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STATE OF CALIFORNIA

**State Energy Resources Conservation
and Development Commission**

In the Matter of:)
)
Application for Certification for the)
Willow Rock Energy Storage Center)
)
)
_____)

Docket No. 21-AFC-02

MOTION FOR COMMITTEE SCHEDULING CONFERENCE

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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In the Matter of:)
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MOTION FOR COMMITTEE SCHEDULING CONFERENCE

Pursuant to Section 1211.5 of the California Energy Commission’s (“CEC” or “Commission”) Rules of Practice and Procedure,¹ GEM A-CAES, LLC (“Applicant”) hereby files this *Motion for Committee Scheduling Conference* requesting that the Committee hold a scheduling conference as soon as possible, consistent with the noticing requirements of the CEC’s regulations, to discuss the schedule for this proceeding.

On August 9, 2024, pursuant to the Committee’s order,² Applicant, CEC Staff and Intervenor California Unions for Reliable Energy (“CURE”) filed their respective Issues Identification Statement and Proposed Schedules.³ The Applicant’s Proposed Schedule provides a reasonable and feasible shortening of Discovery as suggested in the Committee’s order, resulting in a Final Decision on this important long-duration energy storage project, the Willow Rock Energy Storage Center (“WRESC”), in May of 2025. CEC Staff’s schedule fails to provide any date certain but almost certainly delays a WRESC decision to, at best, the end of 2025.

The meet and confer did not bring the Parties to a common understanding or agreement. Moreover, Staff’s August 9, 2024 filing reflects previously unarticulated positions on timing and purported new, substantive issues not in alignment with the record in this proceeding. It is abundantly clear that given the wide and substantial divergence between Staff and Applicant, the Committee must intervene by setting a Scheduling Conference so that the Parties and the public have notice and opportunity to be heard – before issuance of a scheduling order. In its order setting a Scheduling Conference, the Committee should affirm that in the interim, the Parties should continue forward with Discovery and all other aspects of the proceeding.

¹ As set forth in Title 20, Division 2, Chapter 2 of the California Code of Regulations (“CCR”).

² TN #: 258022, dated July 26, 2024, superseding TNs #: 257965, 257972, and 257977.

³ TNs #: 258428, 258407, and 258444, respectively.


Prayer for Relief

The Applicant respectfully requests that the Committee issue an Order setting a Scheduling Conference as soon as possible, consistent with the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure. The Applicant further requests that the Committee's Order also affirm that in the interim, the Party's should continue forward with Discovery and all other aspects of the proceeding.

Dated: August 12, 2024

Respectfully Submitted,

ELLISON SCHNEIDER HARRIS & DONLAN LLP

By  _____

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