

**DOCKETED**

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Memorandum

**To:** Commissioner Andrew McAllister, Presiding Member  
Commissioner Noemi Gallardo, Associate Member

**Date:** October 25, 2024

**From:** California Energy Commission  
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**Subject: STAFF STATUS REPORT #3 FOR THE WILLOW ROCK ENERGY STORAGE CENTER (21-AFC-02)**

In its *Revised Committee Scheduling Order* filed September 9, 2024 (TN 259084), the Committee on the Willow Rock Energy Storage Center project ordered the parties to “continue submitting monthly status reports no later than the 26th day of every month” and further clarified that “[s]tatus reports shall inform the Committee whether the case is progressing satisfactorily and bring potential delays and other relevant matters to the Committee’s attention.”

California Energy Commission staff (staff) continues to coordinate with partner agencies, most notably the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board, to gather information necessary for our analysis of the application. Staff has also initiated conversations with potentially affected California Native American tribes.

Staff continues to make progress on its discovery efforts. Staff filed Data Request Set 3 on September 23, 2024, and Set 4 on September 27, 2024, after previously filing Data Request Set 1 on July 26, 2024, and Data Request Set 2 on August 22, 2024. Staff received applicant responses to Data Request Set 1 on August 23, 2024, to Data Request Set 2 on September 19, 2024, and to Data Request Set 3 on October 23, 2024. Staff is actively reviewing these responsive filings to ensure that complete, satisfactory responses have been provided and will file follow-up data requests as necessary.

At this stage staff considers our information gathering efforts to be proceeding satisfactorily. Staff is preparing the Preliminary Staff Assessment (PSA) and currently believes it can meet the PSA publication target outlined in the Scheduling Order, provided no adjustments are made.