

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	25-EPIC-01
Project Title:	Electric Program Investment Charge 2026–2030 Investment Plan (EPIC 5)
TN #:	270641
Document Title:	Weikang Li Comments - Prioritize Domestic Battery Recycling and Cathode Regeneration in EPIC 5
Description:	N/A
Filer:	System
Organization:	Weikang Li
Submitter Role:	Public
Submission Date:	6/16/2026 1:59:57 PM
Docketed Date:	6/16/2026

Comment Received From: Weikang Li

Submitted On: 6/16/2026

Docket Number: 25-EPIC-01

Prioritize Domestic Battery Recycling and Cathode Regeneration in EPIC 5

ExPost Technology Inc. is an early-stage clean energy company based in San Diego, developing processes to recover and regenerate cathode active material from end-of-life lithium-ion batteries and battery manufacturing scrap.

As the CEC finalizes its EPIC 5 research priorities, I urge that battery circularity “specifically domestic recycling and cathode regeneration” be funded as an explicit research objective. This directly advances the Transportation Electrification goal and Strategic Objectives 5 and 7: it lowers the lifecycle cost of both EV and grid-storage batteries, while reducing California's dependence on imported cathode materials and the upstream emissions of virgin material production.

One gap deserves particular attention. Lithium iron phosphate (LFP) chemistries now dominate California's grid-storage deployments, yet LFP recycling economics remain weak and chronically underfunded relative to nickel-based chemistries. Targeted CEC-supported R&D could close this gap before the coming wave of LFP retirements arrives. Finally, program structure matters as much as topic. Early-stage companies benefit most from milestone-based funding that supports pilot- and demonstration-scale capital costs “not benchscale studies alone. Structures of this kind are what move a California-developed process from the lab toward commercial deployment in-state. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.