Initial investment for GRIC was \$1 Million for transformer
 - ❖ SRP system acquisition and purchase
 - ❖ Firewalled from Tribal government
- ❖ Full service electric utility
- ❖ 638 contracts for O&M for all electrical infrastructure owned by Federal entities and BIA
- ❖ Residential and commercial service
- ❖ 1 of 4 electric utilities operating on reservation
- ❖ Mature utility
- ❖ Sophisticated power purchase portfolio



GILA RIVER'S UTILITY MODEL

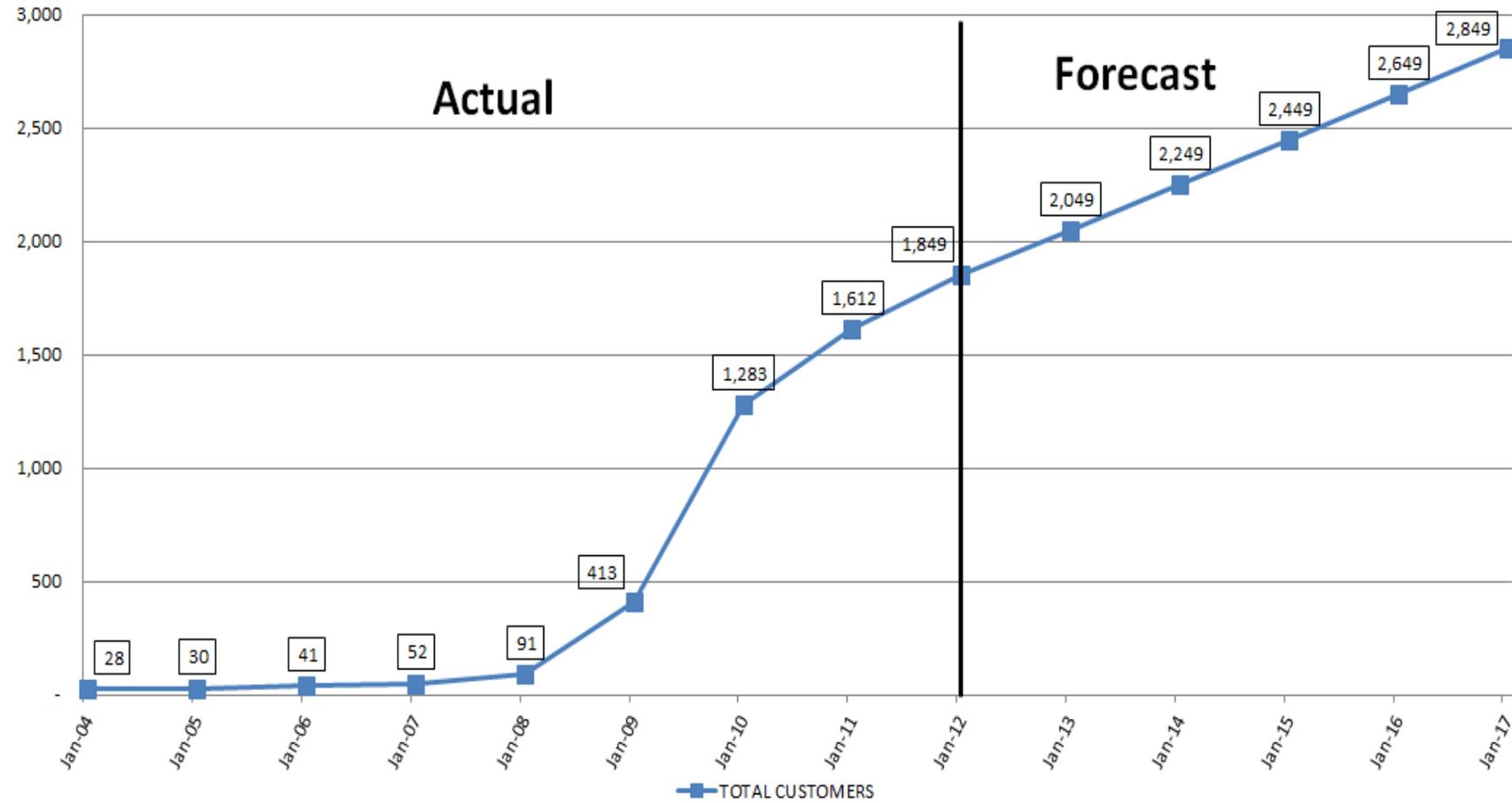
- Late 1980's – early 1990's - unsuccessful attempts to establish GRICUA
- 1998 Gila River Indian Community (Community or GRIC) Council Re-established GRICUA as a Tribal corporation
- 1999 GRIC Council Approved GRICUA Plan Of Operation.
- 1999 GRIC Council Appoints Initial GRICUA Board
- 1999 GRICUA Begins Providing Service To Customers In The Wild Horse Pass Area Of The GRIC Reservation
- 2006 GRICUA Council approved Wheeling Agreement With the San Carlos Irrigation Project (SCIP)
- 2008 GRIC Council approved a 638 contract for GRICUA to assume responsibility for maintaining & operating the SCIP electric system on the Gila River Indian Community Reservation (Reservation)



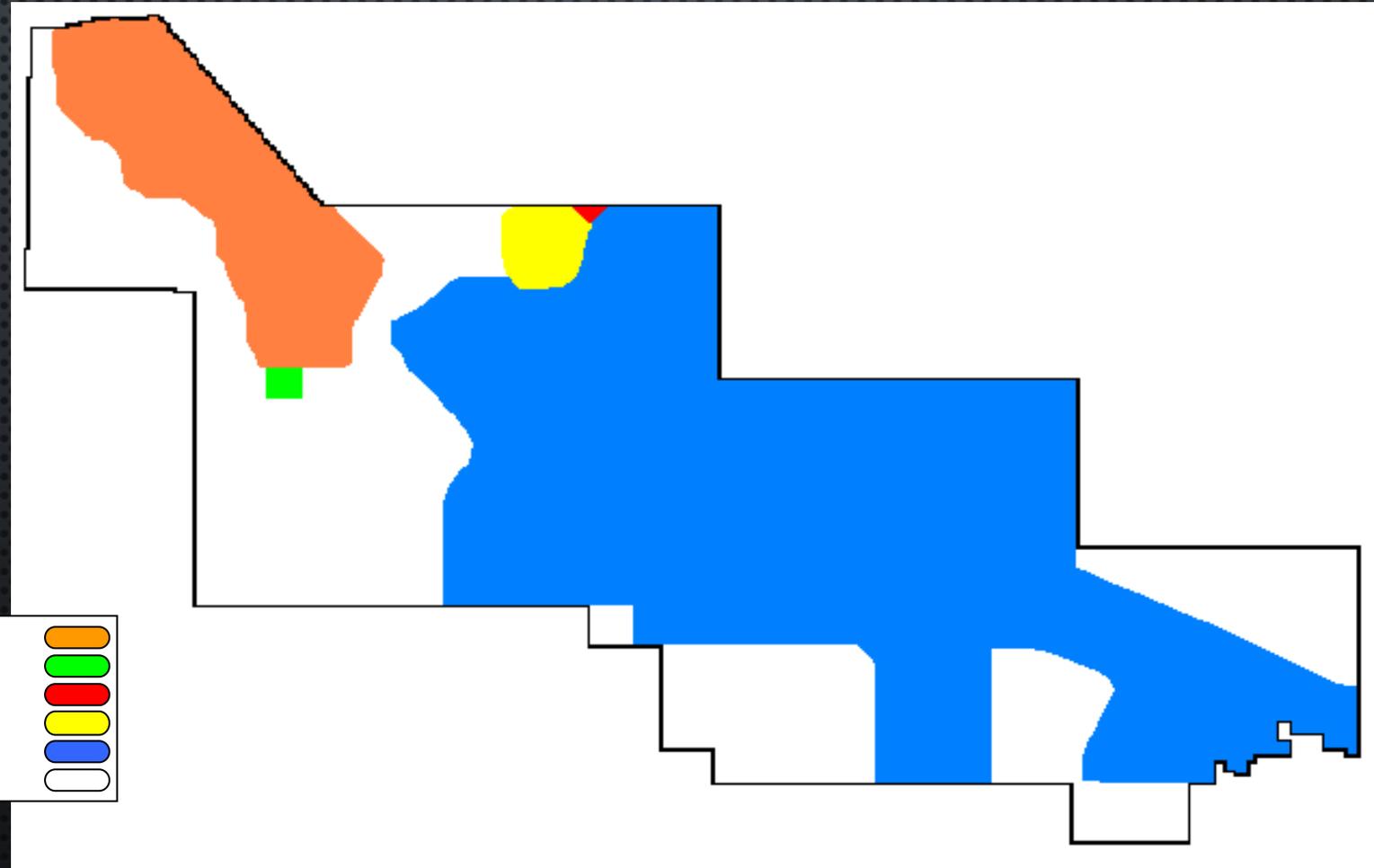
GILA RIVER'S UTILITY MODEL

- GRICUA obtains electricity from the following:
 - WAPA Federal Preferential Power Customer
 - Southwest Public Power Resource Group (SPPR)
 - 38 member group, both Tribal and non-Tribal
 - Virtual power plant- heat rate/thermal output like NG peaker plant
 - Power capacity rights purchased with separate charges for energy
- GRICUA's energy portfolio provides low cost and reliable energy for our customers- both are foundational to our business model

GRICUA Number Of Customers Actual And Forecast



General Diagram Of Electric Service Areas



Key	Color
SRP	Orange
APS	Green
GRICUA Lone Butte Business Park	Red
GRICUA Wild Horse Pass	Yellow
SCIP & GRICUA	Blue
Unshaded area to be served by GRICUA	White



GRICUA LINE CREW INSTALLING DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM



GRICUA LINE CREW O&M



GRICUA LINE CREW DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM O&M



GRICUA Line Crew - 2009



GRICUA Line Crew - 2012







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DON'T TRY TO BE THE FIRST, TRY TO BE THE BEST

**THE BEST WAY TO PREDICT THE FUTURE IS TO
INVENT IT**

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JOHN B. LEWIS

CHAIRMAN, GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY UTILITY
AUTHORITY (GRICUA)

JOHNLEWIS@GRICUA.NET

480-510-9811

