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Letter of Support

Additional submitted attachment is included below.



August 16, 2023

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

RE: Support for the Morton Bay Geothermal Project (23-AFC-01)

Dear Mr. Bohan:

On behalf of Imperial Irrigation District (IID), I write to express IID's support of the Morton Bay Geothermal Project proposed in Imperial County, California.

IID is the largest irrigation district in the nation. The IID Water Department is responsible for the timely operation and maintenance of the extensive open channel system, and effectively delivers its annual entitlement of 3.1 million acre-feet, less water transfer obligations, to nearly one-half million acres for agricultural, municipal and industrial use. Of the water IID transports, approximately 97 percent is used for agricultural purposes, making possible Imperial County's ranking as one of the top 10 agricultural regions nationwide. IID operates more than 3,000 miles of canals and drains. On the energy side, IID is the sixth largest electrical utility in California and proudly serves more than 150,000 customers in Imperial County and parts of Riverside and San Diego Counties. IID is also the owner of high voltage transmission and the transmission provider for more than 1000 MW of generation.

By generating geothermal energy 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, the Morton Bay 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 project is anticipated to interconnect to the IID system.

The Morton Bay Geothermal Project is also anticipated to provide economic benefits to Imperial County. IID is advised that capital expenditures from the project are estimated to bring significant benefit to the local economy, creating many construction jobs and long-term employment jobs to support maintenance and operation of the facility. In addition to the jobs that will be created, the project is likely to generate tax revenue and support the local economy through direct purchase of services, supplies, and materials from local and regional companies.

For these reasons, IID supports the Morton Bay Geothermal Project and looks forward to the timely consideration and approval of the project by the California Energy Commission.

Sincerely

Sergio Quiroz

General Manager, Interim