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**THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

**Energy Resources Conservation  
and Development Commission**

In the Matter of: )  
Application for Certification for the )  
Black Rock Geothermal Project )  
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Docket No. 23-AFC-03

**BLACK ROCK GEOTHERMAL PROJECT  
STATUS REPORT NO. 9**

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BLACK ROCK GEOTHERMAL PROJECT  
STATUS REPORT NO. 9

Pursuant to the *Presiding Member’s Scheduling Order for the Black Rock Geothermal Project Proceeding*,<sup>1</sup> Black Rock Geothermal LLC (“the Applicant”) provides this *Status Report No. 9* to update the Committee regarding the status of the Application for Certification (“AFC”) proceeding for the Black Rock Geothermal Project (“BRGP”).

**I. SUMMARY OF PROGRESS OF PROCEEDING**

As of the date of this filing, the Applicant has submitted all remaining responses to outstanding data requests, whether formal or informal. The Applicant also docketed the following:

- On June 17, 2024, the Applicant docketed a revised Water Supply Assessment (“WSA”) which was prepared for the Imperial County Planning & Development Services under Senate Bill 610 (Costa, Chapter 643, Stats. 2001).<sup>2</sup>
- On June 21, 2024, the Applicant docketed responses to the Lithium Valley Equity Technical Advisory Group comments on the Imperial County Air Pollution Control District’s (“ICAPCD”) Preliminary Determination of Compliance (“PDOC”).<sup>3</sup>
- On June 21, 2024, the Applicant docketed responses to the Jobs to Move America comments on the ICAPCD PDOC.<sup>4</sup>

**II. DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT COMMUNICATIONS WITH OTHER FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL AGENCIES, AND TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS**

A brief description of the Applicant’s significant communications with other federal, state, and local agencies, and tribal governments is provided below.

- The Applicant consulted with the Imperial Irrigation District (“IID”) regarding the revised WSA. The Applicant is also in the process of reviewing draft waste discharge requirement

<sup>1</sup> TN#: 252289.

<sup>2</sup> TN#: 256895.

<sup>3</sup> TN#: 257275.

<sup>4</sup> TN#: 257276.

permit conditions received from the Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board.

- On June 14, 2024, IID informed the Applicant that, due to the withdrawal of a higher queued project, IID will be reanalyzing the BRGP for purposes of evaluating potential system impacts in accordance with Section 7.6.1 of IID's Open Access Transmission Tariff. IID estimates it will deliver a revised Interconnection System Impact Study by August 13, 2024 (60 days after notice). The Applicant anticipates that the required upgrades will likely be reduced and expects that the Point of Interconnection will remain unchanged. Based on a recent discussion with IID, the Applicant understands that this date is likely to change given the number of projects requiring restudy.
- On June 17, 2024, the Federal Aviation Administration ("FAA") issued its Determination of No Hazard to Air Navigation for the BRGP. As part of this process, the Applicant understands that the FAA consults with the Department of Defense prior to rendering its determination.
- The Applicant continues to engage with local Native American tribes. On June 19, 2024, the President and CEO of BHE Renewables met with an elder of the Kwaaymii Laguna Band of Indians to discuss tribal concerns and provided a tour of BHE Renewables' operating geothermal plants.

### III. OUTCOME OF PUBLIC WORKSHOPS OR MEETINGS

There were no public workshops or meetings relating to the BRGP AFC proceeding in June 2024.

### IV. SCHEDULE

The Applicant is diligently working with all parties and stakeholders to advance this important, much needed baseload renewable energy project.

Dated: June 28, 2024

Respectfully submitted,

ELLISON SCHNEIDER HARRIS & DONLAN L.L.P.

By 

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