Helping CA Lead the Nation with Renewable Energy
Providing CA with Methods to Meet Its Goals

TRINITY TECHNOLOGY GROUP

The Challenge

The CA Energy Commission (CEC) licenses thermal power plant development in the State for facilities generating 50 megawatts or greater. The process requires formal hearings to vet the projects against public opinion to help the CEC make a licensing decision. The material gathered for the hearings includes written documents such as studies that support various positions.

The agency, however, needed to eliminate the requirement for hard copy document submissions. It developed an e-filing system to electronically organize and manage the documents using Microsoft SharePoint, but later decided that SharePoint was too expensive to maintain and asked TrinityTG to submit a proposal to replace SharePoint with a custom document management system that required no enterprise software licensing.

At the same time the CEC developed E-Filing, a separate team developed the Grant Solicitation System (GSS), which allows the public to apply for grants, contracts and loans. It also originally used SharePoint to electronically store document submissions.

BY THE NUMBERS

- ❖ CEC 50 MW, and larger, Permitting Process:
    - ❖ 12-month duration
    - ❖ Considered One-Stop
        - ▪ Subsumes all state, local and regional certifications
    - ❖ CEQA Certified Regulatory Program

- ❖ Since March 1998 Deregulation:
    - ❖ 66 licensed facilities have been built and are on-line producing 23,000 MW
    - ❖ Others being built will produce an additional 15,000 MW

Source: CEC

The TrinityTG Solution

TrinityTG worked with the CEC to remove SharePoint from the application code and replace it with a custom document management system. We provided a full complement of software development lifecycle services, including project management, business analysis, design, development, testing, data conversion and implementation support. We followed a PMM-compliant management methodology that closely resembles the project management requirements defined by the State of California for medium to large scale projects.

Scope Attributes:

- Assess existing SharePoint implementation on performance, security, scalability, extensibility and usability
- Identify risks and bottlenecks, estimate impact, propose mitigating solutions

- Design and document appropriate SharePoint solutions spanning to both internal and external users
- Develop project technology strategy by understanding key client objectives; diagnosing and mapping client requirements; and articulating solution risks and barriers
- Recommend project approaches; preparing time and cost estimates; and planning full project life cycle architecture
- Implement architecture by building components and custom designs; prototyping; data migration; maintaining technical integrity and consistency
- Conduct regression testing of the system
- Provide maintenance and support

Technology Attributes:

SharePoint 2010, .Net 4.5, SharePoint CSOM, SQL Server 2014, Microsoft VS 2013, Entity Framework 6.0, Web API 2.0, Spire.PDF

Key Client Benefits

FASTER ACCESS: Staff can view data, business rules, and formula comparison running automatically in the system

REPORT GENERATION: The RPS Unit can track progress of renewable energy goals on its individual dashboard

IMPROVED CUSTOMER SERVICE: External users can view an inactive, or shell, report if they are required to enter data based on their energy production

EFFICIENT CERTIFICATION: Integrated GIS technology verifies the spatial, or physical, location features of the energy facilities seeking certification

TWO-LEVEL REVIEW: The program allows for a more extensive review process by requiring two users to view an application

EFFICIENT COMMUNICATION: Emails between external users and the RPS Unit is available throughout the system

PAPERLESS SYSTEM: Internal users no longer need paper applications. They can upload and store documents in electronic form within the system

AUTOMATED CALCULATIONS: Staff no longer have to manually calculate renewable & non-renewable energy information

EASY ADJUSTMENTS: External users are able to request an adjustment to their eligible Renewable Energy Credits at any time

TRACKING PAPERWORK: The status of reports and applications can be followed by end users on their individual dashboard

Trinity Technology Group

Trinity Technology Group in Sacramento has been building IT solutions and solving real business challenges for two decades. Our team of talented professionals – from business and quality assurance analysts to seasoned developers and project managers – work hand-in-hand with you to create plans for each critical process, and then deliver solutions to meet the specific needs of your organization.

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