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Lithium Valley Commission Report Development Framework

Report Overview

The Lithium Valley Report will be a concise document summarizing findings of review, discussion, and analysis completed by the Lithium Valley Commission (Commission) with support from the California Energy Commission (CEC). The primary goal of the report is to provide specific policy recommendations to the legislature—along with adequate context and considerations—to ensure the Lithium Valley effort proceeds efficiently, equitably, and in an environmentally conscious manner.

Commissioner Engagement in Report Process

The Commission will serve to fulfil the requirements and expectations as outlined in AB 1657, including reviewing, investigating, and analyzing issues relating to lithium extraction and use in California.

All Commissioners will have an opportunity to discuss and provide input on all topics and recommendations included in the Commission report. To that end, each Commissioner is encouraged to become familiar with all facets of the effort, including technology, economic impacts, lithium market opportunities, environmental considerations, etc.

The sub-bodies will serve as topic-specific liaisons between the Commission and CEC to assist with workshop facilitation and report drafting.

General Recommendations for Commissioners

- Participate in any public and community engagement meetings in addition to monthly meetings.
- Research and identify relevant resources, documents, and workshop participants to inform the Commission report.
- Develop, discuss, and finalize policy recommendations for the report.
- Review and edit report drafts.
- Coordinate with CEC Media Office to respond to public and media inquiries relating to the Commission, as appropriate.
- Review and approve final version of report to be submitted to the Legislature as required in AB 1657.

Sub-Body Recommendations

- With input from all Commissioners and assistance from CEC staff, develop a library of key resources related to the specified topic. These will be shared with the CEC report team and posted to the docket as appropriate.
- For workshops on the designated topic(s), the sub-body will:
 - Work with fellow Commissioners to identify workshop speakers (CEC staff will coordinate logistics).
 - Develop workshop agendas with input from all Commissioners.
 - Facilitate workshops. This includes making introductory remarks, moderating discussions, and proposing discussion questions, as needed.
 - Work with CEC staff to summarize findings from workshops and outline key points for the report.
- Review and edit relevant sections of the report prior to full Commission review.

CEC Engagement in Report Process

The CEC will provide support to the Commission to plan and facilitate all public meetings and develop the Commission report. The CEC will also provide subject matter expertise that may inform discussions and report development. Please note that the Commission is an independent Commission and, therefore, the CEC will not manage nor report to the Commission.

- CEC will help identify relevant resources to inform the report and review, analyze, and synthesize information and guidance provided by the Commission through meeting discussions, shared documents, workshop panels, and other resources.
- The CEC's role will include researching and synthesizing information provided to develop the report, as well as report writing and technical editing. Policy analysis and recommendations will be developed by the Commission. CEC staff will write the report sections for Commission review, editing, and approval, based on the direction of the Commission. CEC will capture the Commission's perspectives, but will not impose its own views into the report.
- CEC staff will work with the various sub-bodies to ensure all Commission, stakeholder, and public perspectives are adequately considered and reflected in the report.
- Chair Hochschild, Commissioner Douglas, and/or CEC staff may participate in discussions and workshops, as appropriate.
- CEC staff may contribute subject matter expertise that will inform the report in areas including EV and battery manufacturing and supply chains, electric grid planning, and environmental impacts.