

# Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research  
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: (Public Agency):  
County of Imperial  
Planning & Development Services  
801 Main Street  
El Centro, CA 92243

County Clerk  
County of Imperial  
940 Main Street  
El Centro, CA 92243

13-2024-040

**FILED**  
IMPERIAL COUNTY  
Jun 07 2024

CHUCK STOREY, County Clerk

By Chuck Storey  
Deputy Clerk

Project Title: CALENERGY REGION 1-2020 LITHIUM RECOVERY TEST

Project Applicant: CALENERGY REGION 1 OPERATING CORPORATION

Project Location – Specific: 6922 CRUMMER ROAD, CALIPATRIA, CA

Project Location – City: CALIPATRIA, CA Project Location – County: IMPERIAL

### Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

At present, BHE Renewables has identified an equivalent Direct Lithium Extraction (DLE) technology to be used for the lithium recovery having a sorbent with more suitable performance than the previous media used. BHE Renewables has an ongoing lithium recovery pilot test, which was started on June 12, 2023, with an added focus on an improved brine pretreatment process. BHE Renewables installed the lithium recovery demonstration facility at the Unit 5 area of the Region 1 Facility. CalEnergy is requesting an extension of the pilot project, from April 2024 to April 2027.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: IMPERIAL COUTY PLANNING & DEV SERVICES

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project Diana Robinson, Planning Div. Manager, ICPDS

**POSTED**

### Exempt Status: (check one):

- Ministerial (Sec 21080(b)(1), 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number. Section 15306
- Statutory Exemptions, State Code
- Number: \_\_\_\_\_

JUN 07 2024

Imperial County Clerk-Record  
California

### Reasons why project is exempt.

The test pilot consists of taking brine and processing for the extraction of lithium. This test will not affect any functions of the geothermal plant on site. Also, the project will consist of basic data collection, research, experimental management and resource evaluation activities, which should not result in major disturbance to environmental resources.

### Lead Agency

Contact Person: Diana Robinson, ICPDS

### Area Code/

Telephone Extension: 442-265-1736

### If filed by applicant:

- 1 Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project?  Yes  No

Signature: 

Michael Abraham,  
Assistant ICPDS

Date: 06/06/24

Title: Director

- Signed by Lead Agency
- Signed by Applicant

Authority cited Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code

Date Received for Filing at OPR \_\_\_\_\_

Reference Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152 1, Public Resources Code

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