

DOCKETED	
Docket Number:	23-AFC-03
Project Title:	Black Rock Geothermal Project (BRGP)
TN #:	257990
Document Title:	JMA Comments and Request Regarding Preliminary Staff Assessment Technical and Mitigation Workshop Date
Description:	N/A
Filer:	Jacob Nicholas Rodriguez
Organization:	Jobs to Move America
Submitter Role:	Public
Submission Date:	7/25/2024 11:05:34 AM
Docketed Date:	7/25/2024

July 25, 2024

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ed Wytkind, Chair
President, EW Strategies LLC

Carl Kennebrew, Vice-Chair
President, IUE-CWA

Tanya Wallace-Goburn, Vice-Chair
Exec. Director, National Black Worker Center

Robert Puentes, Sec-Treas.
President & CEO, Eno Center for Transportation

Michael Coleman
President, Sheet Metal Workers' International
Association (SMART)

John A. Costa
Intl. President, Amalgamated Transit Union

Joe DiMichele
Director, Professional and Industrial IBEW
Membership Development

Scott Douglas
Exec. Director, Greater Birmingham Ministries

Cecilia Estolano
CEO and Founder, Estolano Advisors

Ana Garcia-Ashley
Exec. Director, Gamaliel Network

Jacky Grimshaw
Vice President of Government Affairs,
Center for Neighborhood Technology

Tamara L. Lee, Esq.
Assoc. Professor, Labor Studies & Employment
Relations, Rutgers University

Mike Miller
Director, Region 6, United Auto Workers Union

Greg Regan
President, Transportation Trades Department,
AFL-CIO

John Samuelsen
Intl. President, Transport Workers Union of
America

Dr. Beverly Scott
Beverly Scott & Associates

Maria Somma
Organizing Director, United Steelworkers

Christian Sweeney
Deputy Organizing Director, AFL-CIO

Xinge Wang
Deputy Director, Transportation Learning Center

CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Madeline Janis, Esq.

CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Erica Iheme

DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Miranda Nelson

RE: Docket Nos. 23-AFC-01, 23-AFC-02, and 23-AFC-03

Dear Presiding Member Gallardo:

On Friday, July 19, 2024, near the close of the business day, the California Energy Commission (CEC) posted to the above entitled dockets a "Notice of Preliminary Staff Assessment Technical and Mitigation Workshop July 31-August 1, 2024."

This workshop is for three different AFCs for the Elmore North Geothermal Project (ENGP), Morton Bay Geothermal Project (MBGP), and the Black Rock Geothermal Project (BRGP).

We are concerned about the timing of the workshop and its public notice. First, written comments for the ENGP Preliminary Staff Assessment (PSA) are due on Monday, July 29, which is two days before the workshop in which ENGP will be discussed. Due to the timing, the public will not be able to provide written comment on any new information and discussions that may occur during the workshop on the same level as the other two projects.

Our second concern is about the public notice provided. As the notice was posted on Friday, July 19, the public is only allotted 11 calendar days to make arrangements to participate in an extensive two-day workshop on issues important to the public. Previously, the CEC posted a "Hold-the-date August 31 2023 Geothermal AFC event" on August 4, 2023. The public was given 26 calendar days to make arrangements to participate.

As a community organizer born and based in Imperial County, I am worried that meaningful resident turnout may be suppressed by the short notice, further compounding an already complicated situation—the extreme heat our region is currently experiencing during this peak summer month and the distance between the workshop to the communities most directly impacted in the North End of the county, where these proposed projects will be built.

Therefore, we respectfully request the following:

- 1) Reschedule the Technical and Mitigation Workshop to give more notice to the public to attend the meeting. We suggest early September.
- 2) Extend the deadline to submit written comments on the ENGP PSA until after the Technical and Mitigation Workshop.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jacob Nicholas Rodriguez
Imperial County Organizer, Jobs to Move America