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THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

**Energy Resources Conservation
and Development Commission**

In the Matter of:)
Application for Certification for the)
Black Rock Geothermal Project)
)
_____)

Docket No. 23-AFC-03

**BLACK ROCK GEOTHERMAL PROJECT
STATUS REPORT NO. 3**

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BLACK ROCK GEOTHERMAL PROJECT
STATUS REPORT NO.

Pursuant to the *Presiding Member’s Scheduling Order for the Black Rock Geothermal Project Proceeding*,¹ Black Rock Geothermal LLC (“the Applicant”) provides this *Status Report No. 3* to update the Committee regarding the status of the Application for Certification proceeding for the Black Rock Geothermal Project (“BRGP”).

I. SUMMARY OF PROGRESS OF DISCOVERY

Since the submission of *Status Report No. 2*, the Applicant continues to diligently respond to informal and formal data requests from parties and stakeholders in this proceeding. A brief summary of the data requests received from parties and the Applicant’s responses to date is provided below.

- On December 4, 2023, California Energy Commission (“CEC”) Staff docketed four documents relating to the biological resources of Burrowing Owls on the Project site including photographs, figures, and appendices, which were previously filed under a Repeated Application for Confidential Designation by the Applicant out of an abundance of caution.²
- On December 14, 2023, the Applicant docketed revised responses to CEC Staff’s *Data Requests Set 2*, Data Requests 4 and 5.³
- On December 14, 2023, the Applicant docketed *Data Request Set 1 Cumulative Air Dispersion and Public Health Modeling Files*.⁴
- On December 19, 2023, the Applicant docketed a *Report of Waste Discharge and Detection Monitoring Plan Update*.⁵
- On December 21, 2023, the Applicant docketed responses to CEC Staff’s *Data Requests Set 3*, Data Requests 1 to 9.⁶

¹ TN#: 252289.

² TN#: 253500, 253501, 253502, 253503.

³ TN#: 253620.

⁴ TN#: 253630.

⁵ TN#: 253668.

⁶ TN#: 253705.

Intervenor California Unions for Reliable Energy (“CURE”) has filed three sets of data requests in this proceeding.

- On December 18, 2023, the Applicant submitted a notice that additional time was required to respond to CURE’s *Data Requests Set 2* due to the winter holidays and associated work schedules and travel of personnel.⁷ The Applicant also provided notice of its objection to certain data requests contained in CURE’s *Data Requests Set 2*. The Applicant will provide responses to CURE’s *Data Requests Set 2* on or before January 19, 2023.
- On December 20, 2023, CURE submitted its third set of data requests titled *CURE Data Requests Set 3 – Black Rock Geothermal Project*.⁸ The Applicant is reviewing the requests and will submit responses within the time provided for in Section 1716 of the CEC’s regulations.

II. DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT COMMUNICATIONS WITH OTHER FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL AGENCIES, AND TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS

A brief description of the Applicant’s communications with other federal, state, local agencies, and tribal governments is provided below.

- The route for the Imperial Irrigation District (“IID”) network upgrades was updated and is under review. The System Impact Study (“SIS”) for the BRGP was updated to reflect the updated route and is also under review. The Applicant anticipates docketing the updated SIS after it is finalized in January 2024.
- The Applicant understands that IID shared the SIS with Arizona Public Service (“APS”), San Diego Gas & Electric (“SDGE”), and Southern California Edison (“SCE”). The Applicant understands that SDG&E has not identified any potential impact, and that responses from APS and SCE are pending.
- On December 20, 2023, the Applicant held a conference call with IID to discuss the draft water supply assessment.

III. OUTCOME OF PUBLIC WORKSHOPS OR MEETINGS

No public workshops or meetings were held during the month of December.

IV. SCHEDULE

The Applicant continues to work with parties and stakeholders to move this proceeding forward.

Dated: December 28, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

ELLISON SCHNEIDER HARRIS & DONLAN L.L.P.

⁷ TN#: 253656.

⁸ TN#: 253698.

By _____

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