

DOCKETED

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Letter of Support

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 Morton Bay Geothermal Project (23-AFC-01)

Dear Mr. Bohan:

On behalf of the Imperial Valley Food Bank, I write to express our enthusiastic support of the Morton Bay Geothermal Project proposed in Imperial County, California.

The Imperial Valley Food Bank has been providing food assistance to people in need for over 30 years. We organize food distributions to feed 25,000 people each month, provide Weekend Backpacks to students, and help people apply for CalFresh (SNAP).

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.

We see a large percentage of Imperial County in need of our services because many people are unemployed or underemployed. We know that quality jobs help people rise out of poverty and feed their families.

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

Sincerely,



Sara Griffen
Executive Director, Imperial Valley Food Bank
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