

DOCKETED

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Project Title:	Elk Hills Power Project - Compliance
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Description:	TN269272
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August 4, 2026

Via Email

B. Joe Ashley, Director- Governmental & External Affairs
Daniel Padilla, Senior Regulatory Advisor
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Application for Confidential Designation, CalCapture, CCS Project, Docket Number 99-AFC-01C PTA of Elk Hills Power Plant – CalCapture Carbon Capture Project, Kern County, CA; CRC Response to CEC Data Request, Set 1, Cultural Resource Item 27 (TN # 269272)

Dear Mr. Ashley:

The California Energy Commission (CEC) has received an Application for Confidentiality from California Resources Corporation (applicant), docketed July 22, 2026 (TN 269272). The application covers the following reports from the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS):

- Resource Database
- Resource Digital Database
- Report Database
- Report Digital Database
- Resource Record Copies
- Report Copies

The applicant states that the above documents should be kept confidential indefinitely, in their entirety, to protect potential cultural resources and sites. The applicant asserts confidentiality under Government Code Section 7927.005 which protects from disclosure archaeological site information and reports of locational information, including information maintained as confidential by the California Office of Historic Preservation and California Department of Parks and Recreation. The applicant also asserts the information is protected by Government Code section 7922.000, which protects data from disclosure where the public interest served by nondisclosure clearly outweighs the public interest of disclosure. The applicant asserts that if the descriptions of the site locations are released to the public domain, there is potential for unauthorized collection or disturbance of such resources.

Confidentiality Claims

A properly filed application for confidentiality shall be granted under California Code of Regulations, title 20, section 2505(a)(3)(A), “if the applicant makes a reasonable claim that the Public Records Act or other provision of law authorizes the [California Energy] Commission to keep the record confidential.”

The California Public Records Act provides for the nondisclosure of archaeological site information, features, and objects and reports maintained by, or in the possession of, the Department of Parks and Recreation, the State Historical Resources Commission, and other state or local agencies. (Gov. Code, § 7927.005.) The California Office of Historic Preservation, and the State Historical Resources Commission operate CHRIS to maintain a wide range of documents and materials relating to historical resources (e.g., buildings, structures, objects, historic and archaeological sites, landscapes, districts). Certain records in CHRIS, such as archaeological sites, are restricted from disclosure under federal and state laws, and researchers must meet access requirements to obtain this data.

The California Government Code section 7922.000 provides that an agency may withhold information from disclosure where the public interest served by nondisclosure clearly outweighs the public interest of disclosure.

Executive Director's Determination

The applicant has made a reasonable showing that the cultural resource information contained in the supplemental literature search from the California Historical Information System should be maintained as confidential indefinitely.

Be advised that persons may petition to inspect or copy records that have been designated as confidential, the executive director may disclose or release records previously designated as confidential in certain circumstances, and the CEC may hold a hearing to determine the confidentiality of its records on its own motion or on a motion by CEC staff. The procedures and criteria for disclosing or releasing, filing, reviewing, and acting upon such petitions or motions are set forth in the California Code of Regulations, title 20, sections 2506 through 2508.

Any related subsequent submittals can be deemed confidential, without the need for an application, by following the procedures set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 20, section 2505(a)(4).

If you have questions, please email confidentialityapplication@energy.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Drew Bohan', written in a cursive style.

Drew Bohan
Executive Director