

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	24-OIIP-02
Project Title:	Informational Proceeding on Lithium Valley Vision
TN #:	255796
Document Title:	CEC Presentation for Lithium Valley Workshop
Description:	CEC presentation slides for the April 19 Lithium Valley Vision workshop.
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Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
Submission Date:	4/18/2024 8:26:47 PM
Docketed Date:	4/19/2024



Informational Proceeding: Lithium Valley Vision Workshop

April 19, 2024



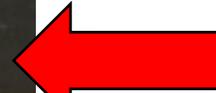
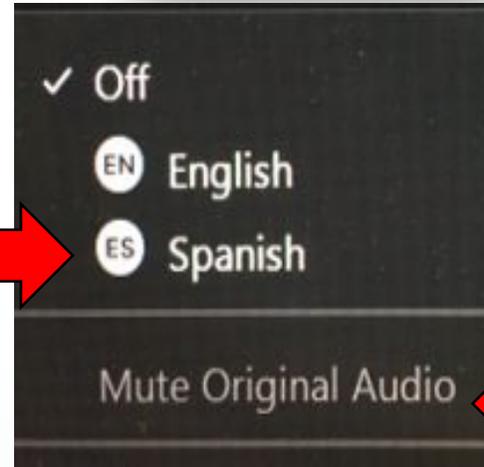
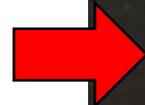
Interpretation / Interpretación

1) Click globe “Interpretation” icon.



2) Click “ES Spanish” option

3) Click “Mute Original Audio”



1) Haga clic en el icono del globo de interpretación

2) Haga clic donde dice “ES Spanish”

3) Haga clic en “Mute Original Audio”

NOTE: To access interpretation, download Zoom application on your device. Interpreter will relate everything from English to Spanish during meeting and will inform you when to make public comment. Speak in Spanish and interpreter will relate comments to English.

NOTA: Para utilizar la función de interpretación, descargue la aplicación Zoom en su aparato. El intérprete relacionará todo lo dicho en inglés al español durante la junta y le informará cuándo podrá hacer un comentario público. Hable en español y el intérprete relatará sus comentarios en inglés.

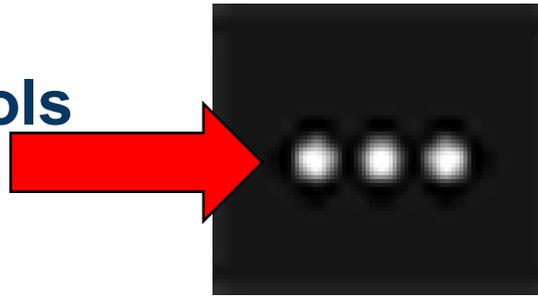


Interpreting on Tablet/Smartphone

Interpretación usando tableta o teléfono inteligente

To listen in Spanish, use controls to:

- 1) Tap for more options
- 2) Tap interpretation
- 3) Tap preferred language
- 4) Tap "Mute Original Audio"



Note: To use interpretation feature, download Zoom application on your device.

Para escuchar en español, use los controles para:

- 1) Tener más opciones
- 2) Hacer clic en interpretación
- 3) Escoger el idioma preferido
- 4) Hacer clic en "Mute Original Audio"

Nota: Para usar la opción de interpretación, descargue la aplicación Zoom en su aparato.



Instructions

- Workshop is being conducted in person and remotely via Zoom.
- Workshop is being recorded and will be posted.
- Attendees may participate in the workshop by:
 - Asking questions following each presentation
 - Making comments during public comment period
 - Submitting written comments at the following link:
<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/EComment/EComment.aspx?docketnumber=24-OIIP-02>



Workshop Overview

- Opening Remarks from the Dais
- Overview of the Lithium Valley Vision Informational Proceeding
- Imperial County Presentation on Lithium Valley*
- Status on Addressing Lithium Valley Commission Recommendations*
- Topics and Scoping Questions for Future Workshops*
- Public Comment Period
- Closing Remarks

Note: *Q&A from the dais and public will follow these presentations



Opening Remarks from the Dais





Overview of Lithium Valley Vision Informational Proceeding

April 19, 2024

Erik Stokes, Chief of Staff
Office of Commissioner Noemí Gallardo



Lithium Valley Vision

- **Community Benefits** - Good paying jobs, economic development and community investment
- **Environmental Benefits** - Reduced footprint of lithium battery production
- **Security Benefits** - Decreased national and state reliance on imported supply chains to meet clean energy goals





Background

2020 AB 1657 (E. Garcia) established LVC

2021 LVC initiates meetings and work

2022 LVC submits report with 15 recommendations

2023 CEC focuses on learning:

- Conducts tour and visit for DOE and DOD
- Brings state reps to meet residents, tribal and local government leaders
- Attends educational sessions with CBOs
- Initiates coordination among state agencies

2024 CEC ramps up efforts to advance Lithium Valley Vision:

- Adopts order instituting Lithium Valley Vision informational proceeding
- Coordinate state agency progress on LVC recommendations
- Co-hosted the Lithium Valley Symposium with GO-Biz and IVC



Source: California Energy Commission



Lithium Valley Symposium

- Held March 29 at Imperial Valley College.
 - Co-hosted by CEC, GO-Biz and IVC
- 130+ people attended including reps from:
 - Local governments
 - CBOs
 - Tribes
 - Industry
 - Trades/Unions
 - Academic institutions
 - Research labs
- 17 state reps from:
 - Legislature
 - Governor's Office
 - State Treasurer's Office
 - CNRA
 - CEC
 - CalSTA
 - Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency
 - LWDA Employment Training Panel





Lithium Valley Vision Informational Proceeding

- **Purpose:** Develop a cohesive and coordinated approach to realizing the Lithium Valley Vision
- **Objective:** Establish a record of input from multiple perspectives to develop a strategic assessment
- **Process:** Hold multiple public workshops crafted with input from:
 - Local residents, environmental justice and environmental groups, industry, academia, and the public
 - Federal, state, and local government, and California Native American tribes





Questions from the Dais





Public Q&A





Status Update on Lithium Valley Commission Recommendations

April 19, 2024

Will Toaspern, Clean Energy Policy Fellow
Office of Commissioner Noemi Gallardo



Overview of Blue-Ribbon Commission on Lithium Extraction in California (LVC)



- Established by AB 1657 (E. Garcia).
- Convened diverse representatives.
- Held 20+ public meetings over 2 years.
- Released report in December 2022 with 15 adopted recommendations.



Status Update on Lithium Valley Commission Recommendations

- **Purpose:** Identify entities involved and provide example of progress made to address LVC Recommendations.
- **Summary:** Posted a summary document addressing progress made on the recommendations as of April 2024 by state and County of Imperial.
- **Lithium Valley State Workgroup:** CEC, through Commissioner Gallardo's office, is convening state representatives involved in Lithium Valley efforts.
- **Planning:** Understanding what has been done and which gaps remain will inform next steps.



Recommendation #1

*Establish a Lithium Valley **priority permitting process** that includes additional resources for agency action on applications for geothermal, DLE, and related manufacturing, production, or assembly projects identified by the state as essential to the development and growth of Lithium Valley.*

Entities Involved

CEC, DTSC, GO-Biz

Imperial County

Highlight of Progress Made

CEC's Opt-In Permitting Program

Specific Plan and Programmatic EIR



Recommendation #2

*Accelerate state **planning for investment and upgrades in transmission** for geothermal power plants in Imperial Valley to be online in 2024 and over the next decade.*

Entities Involved

California ISO, I-Bank, CPUC

Highlight of Progress Made

California ISO's 2023-2024 Transmission Plan projects over 21 GW of geothermal development, primarily in the Imperial Valley and in Southern Nevada.



Recommendation #3

*Establish the **Southeast California Economic Zone**, which includes Imperial County and Eastern Coachella and Palo Verde Valleys. This regional economic zone should be recognized by federal, state, and local governments, and eligible to compete for funding and investments.*

Entities Involved

State Legislature

Highlight of Progress Made

AB 2757, introduced by Assemblymember Garcia this year, directly addresses this recommendation.



Recommendation #4

*The State should increase **funding** – and identify alternative funding sources — for research and development, start-up companies, and expansion of **lithium battery and battery component manufacturing and recycling**, especially cathode production using lithium produced through environmentally preferable methods.*

Entities Involved

CEC, GO-Biz, ETP, CALSTA, State Treasurer's Office, CalRecycle, California Jobs First

Highlight of Progress Made

PowerForward is a new CEC-supported grant program that will provide \$33m in funding for battery manufacturing.



Recommendation #5

*Federal, state, and local governments should **foster collaboration across the supply chain** of lithium related technologies by creating networks, meetings, and other forums that regularly bring business, research, Tribes, communities, and government agencies together to identify short- and long-term economic opportunities.*

Entities Involved	CEC, DTSC, GO-Biz	Imperial County
Highlight of Progress Made	CEC and GO-Biz's Battery Day, convenes partners to build out the California battery economy.	County's Cleantech hub initiative in partnership with UC Riverside would convene local partners to build out regional lithium economies.



Questions and Input from the Dais



Recommendation #6

*The State and County should **establish a business service center** in Imperial County to facilitate access to business development incentive programs to benefit residents of disadvantaged communities, Tribal members, small businesses, and entrepreneurs.*

Entities Involved

CEC, DTSC, GO-Biz

Imperial County

Highlight of Progress Made

GO-Biz and ETP provide ongoing support of local economic development initiatives.

Business Service Center included in County's application for EDA Reconnect grant.



Recommendation #7

*Support **development of a circular lithium economy** based in California, with environmentally responsible sourcing of raw materials, life cycle analysis, requirements for product design that support recovery, reuse and recycling of materials, and development of effective recovery infrastructure, built with the assistance of public-private coalitions and effective community engagement.*

State Entities Involved

CalRecycle, DTSC, CEC, GO-Biz, ETP

Highlight of Progress Made

CalRecycle and DTSC developing extended producer responsibility framework related to lithium battery recycling and waste recovery.



Recommendation #8

*The State should fund a **health impact analysis (e.g., assessment or study) for Eastern Coachella Valley**, to be carried out by an academic institution or public agency, relating to increased development in the Salton Sea KGRA of geothermal power plants and DLE facilities and related processing, production, and manufacturing activities.*

Entities Involved

None to Date

Highlight of Progress Made

No State Action Taken Yet

Note: Imperial County is contracting with San Diego State University for a Health Impact Analysis study focused on Imperial County.



Recommendation #9

*Provide resources for local and state agencies and Tribes to proactively **seek and leverage existing federal funding opportunities to invest in infrastructure** in the Salton Sea region, including funding made available through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 (H.R. 3684) and the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 (H.R. 5376).*

Entities Involved

CNRA, CEC, SGC, Governor's Office

Highlight of Progress Made

The Salton Sea Management Program, as part of CNRA, received \$70 million in Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) funding for Salton Sea Restoration projects.



Recommendation #10

Require and fund IID to conduct a water study of projected cumulative infrastructure development of geothermal power plants and DLE facilities and related water use, sources, local beneficial uses, and availability. The State or other entity should also evaluate water quality.

Entities Involved

CEC

Highlight of Progress Made

CEC's active Geothermal Grant and Loan funding solicitation could be potentially leveraged for a water study by an eligible entity.



Questions and Input from the Dais



Recommendation #11

*The State should fund (and identify additional funding sources), and the industry should inform, the creation of **curriculum, courses, and certification programs in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM)** at schools and colleges to advance critical knowledge and skills across all grade levels, with a focus on the infrastructure and communities closest to geothermal power plants and DLE facilities.*

Entities Involved

Legislature, ETP, Governor's Office

Imperial County

Highlight of Progress Made

\$80m state investment in STEM Campus on SDSU Imperial Valley's campus in Brawley.

Recently procured consultant to conduct workforce and economic development analysis.



Recommendation #12

*Federal, state, and local government should **invest in repairs, improvements to critical infrastructure and housing** needed to support the success of lithium recovery, lithium processing, and lithium-dependent product manufacturing and recycling in the Salton Sea region, with a focus on the infrastructure and communities closest to geothermal power plants and DLE facilities. Investment decisions should consider community and Tribal priorities and include opportunities for participatory budgeting that includes public process and community and Tribal involvement.*

Entities Involved

State Legislature, Lithium Valley State Workgroup

Imperial County

Highlight of Progress Made

SB 1309 introduced by Senator Steve Padilla seeks to establish a Lithium Battery Production Council whose scope would include infrastructure analysis.

Investment and projects focused on bridge upgrades using federal and Imperial County funds.



Recommendation #13

Provide **capacity building funds**, such as grants, and other resources (e.g., childcare for parents to attend meetings) **for Tribes and community members to engage with federal, state, and local permitting agencies.**

Entities Involved

CA State Legislature, Governor's Office, SGC, CEC

Highlight of Progress Made

SB 125 passed in 2022/23 provided funds for community engagement and outreach to local CBOs distributed through Imperial County.



Recommendation #14

Establish standards for state and local permitting agencies to provide communities and Tribes with plain language written communications about geothermal power plant and DLE facility applications, the permitting processes to review the applications, and post-approval monitoring and enforcement. Information provided should also include education about the materials and processes used in DLE and lithium processing facilities, the final and intermediate products created, and any waste streams that must be managed.

Entities Involved

Lithium Valley State Workgroup

Imperial County

Highlight of Progress Made

CEC has created a website to share information on Lithium Valley and a website for the LVC Commission.

Planning a major revamp of website and communication strategy including new materials, communication, and engagement content.



Recommendation #15

Develop best practice guidance for CEQA lead agencies when initiating communications and consultation with Tribes (e.g., making multiple attempts through different methods, such as mail, email, telephone); providing reasonable time for Tribal governments to evaluate written materials; and recognizing the specific cultural, historical, public health, and ecological context of the Salton Sea region.

Entities Involved

CEC

Highlight of Progress Made

CEC is exploring ways to address this recommendation and will engage the Governor's Office of Tribal Affairs.



Questions and Input from the Dais



Public Q&A



Topics and Scoping Questions for Future Workshops

April 19, 2024

Will Toaspern, Clean Energy Policy Fellow
Office of Commissioner Noemi Gallardo



Overview of Future Workshop Topics for Informational Proceeding

- Future workshops will dive deeper into specific topics
- Document is posted with further details and scoping questions
- Flexibility on timing and venues
- Seeking input on most important topics to address



Potential Workshop Topics

Infrastructure

**Growing a Lithium-
Based Economic
Ecosystem**

Water Needs

**Education and
Workforce Development**

**Community Benefits,
Leadership, and
Communications**

**Technological Innovation
and Market Access**

**Sustainability, Circular
Economy, and Recycling**

**Environmental Impacts
and Restoration**



Questions and Input from the Dais



Public Q&A



General Public Comment

Rules

- 3 minutes per person
- 1 person per organization

Zoom

- Click "raise hand"

Telephone

- Press *9 to raise hand
- Press *6 to (un)mute

When called upon

- Zoom hosts will open your line
- Unmute, spell name and state affiliation, if any, for the record, then begin your comments

Written Comments:

- Visit <https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/programs/lithium-valley-visionm> Valley Vision | California Energy Commission
- Click on "[Submit Comments \(24-OIR-02\)](#)"

3-MINUTE TIMER

