

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	23-AFC-03
Project Title:	Black Rock Geothermal Project (BRGP)
TN #:	261334
Document Title:	ENGP, MBGP and BRGP ROC Regarding Solid Waste, Disposal Capacity
Description:	Conversation between James Ackerman from the CEC, and Osvaldo Flores from Desert Valley Company Monofill
Filer:	Marichka Haws
Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
Submission Date:	1/28/2025 1:15:26 PM
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*Siting, Transmission
 and Environmental
 Protection Division*

		FILE:
PROJECT TITLE: ENGP, MBGP, BRGP		Docket: 23-AFC-01, 23-AFC-02, 23-AFC-03
TECHNICAL AREA(S): Solid Waste		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Telephone	(760) 348-4212	<input type="checkbox"/> Meeting Location: Via email
NAME: James Ackerman	DATE: January 23, 2025	TIME: 10:45
WITH:	Osvaldo Flores, Environmental Manager, Desert Valley Company Monofill	
SUBJECT:	Status of Construction and Permitting of DVCM Cell-4 Expansion	

COMMENTS:

Public comments to the Elmore North Geothermal Project (ENGP) Preliminary Staff Assessment (PSA) expressed the concern that current Desert Valley Company Monofill (DVCM) capacity would be full before completion of the planned Cell-4 DVCM expansion. Therefore, ENGP and the other Berkshire Hathaway Energy Renewables (BHER) geothermal projects Morton Bay and Black Rock would need to find another appropriate landfill facility to dispose of nonhazardous filter cake waste in the interim.

I contacted Mr. Flores, DVCM Environmental Manager, to verify information regarding existing landfill capacity, and the schedule of Cell-4 construction and permitting. Mr. Flores informed me that DVCM is currently completing aquatic resources permitting processes for the Cell-4 expansion and that the entire permitting process will be complete by Q3/Q4 2025. Cell-4 construction is anticipated to begin in 2026.

When asked about the current DVCM available capacity, Mr. Flores was confident that the existing Cell-3 capacity would not be exhausted until 2030/2031, well after completion of the Cell-4 expansion.

Regarding possible impacts of other proposed geothermal projects on DVCM capacity, Mr. Flores offered the following information:

- The Controlled Thermal Resources (CTR) Hell’s Kitchen geothermal energy/lithium production project will utilize a process that produces less solids than a typical geothermal power plant.
- The Energy Source Mineral ALTiS lithium production project addition to the existing Hudson Ranch geothermal energy plant will contract with a different landfill than DVCM.