

DOCKETED	
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Document Title:	Letter of Support - Independent Energy Producers Association
Description:	This document provides a letter of support for the Soda Mt. Solar Project from the Independent Energy Producers Association.
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Independent Energy Producers Association

August 21, 2025

Mr. Drew Bohan
Executive Director
California Energy Commission
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: IEP's Support for The Soda Mountain Solar and Battery Storage Project

Dear Executive Director, Bohan:

The Independent Energy Producers Association's (IEP) supports the Soda Mountain Solar and Battery Storage Project. IEP is California's oldest and leading nonprofit trade association, representing the interests of developers and operators of independent energy facilities. IEP members collectively own and operate approximately one-third of California installed generating capacity, which includes energy generation, and storage derived from solar resources.

The Soda Mountain Battery Storage Project is in San Bernardino County, spanning 2,670 acres of federally managed land overseen by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and presently in the California Energy Commission's (CEC) Assembly Bill 205 process. The proposed facility includes 300 MW of solar generation capacity paired with 1,200 MWh of battery storage—enough to power over 140,000 homes, nearly one-fifth of all households in San Bernardino County. This project will play a critical role in enhancing the reliability of California's power grid, while reducing energy price volatility. Siting the project adjacent to Interstate 15 and the planned Southern California-to-Las Vegas rail corridor, the revised layout minimizes environmental and visual impacts while maximizing operational efficiency.

This project also brings vital economic benefits to the region and state. It will generate hundreds of well-paying construction jobs, boost local tax revenues, and support long-term employment in the surrounding communities. Critically, the project supports California's efforts to increase renewable energy production, reduce greenhouse gases, and improve overall grid reliability in this challenging time. It is essential that this project is bought online as soon as possible.

We respectfully urge the CEC's approval of the Soda Mountain Solar and Battery Storage Project.

Sincerely,

Jan Smutny-Jones
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
INDEPENDENT ENERGY PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

