

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 NINTH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512
www.energy.ca.gov

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED AWARDS****Geothermal Grant and Loan Program
Grant Funding Opportunity GFO-16-509
April 6, 2017**

On January 27, 2017, the California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) released a Grant Funding Opportunity (GFO-16-509) titled “Geothermal Grant and Loan Program (GRDA) – Mineral Recovery from Geothermal Brines.” This competitive grant solicitation was offered pursuant to Senate Bill (SB) 1074 (Hueso, Chapter 539, Statutes of 2016), which became effective on January 1, 2017. The solicitation announced that up to \$2,500,000 in grant funding was available, with applications due by March 10, 2017. The applications received for GFO-16-509 have been screened, evaluated and scored using the criteria prescribed in the solicitation. Based on the Evaluation Committee’s scores, the Energy Commission proposes to award funding to one applicant. The attached table titled “Notice of Proposed Awards and Results of Submitted Proposals” identifies the applicant recommended to receive funding, the project title, the recommended amount of Energy Commission funding, and scoring information.

The purpose of this GFO was to solicit grant funding applications from eligible local jurisdictions and private entities for geothermal energy-related projects in California that meet all of the following requirements:

1. The project is for recovery of lithium, metals, agricultural products, or other beneficial minerals from highly mineralized geothermal brines;
2. The project is located at a geothermal facility in existence on January 1, 2017, that is in a disadvantaged community and provides local employment opportunities; and
3. The project uses commercially available technologies for the mineral or product recovery processes.

As funding for this solicitation was made available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), applicants were informed that special ARRA Terms and Conditions apply to this grant. In addition, pursuant to the U.S. Department of Energy’s National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) implementing regulations (10 CFR Part 1021), the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) is required to evaluate the potential environmental impact of projects that it is considering for funding.

Funding of proposed projects resulting from this solicitation is contingent upon all of the following:

1. applicant submittal of sufficient documentation to support an Energy Commission determination that a decision to approve funding for a project complies with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA);
2. review and approval of terms specific to the ARRA funding source;
3. approval of the project grant agreement at a publicly noticed Business Meeting of the Energy Commission; and
4. execution of a grant agreement by all parties.

If an applicant cannot provide sufficient documentation of compliance with CEQA in the timeframe required by the Energy Commission, and/or the Energy Commission and applicant are unable to negotiate and execute a funding agreement within the timeframe required by the Energy Commission, the Energy Commission, at its sole discretion, reserves the right to cancel a proposed award. In addition, no funds may be expended under agreements resulting from this solicitation, prior to the completion of a determination of compliance with Federal NEPA requirements.

This notice is being mailed to all parties who submitted an application to this solicitation and is also being posted on the Energy Commission's website at: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/contracts/index.html>. For additional information or questions about this notice, please contact Crystal Presley-Willis, Commission Agreement Officer, at (916) 653-6110, or by email at Crystal.Presley-Willis@energy.ca.gov.



**California Energy Commission
Geothermal Grant and Loan Program**

GFO-16-509

**Notice of Proposed Awards and Results of Submitted
Proposals**

April 6, 2017



Proposal Number	Applicant	Project Title	Funds Requested	Proposed Award	Score	Recommendation
Proposed Awards						
1	EnergySource Minerals, LLC	Well To Wheels Lithium Design Proposal Response	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000	76.9	Awardee
Subtotal:			\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000		
Passed, but Not Funded						
NA			\$0	\$0		Passed
Subtotal:			\$0	\$0		
Did Not Pass Technical Evaluation						
2	Ormat Nevada Inc.	Membrane-Assisted Extraction and Recovery of Lithium, Praseodymium, Neodymium, Erbium, Lanthanum, and Terbium from Spent Geothermal Brines	\$424,540	\$0		Did Not Pass
Subtotal:			\$424,540	\$0		
Grand Total:			\$2,924,540	\$2,500,000		
			Funds Requested	Funds Available		