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#### **CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION**

715 P Street Sacramento, California 95814

energy.ca.gov

CEC-70 (Revised 7/22)



APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION FOR:

Morton Bay Geothermal Project

Docket No. 23-AFC-01

APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION

FOR:

Docket No. 23-AFC-02

Elmore North Geothermal Project

APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION FOR:

Black Rock Geothermal Project

Docket No. 23-AFC-03

# Notice of Public Workshop on Tribal Mitigation September 6, 2024

Start time on Friday, September 6, 2:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

The California Energy Commission (CEC) staff will conduct a public workshop for the Morton Bay, Elmore North, and Black Rock Geothermal Projects, focusing on issues of importance to representatives of California Native American tribes. All interested parties, California Native American tribes, government agencies, and members of the public are invited to participate in the workshop, which will be held both in person and via remote attendance (hybrid).

In-person Location:

Imperial Valley College, 380 E. Aten Road, Room 2734 Imperial, California 92251\*

> Includes In-Person Spanish Interpretation See Attendance Instructions

\*Parking reserved for this event in Lots I & J (see map)

The purpose of the workshop is to allow the CEC staff and representatives from Berkshire Hathaway Energy, Renewables, California Native American tribes, and other interested parties to discuss the Preliminary Staff Assessments (PSAs) for the Morton Bay, Elmore North, and Black Rock geothermal projects, to identify and address potential impacts, and to modify or refine mitigation measures, with a focus on areas of interest to California Native American tribes, and to receive comments from interested government agencies and the public. The PSAs contain the CEC staff's independent, objective evaluation of each of the proposed geothermal projects (see Background section at the end of this document for more detailed project information). The Elmore North PSA was filed to the docket on June 13, 2024 (TN 256843), the Morton Bay PSA was filed to the docket on June 27, 2024 (TN 257470), and the Black Rock PSA was filed to the docket on July 11, 2024 (TN 257697). The documents may be found on the following project web pages at:

- https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=23-AFC-01
- https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=23-AFC-02
- https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=23-AFC-03

The information obtained from workshop discussions and public comments will be a part of the record of proceeding and may be used in the preparation of the Final Staff Assessment (FSA) for each project.

The public can participate in the PSA Workshop consistent with the attendance instructions below. The CEC aims to begin promptly at the start time posted. The end time is an estimate based on the proposed agenda. The workshop may end sooner or later than the posted end time.

## **Proposed Agenda:**

- 1. Welcome (5 minutes).
- 2. Introduction of parties and representatives.
- 3. Input and comments from California Native American tribes, responsible and trustee agencies, elected officials, and other government agencies, may be made prior to specific topical discussion.
- 4. Discussion, moderated by CEC staff, on Cultural and Tribal Cultural issues and other select technical areas interrelated to such tribal issues. The workshop will focus on potential modifications or refinements to proposed mitigation and to identify topic areas potentially requiring the Committee to resolve through the hearing process. Time will be allotted for public comment.

Breaks will be announced at the beginning of the meeting.

5. Adjourn.

#### **Attendance Instructions:**

**In-person** participants may join the meeting at 380 East Aten Road, Imperial, California. Masks and social distancing are encouraged, but not required.

If participants bring a device to join the meeting via Zoom at the physical location, the system audio must be muted, or the audio should not be joined. This is to avoid disruptive feedback during the meeting. Audio will be provided through an onsite sound system.

**Remote** participants may join via Zoom by internet or phone.

## **To join via Zoom.** Click on

https://energy.zoom.us/j/84041542120?pwd=ACEEUczZLV37XU3V\_qpvGpPwY4RAKg.cajj09880bgv y3K4

- or login in at <a href="https://zoom.us/">https://zoom.us/</a> and enter the Webinar ID 840 4154 2120 and passcode 626264 and follow all prompts.
- **To join by telephone.** Call toll-free at 1-213-338-8477. When prompted, enter the Webinar ID 840 4154 2120 and passcode 626264.

**Zoom Closed Captioning Service.** At the bottom of the screen, click the Live Transcript CC icon and choose "Show Subtitle" or "View Full Transcript" from the pop-up menu. To stop closed captioning, close the "Live Transcript" or select "Hide Subtitle" from the pop-up menu. If joining by phone, closed captioning is automatic and cannot be turned off. While closed captioning is available in real-time, it can include errors. A more accurate transcript of the workshop will be docketed and posted as soon as possible after the meeting concludes.

**Zoom Spanish language Interpreting Services.** Open the Zoom meeting. In the "Navigation" panel, click "Settings," then click the "Meeting" tab. Under "In Meeting (Advanced)," click "Language Interpretation" toggle to enable/ disable. If a verification dialog displays, click "Enable" or "Disable" to verify the change. If the option is grayed out, it has been locked and you will need to contact your Zoom admin. Click "Mute Original Audio" to reduce background noise.]

**Zoom Difficulty.** Contact Zoom at (888) 799-9666 ext. 2, or the CEC Public Advisor at publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov, or by phone at (916) 957-7910.

## **Public Comment:**

The CEC encourages the use of its electronic commenting system. Navigate to the "submit e-comment" pages (under Original Proceeding in the right margin) for the dockets as follows:

https://www.energy.ca.gov/powerplant/steam-turbine/morton-bay-geothermal-project-mbgp https://www.energy.ca.gov/powerplant/steam-turbine/elmore-north-geothermal-project-engp https://www.energy.ca.gov/powerplant/steam-turbine/black-rock-geothermal-project-brgp

Enter your contact information and a subject title that describes your comment. Comments may be included in the "Comment Text" box or attached as a downloadable, searchable document in Microsoft® Word or Adobe® Acrobat®. The maximum file size allowed is 10 MB.

**Oral comments** will be accepted at the end of the workshop. Comments may be limited to three minutes or less per speaker and one person per organization. To comment via Zoom, use the

"raise hand" feature so the administrator can announce your name and unmute you. To comment via telephone, press \*9 to "raise your hand" and \*6 to mute/unmute.

**Written comments** may be submitted to the Docket Unit for the Elmore North, Morton Bay, and Black Rock geothermal project PSAs until 5:00 p.m. on September 2, 2024.

Written and oral comments, attachments, and associated contact information (including address, phone number, and email address) will become part of the public record of this proceeding with access available via any internet search engine. Written comments may also be submitted by email. Include docket number 23-AFC-01, 23-AFC-02, or 23-AFC-03 and "Morton Bay Geothermal Project," or "Elmore North Geothermal Project," or "Black Rock Geothermal Project" (respectively) in the subject line and email to docket@energy.ca.gov.

A paper copy may be mailed to:
California Energy Commission
Docket Unit, MS-4
Docket No. 23-AFC-01, 23-AFC-02, and 23-AFC-03
715 P Street
Sacramento, California 95814

**Public Advisor.** The CEC's Public Advisor assists the public with participation in CEC proceedings. To request assistance, interpreting services, or reasonable modifications and accommodations, call (916) 957-7910 or email <a href="mailto:publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov">publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov</a> as soon as possible but at least five days in advance of the workshop. The CEC will work diligently to meet all requests based on availability.

**Media Inquiries.** Email <u>mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov</u> or call (916) 654-4989.

**General Inquiries.** Email Eric Veerkamp at <a href="mailto:eric.veerkamp@energy.ca.gov">eric.veerkamp@energy.ca.gov</a> or call (916) 661-8458, or Gabriel Roark, Supervisor, Cultural Resources Unit, and Assistant Tribal Liaison for the Siting, Transmission, and Environmental Protection Division, at <a href="mailto:Gabriel.Roark@energy.ca.gov">Gabriel.Roark@energy.ca.gov</a> or (916) 237-2544.

**Availability of Documents.** Documents and presentations for this meeting will be available at:

https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=23-AFC-01

https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=23-AFC-02

https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=23-AFC-03

or at https://www.energy.ca.gov.

When new information is posted an email will be sent to those subscribed to the Morton Bay Geothermal Project, Elmore North Geothermal Project, and Black Rock Geothermal Project dockets. To receive these notices or notices of other email subscription topics, visit <u>Subscriptions</u>, at <a href="https://www.energy.ca.gov/subscriptions">https://www.energy.ca.gov/subscriptions</a>.

## **Background:**

On April 18, 2023, the CEC received the following three applications for certification (AFCs) seeking to construct and operate geothermal electrical generating and related facilities southeast of the Salton Sea, and northwest of the city of Calipatria, in unincorporated Imperial County, California:

- 1. Morton Bay Geothermal, LLC, an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of BHE Renewables, LLC (BHER), filed an AFC to construct and operate the Morton Bay Geothermal Project (MBGP). MBGP is a flash steam, 140 MW geothermal power plant. The MBGP would require construction of the following features: one steam turbine generator system, geothermal fluid processing systems, one cooling tower, brine pond, 20 wells (both production and injection) on 12 well pads, pipelines, a 230 kilovolt (kV) substation, a 3.2-mile transmission line (approx. 34 poles), three emergency standby diesel generators, a new switching station near the intersection of Garst and West Sinclair roads (serving all three projects), and related features. Process water would be supplied for all three projects by IID and via water reclaimed from the process. Potable water would be supplied via a reverse osmosis or equivalent system.
- 2. Elmore North Geothermal, LLC, an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of BHER, filed an AFC to construct and operate the Elmore North Geothermal Project (ENGP). ENGP is a flash steam, 140 MW geothermal facility. The ENGP would require construction of the following features: one steam turbine generator system, geothermal fluid processing systems, one cooling tower, brine pond, 21 wells (both production and injection) on 13 well pads, pipelines, a 230 kV substation, a 0.5-mile transmission line, three emergency standby diesel generators, and related features.
- 3. Black Rock Geothermal, LLC, an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of BHER, filed an AFC to construct and operate the Black Rock Geothermal Project (BRGP). BRGP is a flash steam, 77 MW geothermal facility. The BRGP would require construction of the following features: one steam turbine generator system, geothermal fluid processing systems, one cooling tower, brine pond, 12 wells (both production and injection) on seven well pads, pipelines, a 230kV substation, a 2.2-mile transmission line, three emergency standby diesel generators, and related features.

**Dated:** August 16, 2024, at Sacramento, California.

Clizabeth Huber

Elizabeth Huber

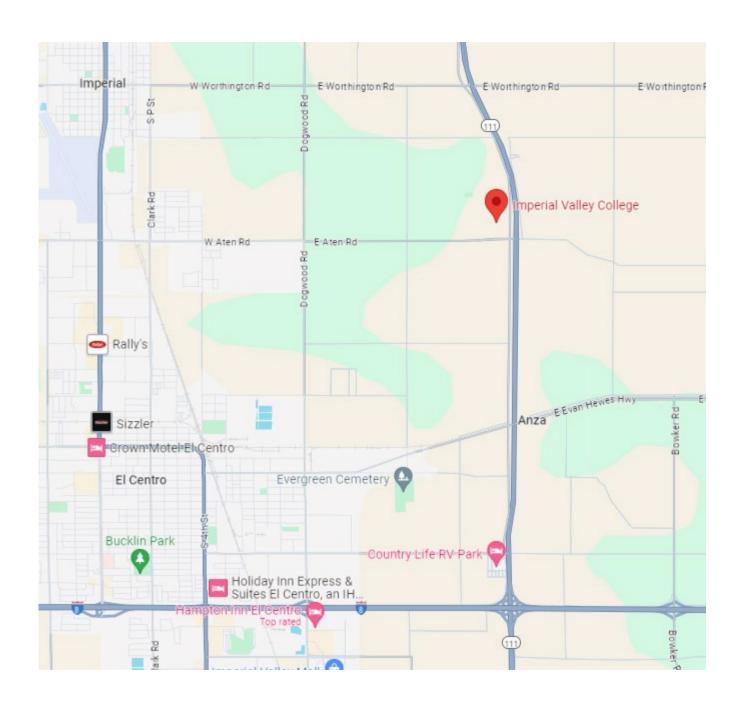
Director, Siting, Transmission, and Environmental Protection Division

## Subscriptions:

23-AFC-01

23-AFC-02

23-AFC-03





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