

| <b>DOCKETED</b>         |   |
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| <b>Docket Number:</b>   | 26-SPPE-01                              |
| <b>Project Title:</b>   | RB Inyokern Data Center (RBIDC)         |
| <b>TN #:</b>            | 270230                                  |
| <b>Document Title:</b>  | Support for the RB Inyokern Data Center |
| <b>Description:</b>     | N/A                                     |
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| <b>Organization:</b>    | Hyles Hersley                           |
| <b>Submitter Role:</b>  | Public                                  |
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*Comment Received From: Hyles Hersley  
Submitted On: 5/23/2026  
Docket Number: 26-SPPE-01*

## **Support for the RB Inyokern Data Center â€” CEC SPPE Docket No. 26-SPPE-01**

Hyles Hersley  
Owner, Retrofit UTV  
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May 23, 2026  
California Energy Commission  
Docket Unit, MS-4  
Docket No. 26-SPPE-01

Dear Commissioners,

My name is Hyles Hersley, and I am the owner of Retrofit UTV in the Ridgecrest and Indian Wells Valley community. I was born and raised in Ridgecrest and have lived here my entire life. I am writing to express my strong support for the RB Inyokern Data Center project referenced under CEC SPPE Docket No. 26-SPPE-01.

I believe this project represents an important opportunity for economic growth and long-term investment in our region. According to project information, the proposed data center is expected to bring more than 1,600 construction jobs and over 500 permanent direct and indirect jobs to the area, along with millions in annual tax revenue for local governments and schools.

Our community is facing a difficult time with the massive layoffs connected to the Trona plant and the uncertainty that has created for many local families. As someone who has lived here my whole life and owns a local business, I have seen firsthand how job losses impact the entire community. I believe these new employment opportunities could help fill some of those voids by creating stable work, supporting local businesses, and helping families remain in the Indian Wells Valley area.

As a local business owner and lifelong resident, I support the project because it can help strengthen the local economy, increase demand for local services and suppliers, and create opportunities that benefit both businesses and residents throughout the region.

Projects like the RB Inyokern Data Center can help position our area for future economic resilience while encouraging responsible industrial and technological development.

Thank you for your consideration of this project and for the opportunity to provide public comment in support of the RB Inyokern Data Center.

Sincerely,  
Hyles Hersley  
Owner, Retrofit UTV