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Statement from CWDB Director Kaina Pereira

The California Workforce Development Board and the California Energy Commission share a strong interest in ensuring that Lithium Valley becomes not only a center of clean energy but also a catalyst for inclusive economic opportunity across the Imperial Valley and surrounding region. As California advances development of the lithium industry and complementary clean energy sectors, aligning workforce development, industry demand, education and training pathways, and regional economic priorities will be essential. Our shared opportunity is to prepare local residents for family supporting careers, strengthen the talent pipeline for emerging industries, and ensure that the communities closest to Lithium Valley are positioned to benefit from its long term economic potential.