

DOCKETED	
Docket Number:	99-AFC-01C
Project Title:	Elk Hills Power Project - Compliance
TN #:	266736
Document Title:	Application for Confidential Designation Fluor's Process Flow Diagrams
Description:	Confidential e-filing for CalCapture (TN#: 266437) Fluor's process flow diagrams. Includes 1 attachment titled Confidential Upload Fluors Combined PFDs RevF IFF and is 12 pages
Filer:	Daniel I. Padilla
Organization:	California Resources Corporation
Submitter Role:	Applicant
Submission Date:	10/21/2025 4:13:05 PM
Docketed Date:	10/21/2025

October 16, 2025

Mr. Drew Bohan, Executive Director
California Energy Commission
Siting, Transmission, and Environmental Protection Division (STEP)
Safety and Reliability Branch
Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Unit
715 P Street, MS-2000
Sacramento, California 95814
Attn: Ashley Gutierrez, Project Compliance Manager

**Re: Application for Confidential Designation, CalCapture, CCS Project, Docket Number 99-AFC-01
PTA of Elk Hills Power Plant, Kern County, CA
[Fluor Process Flow Diagrams]**

Dear Ashley Gutierrez:

Pursuant to Sections 2505 et seq., of Title 20 of the California Code of Regulations, Carbon Terra Vault LLC, a carbon management subsidiary of California Resources Corporation (the "Applicant"), hereby submits this Application for Confidential Designation for CalCapture's combined process flow diagrams (PDFs) prepared by Fluor. The confidential information is being submitted in support of the Petition to Amend: Elk Hills Power Plant, which contains proprietary information for the proposed PFDs prepared for the CalCapture project facility.

Please contact Mr. Daniel I. Padilla at 970.412.2776 (Daniel.Padilla@crc.com) or Ms. Nina Casterline at 661.557.7080 (Nina.Casterline@crc.com) if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,



B. Joe Ashley
Director - Governmental & External Affairs

Attachment: See next three pages

Cc: File

**APPLICATION FOR CONFIDENTIAL DESIGNATION
ELK HILLS POWER PLANT (99-AFC-01)
PTA FOR CALCAPTURE PROJECT
[Fluor Combined Process Flow Diagrams]**

1. Title, date, and description (including number of pages) of the information or data for which you request confidential designation. (20 CCR 1208.1.)

CRC CalCapture Project – Process Flow Diagrams and Utility Flow Diagrams, total of 12 pages

EH-35R-CCU1-D006, 05May2025, 1 page
EH-35R-CCU1-D007, 05May2025, 1 page
EH-35R-CCU1-D008, 05May2025, 1 page
EH-35R-CCU1-D009, 05May2025, 1 page
EH-35R-CCU1-D010, 05May2025, 1 page
EH-35R-CCU1-D011, 05May2025, 1 page
EH-35R-CCU1-D012, 05May2025, 1 page
EH-35R-CCU1-D013, 16Jul2025, 1 page
EH-35R-CCU1-D014, 05May2025, 1 page
EH-35R-CCU1-D015, 05May2025, 1 page
EH-35R-CCU1-D016, 05May2025, 1 page
EH-35R-CCU1-D017, 05May2025, 1 page

2. Specify the part(s) of the information or data for which you request confidential designation. (If the data is in charts or spreadsheets, highlighting is sufficient.) (20 CCR 2505(a)(1)(B.))

The entire document.

3. State and justify the length of time the CEC should keep the information or data confidential. The term requested must be relevant to the stated basis for confidentiality. (20 CCR 2505(a)(1)(C.))

The term requested is 18 years as to align with existing project non-disclosure agreements between CRC and Licensor.

4. State the provision(s) of the California Public Records Act or other law that allows the CEC to keep the information or data confidential and explain why the provision(s) apply to that material. (See Gov. Code, §§ 7920.000-7930.215.) (20 CCR (a)(1)(D.))

Government Code § 7927.705 (Exemption for Records Exempted or Prohibited by Federal or State Law, Including Trade Secrets):

This section exempts from disclosure any public record where disclosure "is exempted or prohibited pursuant to federal or state law, including, but not limited to, provisions of the Evidence Code relating to privilege." Specifically, this incorporates protections for trade secrets under California Civil Code § 3426.1(d), which defines a "trade secret" as information, including a formula, pattern, compilation, program, device, method, technique, or process, that: (i) derives independent economic value, actual or potential, from not being generally known to the public or to other persons who can obtain economic value from its disclosure or use; and (ii) is the subject of efforts that are reasonable under the circumstances to maintain its secrecy. Disclosure is further prohibited under Evidence

Code §§ 1060–1062, which establish a privilege against disclosure of trade secrets in judicial and administrative proceedings.

Government Code § 7927.605 (Specific Exemption for Certain Trade Secret Categories):

This section provides a categorical exemption for specific types of trade secrets, including:

- Production, manufacturing, or processing techniques or methods, including research materials (Gov. Code § 7927.605(a));
- Commercial or financial information submitted in confidence to a state agency (Gov. Code § 7927.605(b)); and
- Information that constitutes a trade secret to the extent that disclosure would impair the competitive position of the person submitting the information (Gov. Code § 7927.605(c)).

These exemptions are self-executing and do not require a balancing test under Gov. Code § 7922.000 unless the agency determines otherwise.

5. If the applicant believes that the information or data should not be disclosed because it contains trade secrets or its disclosure would otherwise cause a loss of a competitive advantage, the application also shall state: (20 CCR (a)(1)(D.))

(a) the specific nature of that advantage,

The information depicts and describes a Licensor specific proprietary chemical process configuration that provides for a lower cost and more efficient process solution.

(b) how the advantage would be lost,

The information could enable an outside entity to reverse engineer the design of the proprietary chemical process configuration thereby reducing or eliminating the Licensor's competitive advantage that is a direct result of years of investment.

(c) the value of the information to the applicant, and

The value to the Licensor is \$30 million USD.

(d) the ease or difficulty with which the information could be legitimately acquired or duplicated by others.

It would be very difficult to acquire the information legitimately because the information is only shared under non-disclosure agreements. It would also be very difficult to duplicate the information because the information is based on over 30 years of development, research, and testing.

6. **State whether the information or data can be disclosed if it is aggregated with other information or masked to conceal certain portions. State the degree of aggregation or masking required. If the data cannot be disclosed even if aggregated or masked, explain why. (20 CCR 2505(a)(1)(E.))**

This information cannot be disclosed even if aggregated or masked because the entire document depicts proprietary and trade secret information.

7. State how the information or data is kept confidential by the applicant and whether it has ever been disclosed to a person other than an employee of the applicant. If it has, explain the circumstances under which disclosure occurred. (20 CCR 2505(a)(1)(F.))

Generic and simplified versions of the information have been disclosed publicly. However, this information is more detailed and is only shared under non-disclosure agreements.

The Information is accessible only to the Applicant's employees or consultants working on behalf of the CalCapture CCS Project, and regulatory agencies that have regulatory oversight or other responsibilities over either the Information or the Elk Hills Power Plant.

I certify under penalty of perjury that the information contained in this Application for Confidential Designation is true, correct, and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I am authorized to make this Application and Certification on behalf of the Applicant.

Date: October 16, 2025

CALIFORNIA RESOURCES CORPORATION

By: 

B. Joe Ashley
Director – Governmental & External Affairs