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*Comment Received From: Simon Canalez
Submitted On: 8/26/2023
Docket Number: 23-AFC-02*

Letter of Support

Additional submitted attachment is included below.



BRAWLEY UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

480 NORTH IMPERIAL AVENUE, BRAWLEY, CA 92227 * (760) 312-5819 * FAX (760) 344-9520 *

<http://www.brawleyhigh.org>

"Excellence is Our Standard"

SIMON R. CANALEZ
Superintendent

August 25, 2023

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

RE: Support for the Elmore North Geothermal Project (23-AFC-02)

Dear Mr. Bohan:

On behalf of the Brawley Union High School District, I write to express our enthusiastic support of the Elmore North Geothermal Project proposed in Imperial County, California.

The Brawley Union High School District serves 2000 high school students in the city of Brawley, which is located just south of the Salton Sea. We are a WASC accredited institution that has been recognized nationally for its civics and environmental literacy programs.

By generating geothermal energy 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, the Elmore North Geothermal Project will provide critically needed new, renewable baseload generating capacity to support grid reliability and the State's transition to clean, carbon-free electricity.

The Elmore North Geothermal Project will also provide significant economic benefits to Imperial County. Capital expenditures from the project are estimated to bring \$750 million to \$1.3 billion to the local economy, creating over 636 construction jobs and 61 permanent jobs to support maintenance and operation of the facility. In addition to the many jobs that will be created, the project will generate substantial tax revenue and support the local economy through direct purchase of services, supplies, and materials from local and regional companies.

Geothermal projects allow for potential partnerships with organizations that can support the development of our students. We have a thriving career technical education program and are interested in building out an energy, environment, and utilities pathway in conjunction with the Imperial Valley K-12 Strong Workforce consortium to provide our students with gainful employment opportunities in the region.

For these reasons, we support the Elmore North Geothermal Project. We look forward to the timely consideration and approval of the project by the California Energy Commission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Simon Canalez", is written over a white rectangular background.

Simon Canalez
Superintendent

BRAWLEY UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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