

DOCKETED

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Geothermal IEPR Overview

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CA Leads Geothermal, But Growth Has Stalled

➤ California's Geothermal Foundation

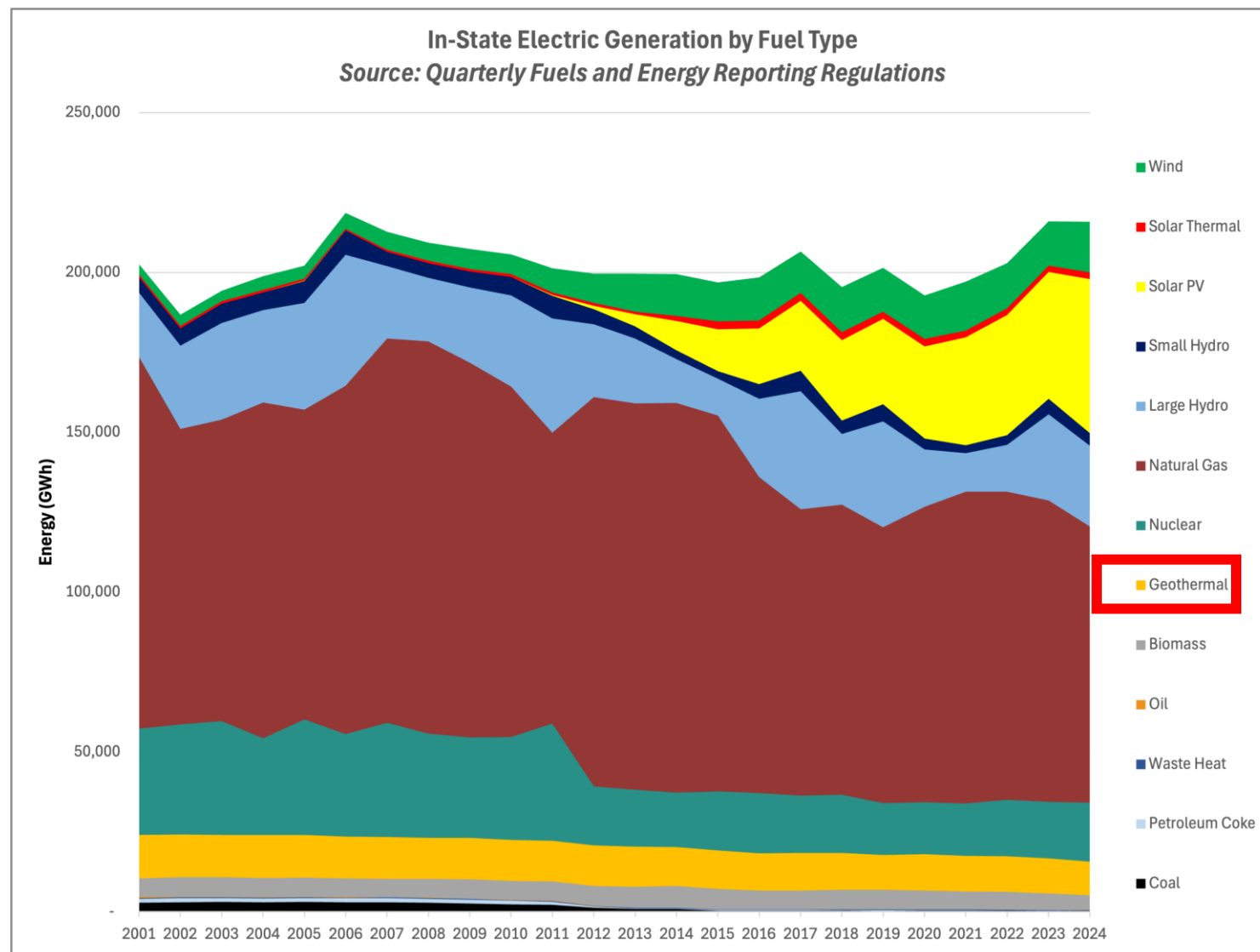
- Hosts 53 of 99 U.S. geothermal plants — 2.87 GW, or 72% of all U.S. capacity
- Nearly entire fleet built within 15-year window: 1975–1990

➤ Growth Has Stalled

- Only ~139 MW added since 2000
- Just 4 new projects completed in a quarter century

➤ New Projects Face Headwinds

- 357 MW in proposed projects requested suspension in 2025.
- 49.9 MW approved in 2024 - but construction has not begun.





Federal & State Momentum Behind Geothermal

Permitting, Leasing & Procurement

- Federal BLM: annual competitive leases; categorical exemption for geothermal exploration <10 acres
- State Permitting: Opt-In (CEC); Local agency lead for exploratory drilling (AB 1359)
- CPUC 1 GW clean firm mandate: 616 MW in geothermal PPAs

Funding & Assistance

- USDOE Geothermal Power Accelerator - CA + 12 other states
- \$171M federal geothermal FOA - CEC providing cost share
- Energy Dominance Financing Program – geothermal eligible

Federal & State Tax Incentives

- Federal: **45Y & 48E tax credits** through 2033 (BB Bill).
- State: Sales & Use Tax Exclusion (CAEFTA); Income Tax Credit (CA Competes)

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT - CALIFORNIA STATE OFFICE

08/27/2025 | Press release | Distributed by Public on 08/27/2025 15:24

BLM Geothermal Lease Sales In California Net Over \$2.7 Million

SACRAMENTO, Calif. - The Bureau of Land Management accepted winning bids on 13 parcels across 22,685 public acres in Imperial, Lassen, and Modoc counties for \$2,711,858 in total receipts for a geothermal lease sale. The BLM may issue leases once review and payment are complete. The sale generated an average of \$117 per acre offered, supporting American prosperity by increasing potential for domestic energy production.

Source: Bureau of Land Management Press Release



Geothermal and Energy Security

Supply Chains and Geopolitics:

- CA reliant on overseas supply chains for clean energy build out (Solar PV and BESS).
- Geothermal has minimal supply chain risk or energy price volatility (NLR Geothermal Market Assessment).

Critical Infrastructure:

- Baseload generation and underground infrastructure strong fit for critical infrastructure.
- DoD launched "**Geothermal for Installations**" initiative; includes 4 bases in CA.

Co-Production:

- Salton Sea brine contains 12 of DOI's critical mineral list; including enough lithium for 375 M EV batteries (LBNL).
- Sonoma/Lake County: potential for geologic hydrogen co-production. DOE estimates can be produced for <\$1/kg.

Critical Minerals in Salton Sea Geothermal Brine

Commodity	U.S. Import Reliance	Salton Sea Potential (% of 2023 US Consumption)
Manganese	100%	24%
Zinc	76%	69%
Potassium	93%	45%
Strontium	100%	67%
Rubidium	100%	TBD

Source: Information provided by Dr. Michael McKibben at the Lithium Valley Vision Workshop on February 19, 2025



Geothermal IEPR Workshop Schedule

➤ June 19: 1st Geothermal IEPR Workshop

- Resource Potential and Planning
- Tribal Engagement
- Local and Community Engagement

➤ July 9: 2nd Geothermal IEPR Workshop

- Financing and Bankability
- Permitting
- Workforce Development and Training

➤ Written Comments

- Due 7/23/26 at 5:00 p.m.

CONTACT

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