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Resources on Developing Geothermal and Lithium Co-Production for the August 26, 2021 Lithium Valley Commission Meeting

This document provides a list of selected resources to inform discussion during the August 26, 2021 Lithium Valley Commission meeting.

Permitting Overview

- The [Regulatory and Permitting Information Desktop Toolkit](https://openei.org/wiki/RAPID/Geothermal/California) (<https://openei.org/wiki/RAPID/Geothermal/California>) developed by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory provides an overview of the permitting process for geothermal plants in California.

Examples of Principal Permitting State Agencies in California

- The California State Lands Commission web page "[Geothermal Permitting and Leasing Procedures](https://www.slc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/04-PermitandLeaseProcedures.pdf)" (<https://www.slc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/04-PermitandLeaseProcedures.pdf>) provides an overview of California geothermal mineral lease permitting processes and royalty payment requirements.
- [CalGEM](https://www.conservation.ca.gov/calgem/geothermal) (<https://www.conservation.ca.gov/calgem/geothermal>) regulates the operation, maintenance, and permanent closure of production and injection wells used for the discovery and extraction of geothermal resources on state and private land.
- CEC licenses thermal power plants with a generating capacity of 50 MW or more. For more information, see the CEC [Power Plant Licensing](https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/topics/power-plants/power-plant-licensing) web page (<https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/topics/power-plants/power-plant-licensing>).

Local Land-Use Planning

The [Renewable Energy and Transmission Element County of Imperial General Plan](https://www.icpds.com/assets/planning/renewable-energy-and-transmission-element-2015.pdf) (<https://www.icpds.com/assets/planning/renewable-energy-and-transmission-element-2015.pdf>) was revised in 2015. The document provides a framework for the review and approval of renewable energy projects in the County. The document also includes information on typical geothermal brine chemistry from five of the nine Known Geothermal Resource Areas in Imperial County, including the Salton Sea Known Geothermal Resource Area.

Energy Resource and Infrastructure Planning

The November 2018 [Imperial Irrigation District Integrated Resource Plan](https://www.iid.com/home/showpublisheddocument/9280/636927586520070000) (<https://www.iid.com/home/showpublisheddocument/9280/636927586520070000>) includes information on infrastructure plans related to geothermal resources in the Imperial Valley. As stated in this plan, "IID is uniquely located in an area where renewable resources such as solar, geothermal and others can place IID in a leading role as a renewable resource generation hub in the state of California and the nation."