

DOCKETED

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Letter of Support

Additional submitted attachment is included below.



August 18, 2023

Imperial Valley
WELLNESS
FOUNDATION

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 Imperial Valley Wellness Foundation, we write to express our enthusiastic support of the Morton Bay Geothermal Project proposed in Imperial County, California.

Imperial Valley Wellness Foundation is both a public charity and grantmaker, and serves as a Rural Development Hub in Imperial County by mobilizing resources into the region. As a grantmaker, IVWF funds in the areas of health and wellness, community engagement and nonprofit capacity building. As a Rural Development Hub it hosts Learning Exchanges, where individuals and organizations gather to learn, share, and discover ways to work together to make the Imperial Valley A Better Place to Live for All.

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.

This project provides solutions to the social, economic and energy needs that the Imperial Valley and other regions face. The communities' health is impacted by its economy and its ability to provide jobs that allow residents to live healthy and financially viable lives. This project will provide employment opportunities, clean carbon-free electricity and tax revenue that can enhance the services and programs that are needed here to make the Imperial Valley A Better Place to Live for All.

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,