

**DOCKETED**

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<b>Project Title:</b>	Informational Proceeding on Lithium Valley Vision
<b>TN #:</b>	259829
<b>Document Title:</b>	Itinerary for November 1 Lithium Valley Workshop
<b>Description:</b>	Schedule, speakers and topics for the November 1, 2024 Lithium Valley Workshop
<b>Filer:</b>	Erik Stokes
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## **Lithium Valley Vision Workshop Schedule**

**November 1, 2024**

### **Workshop 2 of the Lithium Valley Vision Informational Proceeding**

**How State Agencies in Coordination with the County of Imperial are Supporting Lithium Valley**

**9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

**9:30 Administrative Items**

**9:35 Opening Remarks from the Dais**

- Noemi Gallardo, Commissioner, California Energy Commission
- David Hochschild, Chair, California Energy Commission
- Jesus Eduardo Escobar, Board of Supervisors (District 1) for Imperial County
- Miguel Figueroa, CEO for Imperial County
- Shannon O'Rourke, Acting Deputy Secretary for Energy, CA Natural Resources Agency

**9:50 CEC Staff Presentation**

CEC staff will provide a recap of the first workshop held on April 19, 2024 and share comments received at that workshop, as well as how the CEC plans to address those comments during the proceeding. In addition, CEC staff will present an overview of the draft schedule for the informational proceeding, including the topics and timeframe for future workshops.

**Presenters:**

- Erik Stokes, Chief of Staff to Commissioner Noemi Gallardo, CEC
- Colleen Kredell, Special Advisor to Commissioner Noemi Gallardo, CEC

**10:00 Lithium Valley Permitting**

The Lithium Valley Commission recommended a series of activities to support permitting for geothermal, DLE, and related projects essential to the development and growth of Lithium Valley. This panel provides an overview of progress and plans for the topic.

**Presenters:**

- Michael Abraham, Assistant Planning & Development Services Director, County of Imperial
- Elizabeth Huber, Director, Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection Division, CEC
- Poonum Patel, Deputy Director, Business Investment Services, GO-Biz

- Wayne Lorentzen, Permitting Division Manager, Hazardous Waste Management Program, Department of Toxic Substances Control

**10:30 State Funding and Incentives for the Lithium Ecosystem**

The Commission’s report also called for increasing state funding and identifying alternative funding sources for research and development, start-up companies, and expansion of lithium battery and battery component manufacturing and recycling, especially cathode production using lithium produced through environmentally preferable methods. This panel provides an overview of progress and plans for the topic.

**Presenters:**

- Miguel Figueroa, CEO, County of Imperial
- Poonum Patel, Deputy Director, Business Investment Services, GO-Biz
- Christina Sarron, Interim Executive Director, CAEFTA
- Erik Stokes, Chief of Staff to Commissioner Noemi Gallardo, CEC

**11:00 Infrastructure**

The Lithium Valley Commission identified the need for accelerated planning as well as investment and upgrades to the infrastructure in the Salton Sea Region will be critical to the success of the Lithium Valley. This includes housing, transportation, water and wastewater treatment, and electricity transmission, among other needs. This panel will provides an overview of state planning and funding opportunities that can support the infrastructure needs of Lithium Valley.

**Presenters:**

- Christine Casey, Deputy Secretary of Freight Policy, CalSTA
- Lina Moeller, Manger of Loan Origination, I-Bank
- Neil Millar, Vice President of Infrastructure and Operations Planning, CAISO

**11:30 Workforce and Economic Development**

The establishment of a robust, lithium-based economy in the Salton Sea region will provide new opportunities for workforce development, with a variety of workforce needs associated with not only the new firms that may locate there, but also with the development of needed infrastructure. The Commission recommended that the State should fund and the industry should inform the creation of educational programs in STEM at local schools and colleges, including opportunities for retraining those exiting other local job fields, such as agriculture. This panel provides an overview of progress and plans for the topic.

**Presenters**

- Priscilla Lopez, Director of Workforce and Economic Development, County of Imperial
- Derek Kirk, Senior Advisor for Economic Policy, GO-Biz
- Robert Meyer, Director of Economic Development, Employment Training Panel

**12:00 General Public Comment**

**12:15 Closing Remarks from the Dais**

**12:30    Adjourn**