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Via Docket No. <u>23-AFC-02</u>

California Energy Commission 715 P Street Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: United Automobile, Aerospace, and Agricultural Implement Workers of America's Comments on Schedule for the Elmore North Geothermal Project Proceedings

We write on behalf of United Automobile, Aerospace, and Agricultural Implement Workers of America ("UAW") regarding the CEC Staff and Applicants' Joint Proposed Schedules for the Elmore North Geothermal Project ("Project") filed September 27, 2024. UAW generally agrees with the timelines and proposals submitted by CEC Staff and the Applicant, except for a few areas, which we believe are important to Intervenors' and public participation in the remaining administrative process.

The Applicant and CEC Staff proposed "that evidentiary hearings should be held on consecutive days and separated by project. The Applicants and CEC Staff agreed that it may be possible to utilize a hybrid approach, where certain issues are held on certain days, but separated by project." UAW believes that it is critical that Intervenors' witnesses be permitted to speak to all three projects at once for efficiency. While we recognize that it is important for witnesses to be clear which Project they are speaking about, the overlap between the three geothermal projects being considered is significant. To reduce the cost and time burden on Intervenors, we ask the CEC to allow witnesses to speak to all three projects at one time.

In addition, we agree that the evidentiary hearings should be held in Imperial County. However, we request that a teleconference option, such as Zoom, be available to UAW members and partners, as well as other members of the community and the public, can watch the proceedings. In addition, if witnesses are not able to travel to Imperial County, they should be permitted to appear via Zoom.

Thank you for considering these comments. Respectfully,

Matthew C. Maclear

AQUA TERRA AERIS LAW GROUP