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Docket Number:	23-OPT-02
Project Title:	Darden Clean Energy Project
TN #:	263055
Document Title:	Executive Director's Recommendation on IP Darden I LLC and Affiliates Opt-In Application for the Darden Clean Energy Project
Description:	Memorandum
Filer:	Marichka Haws
Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
Submission Date:	5/12/2025 2:02:37 PM
Docketed Date:	5/12/2025

Memorandum

To: Chair David Hochschild
Vice Chair Siva Gunda
Commissioner Noemi Otilia Osuna Gallardo
Commissioner J. Andrew McAllister, Ph.D.
Commissioner Nancy Skinner

Date: May 12, 2025

From: Drew Bohan, Executive Director
California Energy Commission
715 P Street
Sacramento, California 95814

**Subject: Executive Director's Recommendation on IP Darden I LLC and Affiliates
Opt-In Application for the Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)**

I. Introduction

Public Resources Code section 25545.6 and California Code of Regulations, title 20, section 1879(c) require the California Energy Commission's (CEC) Executive Director to file a recommendation, concurrent with the updated Staff Assessment, on whether the CEC should certify the environmental impact report and issue a certificate for the construction and operation of the facility. This memorandum sets forth my recommendation to the CEC.

II. Recommendation

Based on the entire record of this proceeding, including the Opt-in Application and Updated Staff Assessment, I recommend the CEC:

1. Certify the Final Environmental Impact Report (within the Updated Staff Assessment)
2. Issue the Darden Clean Energy Project a certification to construct and operate the facility.