

DOCKETED

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Letter of Support

Additional submitted attachment is included below.



Calipatria High School
601 West Main St.
Calipatria, CA 92233

August 25, 2023

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

RE: Support for the Morton Bay Geothermal Project (23-AFC-01)

Dear Mr. Bohan:

On behalf of the Calipatria Unified School district, we write to express our enthusiastic support of the Morton Bay Geothermal Project proposed in Imperial County, California.

We are a small school that the population fluctuates anywhere from 340-360 students. The population as of 2021 is 6,434 as well as is considered one of the states poorest per capita.

By generating geothermal energy 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, the Morton Bay 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 Morton Bay Geothermal Project will also provide significant economic benefits to Imperial County. Capital expenditures from the project are estimated to bring \$750 million to \$1.3 billion to the local economy, creating over 560 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.

Our district also supports CTE (Career Technical Education) at our site. We are currently trying to establish a curriculum that could possibly be a direct pipeline to the companies that will generate carbon-free electricity.

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

Sincerely,

Francisco J. Diaz
Calipatria High School Principal
fdiaz@calipat.com