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<b>Project Title:</b>	NorthTown Backup Generating Facility (NTBGF)
<b>TN #:</b>	268281
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Submitted On: 1/21/2026  
Docket Number: 25-SPPE-02*

**PETITION TO INTERVENE BY CENTER FOR BIOLOGICAL  
DIVERSITY**

*Additional submitted attachment is included below.*

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**STATE OF CALIFORNIA**  
**Energy Resources Conservation  
and Development Commission**

In the Matter of:

NORTHTOWN BACKUP GENERATING  
FACILITY

Docket No. 25-SPPE-02

**PETITION TO INTERVENE BY  
CENTER FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**

January 20, 2026

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1                   **PETITION TO INTERVENE BY CENTER FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**

2                   Pursuant to section 1211.7 of Title 20 of the California Code of Regulations, the Center  
3 for Biological Diversity (“Center”) files this Petition to Intervene (“Petition”) to the California  
4 Energy Commission (“Commission”) for the NorthTown Backup Generating Facility, Docket  
5 No. 25-SPPE-02 (“Project”).

6                   Section 1211.7(a) grants “any person” the right to file a petition to intervene which sets  
7 forth “the grounds for the intervention, the position and interest of the petitioner in the  
8 proceeding, the extent to which the petitioner desires to participate in the proceedings, and the  
9 name, mailing address, e-mail address, and telephone number of the petitioner.” Section  
10 1211.7(c) provides that the “presiding member may grant intervention and may impose  
11 reasonable conditions on an intervenor’s participation,” and that an “intervenor is a party to a  
12 proceeding.”

13                   This Petition is timely. In the absence of a scheduling order, the deadline default is thirty  
14 (30) days before the first evidentiary hearing. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 20, § 1211.7 (b).) Given that  
15 the Commission has not promulgated a scheduling order with a deadline to file a petition to  
16 intervene, this Petition is timely.

17                   The Center has an interest in the proceeding. The Center is a non-profit, public interest  
18 environmental organization dedicated to environmental protection. The Center has over 1.8  
19 million members and online activists throughout California and the United States, including in  
20 the area to be impacted by the Project. The Center has worked for many years to protect air and  
21 water quality and overall quality of life for people throughout California. To address the climate  
22 and extinction crises, the Center is committed to supporting California’s transition from fossil  
23 energy systems to 100 percent clean and renewable energy. As part of this commitment, the  
24 Center advocates for energy solutions that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, safeguard  
25 ecosystems, and ensure a just transition for impacted communities. As California transitions to a  
26 carbon-free energy future, the Center works to ensure that the clean and renewable energy  
27 transition is achieved in a way that is equitable and protects California’s beloved wildlife,  
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1 landscapes, and diverse habitats. The Center has an interest in acting to minimize the adverse  
2 impacts of projects that would degrade the environment, and in enforcing environmental laws to  
3 protect its members. The Project, by emitting a significant amount of new air and greenhouse  
4 gas emissions, would directly affect the Center's members' interests and the Center's mission  
5 and longstanding advocacy interests.

6 The Center has participated in other proceedings before the Commission, including as an  
7 intervenor in the proceedings related to the Willow Rock Energy Storage Center (Docket No.  
8 21-AFC-02), Puente Power Project (Docket No. 15-AFC-01), Ivanpah Solar Electric Generating  
9 System (Docket No. 07-AFC-05), Genesis Solar Energy Project (Docket No. 09-AFC-08), Palen  
10 Solar Power Project (Docket No. 09-AFC-07), and Hidden Hills Solar Electric Generating  
11 Station (Docket No. 11-AFC-02). The Center's past interventions focused primarily on ensuring  
12 that energy development projects aligned with California's environmental laws and climate  
13 goals and also on reducing impacts to biodiversity. The Center has also participated in several  
14 informational proceedings before the Commission, including *In the Matter of Distributed*  
15 *Energy Resources in California's Energy Future* (Docket No. 22-0II-01), the *Informational*  
16 *Proceeding on Justice, Access, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion* (Docket No. 24-OIIP-01), and  
17 the *Informational Proceeding on Non-Energy Benefits and Social Costs* (Docket No. 24-OIIP-  
18 03) that was initiated by a petition to the Commission primarily authored by the Center. The  
19 Center similarly remains active in development of the Commission's Integrated Energy Policy  
20 Report Updates and the forthcoming SB 100 Joint Agency Report.

21 If granted intervention in this proceeding, the Center would like to participate in and  
22 comment on the topics of air quality, public health, greenhouse gas emissions, biological  
23 resources impacts, energy and energy resources, wildfire, and water resources. Due to the  
24 number of data centers being proposed in California, the Center would also like to participate in  
25 and comment on the cumulative impacts associated with these resource areas. The Center  
26 respectfully reserves the right to participate in and comment on other topics should issues be  
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1 identified warranting such participation. The Center may provide testimony, briefing, and cross-  
2 examination of witnesses.

3 For the foregoing reasons, the Center respectfully requests that the Commission grant its  
4 petition to intervene in this proceeding and allow the Center to participate as a party.

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6 DATED: January 20, 2026

Respectfully submitted,

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Harrison Beck  
Meredith Stevenson  
Roger Lin

11 *Attorneys for Center For Biological Diversity*  
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