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#### Office of Commissioner Gallardo

California Energy Commission | www.energy.ca.gov



May 2023



#### Reflections







### **Pathways to Prosperity**

Removing Barriers for Clean Energy

Lithium Valley Vision

**Equity** 

**STEP** 

Relationship Building JAEDI & PAO+

**RREDI** 

Funding Opportunities

Clean
Energy Hall
of Fame
Awards



# Clean Energy Hall of Fame Awards



12/7/2023



## **JAEDI Communities of Practice**

#### Language Access

Patricia Carlos

Commissioner McAllister?

#### Workforce Development

Larry Rillera

Vice Chair Gunda?

# Supplier Diversity

Pierre Washington

Commissioner Gallardo

# Outreach & Engagement

Rachel Salazar

Chair Hochschild?

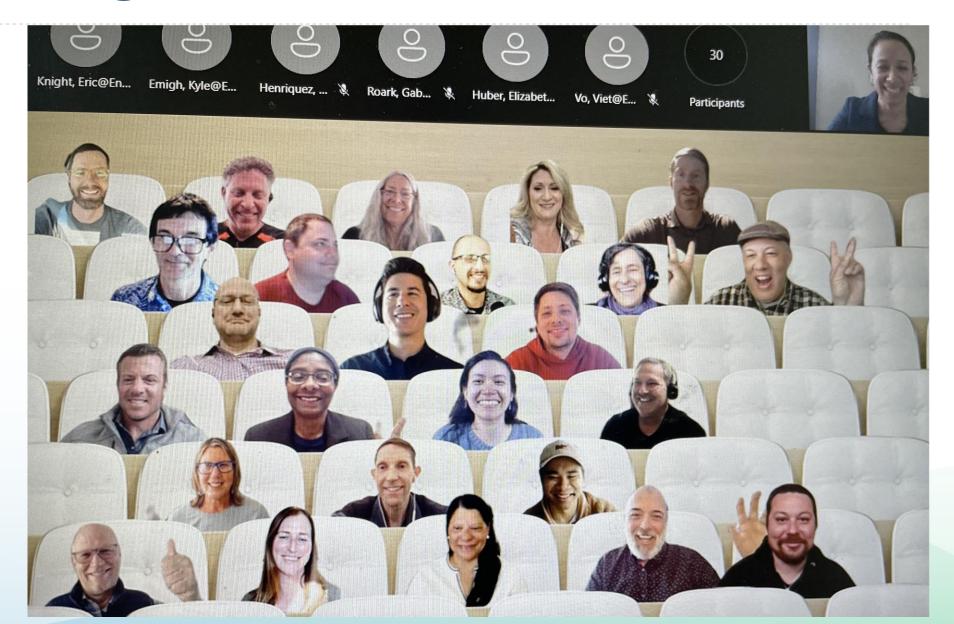
#### Benefits Development

Taylor Marvin

Commissioner Monahan?



### Siting and Renewable Infrastructure





#### **AB 205: Permitting for Clean Energy Projects**

Solar PV At least 50 MW



Terrestrial Wind At least 50 MW



Energy storage system
At least 200 MWh



Non-fossil-fueled thermal power plant At least 50 MW



Manufacturing/assembly facility for renewable energy/energy storage systems or components At least \$250m investment



Transmission from a power plant eligible under this law to first point of interconnection





### **Process and Milestones**

- Notice of Preparation (Day 3)
- Initiate Tribal Consultation (Day 5)
- Info/Scoping Meeting (Day 30)
- Discovery Request Due (30 Day Turnaround)

30 Days

## 150 Days

- Draft EIR and Notice of Availability Published (Day 150)
- Draft EIR Workshop (20 – 40 Days from published date)
- Draft EIR Public Comment (60 Days from published date)

- Final EIR (By Day 240)
- CEC Business Meeting Decision (By Day 270)
- Partner Agencies Applicable Permit Issuance (By Day 360)

270 Days



## Outreach and Engagement

Tribal Consultation

**Project Area Advertising** 

Public Workshop for Draft EIR

Public Info & Scoping Meeting



## Findings to Approve Projects

CEQA for Project that Would Have Significant Effect on Environment

Overall Net Positive Economic Benefit to Local Government

Paying Prevailing Wage to Skilled and Trained Workforce

Complies with Applicable Laws, Ordinances, Regulations, Standards or Required for Public Convenience or Necessity

Signed Community Benefits Agreement



#### **Economic and Community Benefits**

#### WHO? Local government and coalition of 1 or more CBOs

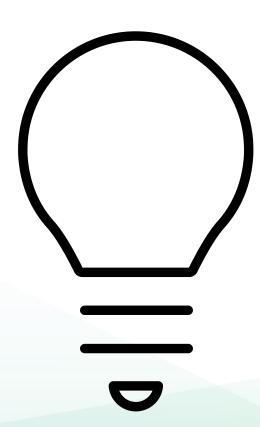
- workforce development and training organizations
- labor unions
- social justice advocates
- local governmental entities
- California Native American Tribes
- other orgs that represent community interests

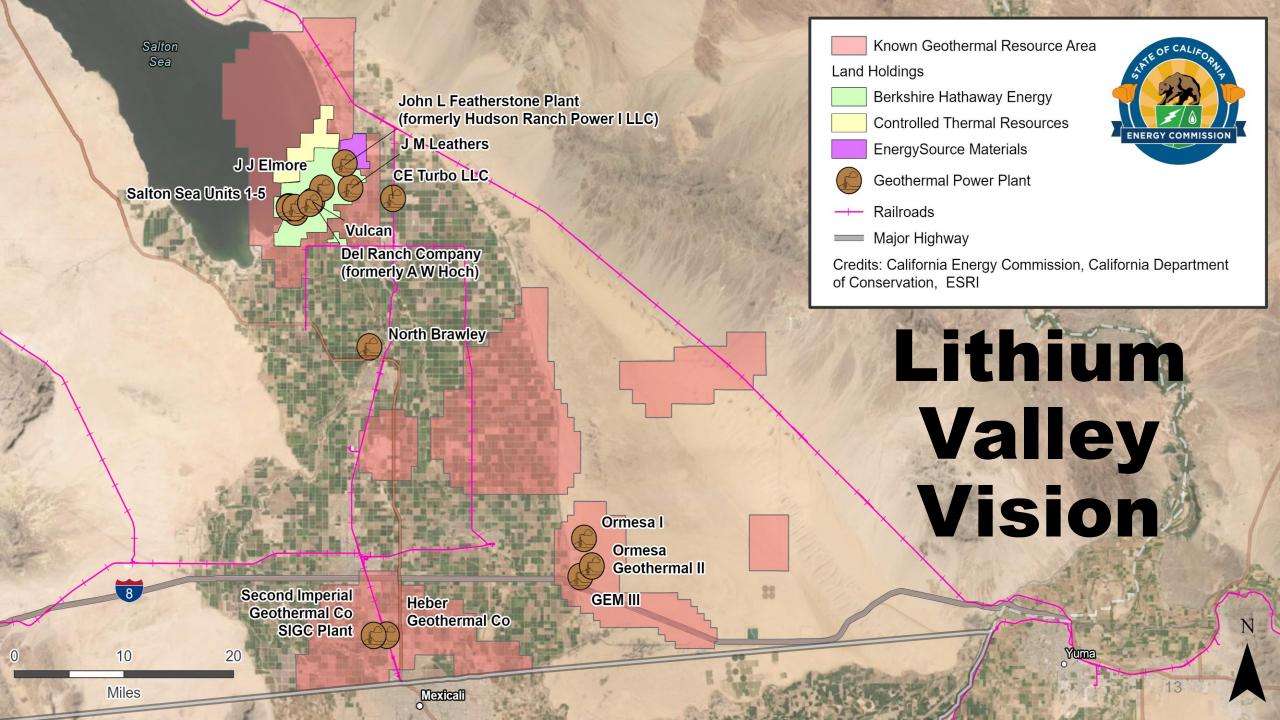
#### WHAT? economic benefits

- employment growth
- housing development
- infrastructure and environmental improvements
- assistance to public schools and education
- assistance to public safety agencies and departments
- property taxes and sales and use tax revenues



- DACAG experts
- Workshop
- Research





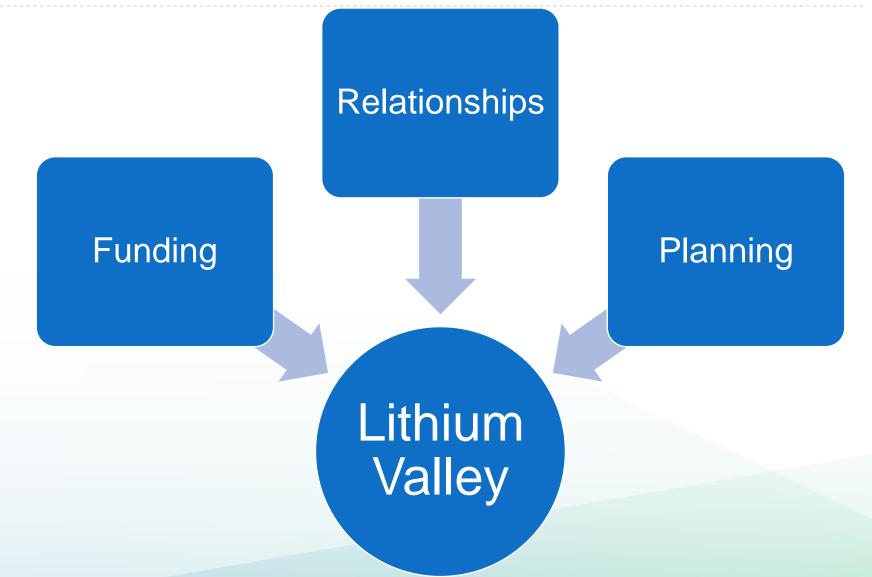


#### **Milestones**

- Dec 2022 Submitted Lithium Valley Commission Report to the Legislature
- Jan 2023 PBS
- March 2023 Governor's visit
- April 2023 DOE visit
- May 2023 60 Minutes









### **Opportunities**

- Establish a Lithium Valley priority permitting process that includes additional resources for agency action on applications for geothermal, DLE, and related manufacturing, production, or assembly projects identified by the state as essential to the development and growth of Lithium Valley.
- State should increase funding and identify alternative funding sources for research and development, start-up companies, and expansion of lithium battery and battery component manufacturing and recycling, especially cathode production using lithium produced through environmentally preferable methods.
- Federal, state, and local governments should **foster collaboration across the supply chain of lithium related technologies** by creating networks, meetings, and other forums that regularly bring business, research, Tribes, communities, and government agencies together to identify short- and long-term economic opportunities.
- State and County should **establish a business service center in Imperial County** to facilitate access to business development incentive programs to benefit residents of disadvantaged communities, Tribal members, small businesses, and entrepreneurs.



### Opportunities cntd.

- Provide resources for local and state agencies and Tribes to proactively seek and leverage existing federal funding opportunities to invest in infrastructure in the Salton Sea region, including funding made available through IIJA and the IRA.
- Provide capacity building funds, such as grants, and other resources (e.g., childcare for parents to attend meetings) for Tribes and community members to engage with federal, state, and local permitting agencies.
- Establish standards for state and local permitting agencies to provide communities and Tribes with plain language written communications about geothermal power plant and DLE facility applications, the permitting processes to review the applications, and post-approval monitoring and enforcement. Information provided should also include education about the materials and processes used in DLE and lithium processing facilities, the final and intermediate products created, and any waste streams that must be managed.
- Develop best practice guidance for CEQA lead agencies when initiating communications and consultation with Tribes providing reasonable time for Tribal governments to evaluate written materials; and recognizing the specific cultural, historical, public health, and ecological context of the Salton Sea region.

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