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*Comment Received From: Julio Esquivel
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support for continuing to develop the lithium industry

Dear Blue Ribbon Commissioners,

I want to express my support for developing the lithium industry in Imperial County that promise to be some of the cleanest in the world.

Imperial County is in a unique position when it comes to the development of the lithium industry. We are rich in the necessary resources to fuel geothermal brine lithium extraction systems, while still having an important need for mitigation efforts to protect the environment.

While I agree we should reduce any environmental issues with air and water quality as best we can, I urge the Commission to review the geothermal brine lithium extraction systems, which promise to be the most environmentally friendly system as it relates to emissions, water usage and physical footprints.

Additionally, the process laid forth by California's regulations include the most comprehensive environmental requirements that provide me with full confidence that any approved projects will meet our environmental needs, while at the same time helping to fuel California's clean energy future.

Let's work together to improve these projects, finding the best path forward towards continued environmental stewardship and meeting our clean energy needs, while still allowing the industry and Imperial Valley to thrive for generations to come.