

DOCKETED	
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Delivering Local Jobs, Economic Opportunities and Investment
September 10, 2026
Workshop 5 of the Lithium Valley Vision Informational Proceeding
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Morning Session:

9:00 Administrative Items

9:05 Opening Remarks from the Dais

9:20 Lithium Valley Market Opportunities

Erik Stokes, California Energy Commission

This presentation will provide an overview of near-term development pathways and discussion of co-location opportunities.

9:40 Pathways to Cost Competitive Lithium Production in the Salton Sea Region

Andrew Haddad, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

This presentation will provide an overview of recent findings from LBL's techno-economic analysis of large-scale lithium extraction from Salton Sea geothermal brines.

10:00 Lithium Valley: Reaching Commercialization

This panel will examine the commercialization pathway for new technologies to support a durable geothermal and lithium economy in the Salton Sea region. Panelists will discuss what new technology solutions are needed and what it takes to move them to commercialization new— and the role the state can play in de-risking that path.

10:45 Q&A

11:00am Workforce & Business Services Needs

This panel discussion will focus on near-term opportunities for industrial development in Lithium Valley – including lithium, co-mineral production, and geothermal generation – and the types of jobs and business services that will be needed to support the build out. Panelists will also address opportunities to ensure that the workforce and business services needs of Lithium Valley can be met locally as much as possible.

11:45am Q&A

12:00 Break for Lunch

Afternoon Sessions:

1:30 Building a Coordinated Regional Economic Development Strategy: Models to Leverage
This panel will discuss examples of regional economic development tools, programs, and policies that have been leveraged elsewhere in the state or outside of California to help spur development of new industrial hubs.

2:15 Q&A

2:30 Investing in Growing Workforce Needs
This panel will address the needs for a growing workforce in the region, including infrastructure and housing.

3:15 Q&A

3:30 General Public Comment on Afternoon Sessions

3:50 Closing Remarks from Dais