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Request for Applications for Appointment to Assembly Bill 1657 Blue Ribbon Commission on Lithium Extraction

The California Energy Commission (CEC) is seeking applications from interested persons to serve in the nine CEC-appointed member positions on the Blue Ribbon Commission on Lithium Extraction in California, which was authorized by Assembly Bill 1657 (Garcia, Chapter 271, Statutes of 2020), also referred to as "[AB 1657](#)".

Any person interested in serving as a CEC-appointed member of the Lithium Valley Commission, must apply by ~~5:00 pm on November 16, 2020~~ **1:00 pm on November 20, 2020**. Additional information, including instructions on how to apply, is provided below.

Background

AB 1657 requires the CEC to establish and convene the Blue Ribbon Commission on Lithium Extraction in California (referred to hereafter as "Lithium Valley Commission"). The Lithium Valley Commission is charged with reviewing, investigating, and analyzing certain issues and potential incentives, as detailed in AB 1657, regarding lithium extraction and use in California. To conduct these tasks, the Lithium Valley Commission is required to consult, when feasible, with the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the United States Department of Energy. AB 1657 requires the Lithium Valley Commission to submit, on or before October 1, 2022, a report to the Legislature documenting its findings and recommendations.

AB 1657 specifies that 14 members shall be appointed to the Lithium Valley Commission, some of whom must represent certain industries, organizations, agencies, and communities. The CEC has responsibility to appoint nine members with additional appointments made by the California Public Utilities Commission, the Secretary of the California Natural Resources Agency, the Senate Committee on Rules, the Speaker of the Assembly, and the Governor.

The CEC seeks to appoint one member to each of the following membership seats:

- A member appointed at the CEC's discretion.
- Representative of the lithium extraction industry.
- Representative of a national vehicle manufacturer organization.
- Representative of a local environmental organization.
- Representative of a local city or county government in the Salton Sea geothermal resource area.
- Representative of a local public electric utility.



- Representative from a local community group that represents disadvantaged and low-income communities in the Salton Sea geothermal resource area.
- Representative of a local tribal community.
- Representative with knowledge of economics and the effectiveness of local, state, and federal incentives.

The term of service will begin no later than March 1, 2021 and end no later than October 1, 2023.

The [Roles and Responsibilities](#) document can be found under the Resources section at <https://www.energy.ca.gov/data-reports/california-power-generation-and-power-sources/geothermal-energy/lithium-valley> describes the expectations of the Lithium Valley Commission members.

Individuals who represent or are affiliated with entities that have previously received funding or entitlements from the CEC are eligible to apply to serve on the Lithium Valley Commission and serving will not in itself be a bar to receiving future CEC funding or entitlements.

How to Apply for a CEC Membership Appointment

An applicant must submit an application package to the CEC by [email](#) to lithiumvalleycommission@energy.ca.gov, no later than ~~5:00 pm on November 16, 2020~~ **1:00 pm on November 20, 2020**. Applicants must identify the specific membership seat that they wish to fill (please see description of membership seats above) and may apply for more than one membership seat; ~~however, a separate application must be submitted for each membership seat.~~ **The CEC reserves the right to identify and consider applicants qualified for more than one membership seat.**

Application packages must include the following materials:

1. Letter of interest, not to exceed two pages, that demonstrates the applicant's qualifications including:
 - a. ability and willingness to meaningfully participate and provide thoughtful and actionable input; and
 - b. how specifically the applicant hopes to contribute to the Lithium Valley Commission. This should include the applicant's suitability to represent the specific membership seat they wish to fill.
2. Resumé or curriculum vitae listing or demonstrating the applicant's knowledge, subject matter expertise, and/or experience related to the membership seat for which the applicant is applying.
3. As part of the application package, the applicant may include one letter of support, but it is not required. The letter of support should be no more than two pages.



Applicants may be asked to participate in an interview as part of the selection process. The CEC anticipates appointing Lithium Valley Commission members at a future CEC Business Meeting.

Public Advisor and Other CEC Contacts

Questions regarding the Lithium Valley Commission, opportunity to serve, or application process should be directed to [Elisabeth de Jong](mailto:LithiumValleyCommission@energy.ca.gov) at LithiumValleyCommission@energy.ca.gov or (916) 654-4878.

Media inquiries should be directed to the [Media and Public Communications Office](mailto:mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov) at mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov or (916) 654-4989.

The Energy Commission's Public Advisor's Office provides information on how to participate in business meetings, workshops, and formal proceedings at the CEC. For more information, please contact [Public Advisor Noemí O. Gallardo](mailto:publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov) at publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov, (916) 654-4489 or toll free at (800) 822-6228.

Availability of Documents

[Documents and notices](#) will be available at <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=20-LITHIUM-01>.

All interested parties are encouraged to subscribe through the Lithium Valley Commission [webpage](https://www.energy.ca.gov/data-reports/california-power-generation-and-power-sources/geothermal-energy/lithium-valley) <https://www.energy.ca.gov/data-reports/california-power-generation-and-power-sources/geothermal-energy/lithium-valley>.

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