

DOCKETED

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Gafcon, Inc - Support Letter (Black Rock) 20230821 23-AFC-03

Additional submitted attachment is included below.



August 21, 2023

Drew Bohan
Executive Director
California Energy Commission
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for the Black Rock Geothermal Project (23-AFC-03)

Dear Mr. Bohan:

On behalf of Gafcon, Inc., I write to express our enthusiastic support of the Black Rock Geothermal Project proposed in Imperial County, California.

Gafcon is a project and construction management firm of nearly 160 employees with an office in the City of Imperial. One of our core principles is to create value for our clients, our communities, and each other. We are committed to using our skills and experience to improve the quality of life for people in the Imperial Valley.

By generating geothermal energy 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, the Black Rock Geothermal Project will provide critically needed new, renewable baseload generating capacity to support grid reliability and the State's transition to clean, carbon-free electricity.

The Black Rock Geothermal Project will also provide significant economic benefits to Imperial County. Capital expenditures from the project are estimated to bring \$475 to \$800 million to the local economy, creating over 426 construction jobs and 61 permanent jobs to support maintenance and operation of the facility. In addition to the many jobs that will be created, the project will generate substantial tax revenue and support the local economy through direct purchase of services, supplies, and materials from local and regional companies.

Among the beneficial impacts of the proposed Black Rock Geothermal Project will be to support the job-creating real estate developments we are currently working on, including a 25-acre mixed-use project in the City of Imperial which includes a 108-room hotel and 54,000 SF medical center.

For these reasons, we support the Black Rock Geothermal Project. We look forward to the timely consideration and approval of the project by the California Energy Commission.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

Paul Najar

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Paul Najar
SVP and General Counsel