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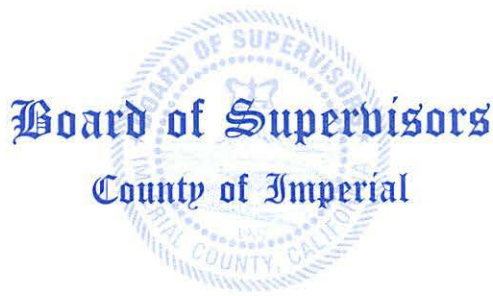
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June 10, 2021

President Marybel Batjer
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear President Batjer:

On behalf of the Imperial County Board of Supervisors (“County”), I am writing to reiterate our strong support of the Proposed Decision of California Public Utility Commission’s (“CPUC”) Administrative Law Judge (“ALJ”) Julie A. Fitch that outlines energy procurement requirements to address mid-term reliability, which is a part of the Integrated Resource Plan and Long Term Procurement Plan proceeding (R.20-05-003). The County strongly supports the proposal for procurement of at least 1,000 MW of geothermal resources by 2025.

The Alternate Proposed Decision (“APD”) of Commissioner Rechtschaffen changes the proposed procurement amount of 1,000 MW from “geothermal resources” to 1,000 MW from “firm or dispatchable zero-emitting resources such as geothermal.” In the APD, “firm” energy is described as providing power whenever needed for as long as needed, such as resources like clean gas, renewables-plus-storage, and geothermal. Since there is not a commitment for a specific amount of geothermal procurement within the APD, the original proposal ensuring the procurement of geothermal is weakened, with the potential to completely eliminate geothermal resources from playing a role in the State’s program to advance renewable energy.

The procurement of additional geothermal resources is necessary in order to support California’s transition to reliable and affordable renewable energy sources. Such procurement will also promote resource diversity, help to ensure that sufficient electric capacity exists to meet demand, and enhance the overall reliability of the electrical grid. Additionally, the procurement of additional geothermal resources would assist California in reaching its goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions to 40% below 1990 levels by 2030, and would provide much-needed jobs and economic activity to areas in California that have been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, such as Imperial County.

For these reasons, the County is eager to work with CPUC staff to make geothermal procurement a reality and we urge strong consideration of ALJ Fitch’s original PD. We look forward to your approval of this request. Should you have any questions regarding this letter or need additional

information, please contact our Intergovernmental Relations Director Rebecca Terrazas-Baxter at (442) 265-1014 or rebeccaterrazas-baxter@co.imperial.ca.us.

Sincerely,



Michael W. Kelley, Chairman
Imperial County Board of Supervisors

cc: Senator Ben Hueso, 40th District
Assembly Member Eduardo Garcia, 56th District