



# Geothermal Grant and Loan Program Pre-Application Workshop (GFO-23-402)

Reliability, Renewable Energy, & Decarbonization Incentives (RREDI) Division

Erica Loza

Friday, March 8, 2024





# Agenda

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- Housekeeping
- Section I - Introduction
- Section II - Eligibility Requirements
- Section III - Application Format and Submission
- Section IV - Evaluation (Scoring Criteria) and Award Process
- Key Dates and Documents
- Question and Answer Period



# Diversity Survey

- The Energy Commission is committed to ensure participation in its funding programs.
- We are collecting voluntary information about the attendance of this workshop.
- The information supplied will be used to display anonymous overall attendance of diverse groups





# Instructions



Meeting is being recorded

Presentation materials  
available at: [Pre-  
Application Workshop -  
GFO-23-402](#)



Updates to the solicitation  
will be posted here: [GFO-  
23-402](#)



# I.I. Geothermal Grant and Loan Program Background

- Established in 1980; Geothermal Resources Development Account (GRDA) is the funding source
- Uses revenues paid to state from geothermal royalties and leases on federal lands in CA
  - **30% to California Energy Commission's (CEC) Geothermal Grant and Loan Program**
  - 30% to Renewable Resources Investment Fund
  - 40% to counties of origin

## Statute

- Public Resources Code (PRC). Division 3. Chapter 6. Sections 3800 – 3827
- Defines who can apply and what purposes of projects can be funded

## Regulations

- Title 20. Division 2. Chapter 4. Article 7. Sections 1660 – 1665 and Appendix A
- Defines application process, award procedures, and scoring criteria



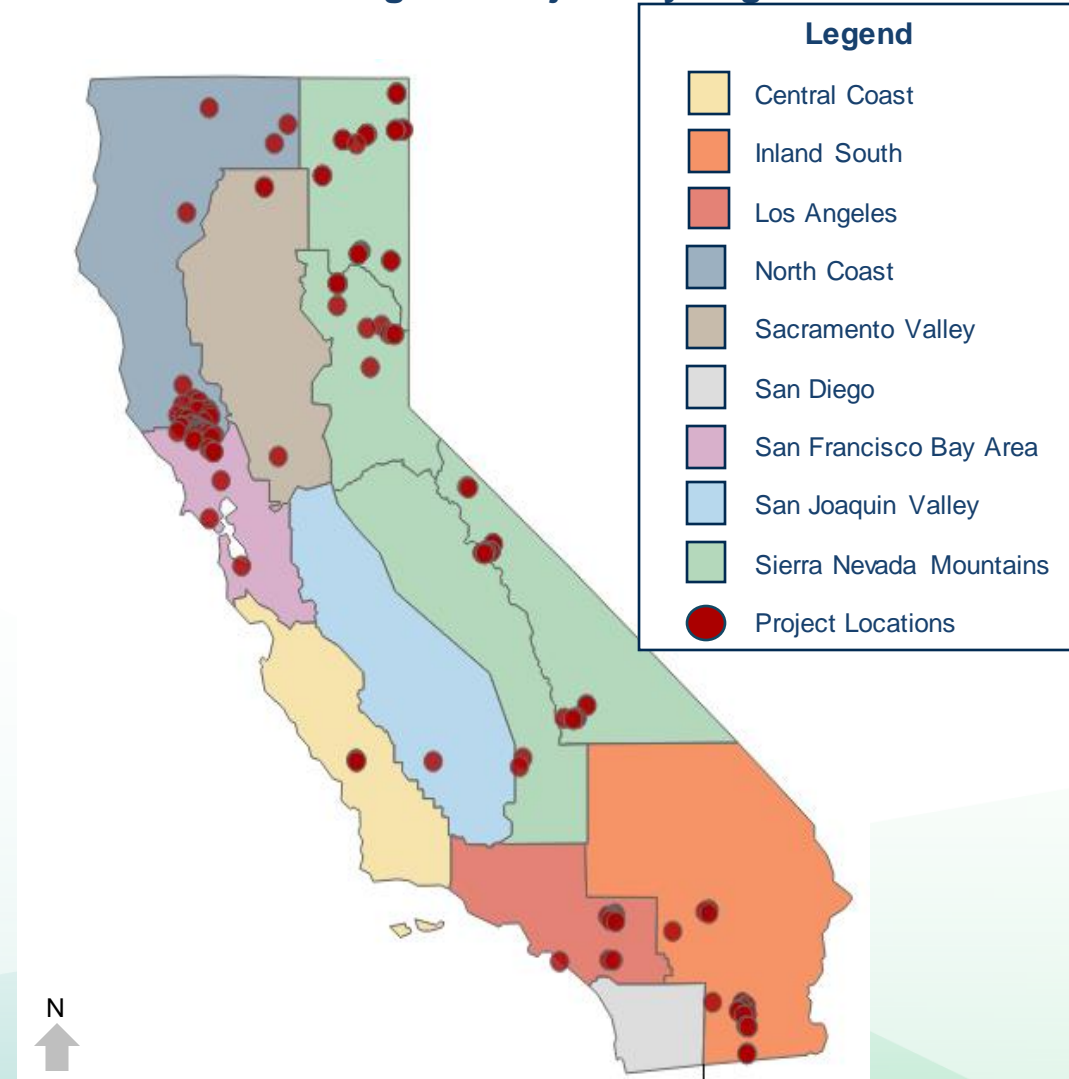
# I.I. Geothermal Program Mission

- Support development of CA's vast geothermal energy resources and advance lithium recovery in the state
- Mitigate adverse impacts caused by geothermal development and lithium extraction from geothermal brine
- Assist local jurisdictions and private entities offset costs
- Support goals of Senate Bill 100, Assembly Bill 32, and Senate Bill 32.

Since 1980 the Geothermal Program has funded:

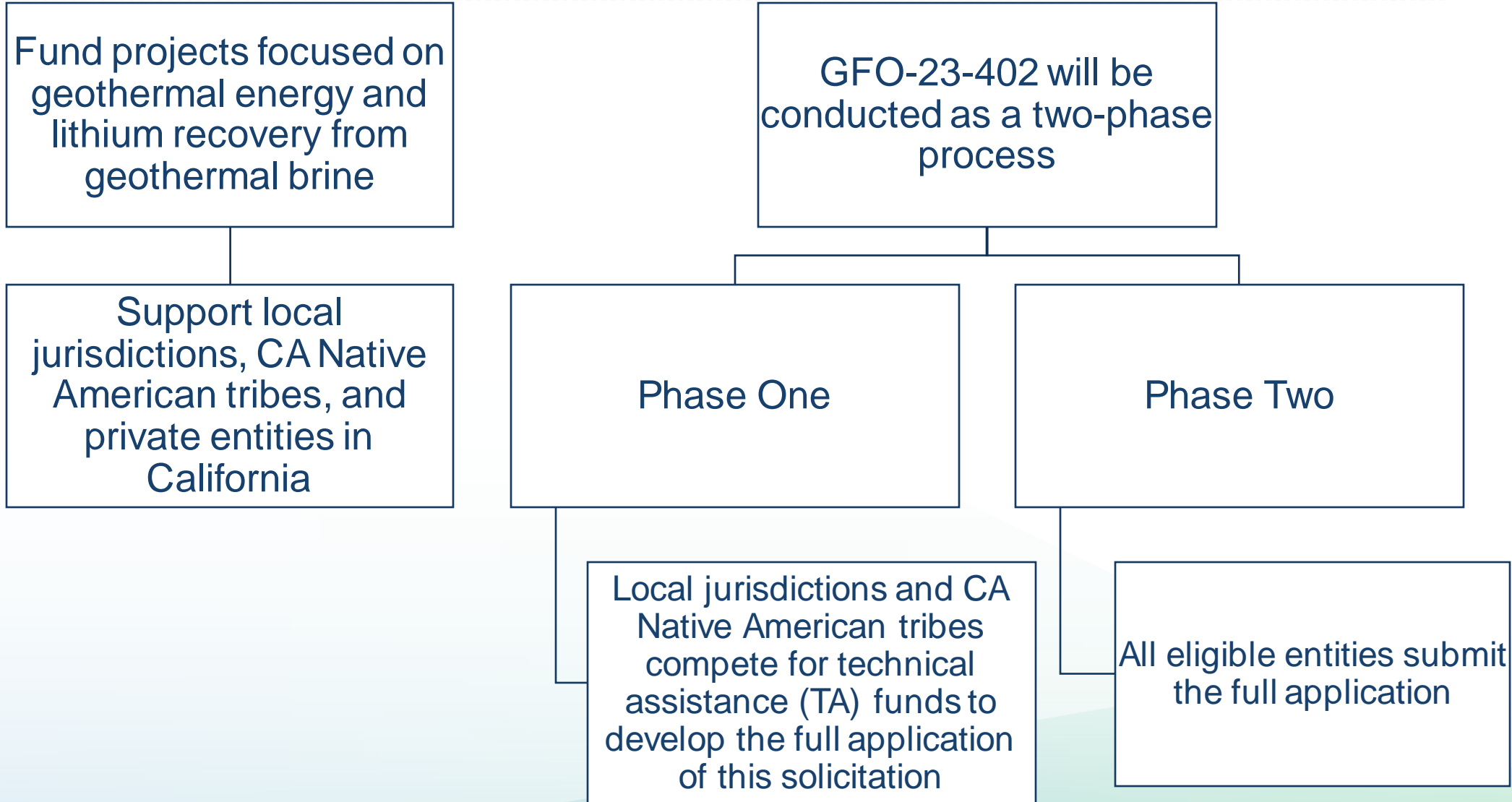
- 158 projects totaling \$60 million
  - \$9 million in disadvantaged + low-income communities
  - \$1 million in tribal lands

Geothermal Program Projects by Region





# I.A Purpose of Solicitation





# I.C. Project Focus

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Projects under GFO-23-402 must relate to the development of geothermal energy resources and lithium recovery from geothermal brine (PRC Section 3823).

Applicants may submit multiple applications; however, each application **must** be for a distinct project **and** include and discuss only one of the following eligible project purposes on the next slide.





# I.C. List of Selected Eligible Purposes (PRC 3823)

- \*(a) Research and development projects
- (b) Planning and policy development
- (c) Preparation of ordinance, regulation and guidelines for identified mitigation measures of adverse impacts
- (g) Monitoring and inspection for compliance
- (h) Identification, research, and implementation of mitigation measures of adverse social and economic impacts
- \*(i) Planning, construction, operation and maintenance of public services and facilities
- (k) Enhancement, restoration, or preservation of natural resources
- \*(l) Recovery of lithium, minerals, metals from geothermal brine

Subject to Feasibility Study (III.D. Phase Two – Full Application Content, Attachment (Att.) 12)  
Examples of previously funded [geothermal reports](#)



# I.D. Funding

Phase	Available funding	Minimum award amount	Maximum award amount	Minimum match funding (% of Funds Requested)
<b>Phase One: Technical Assistance (TA) for Local Jurisdictions</b> (Any city, county, district, or CA Native American tribes)	\$100,000	No Minimum	\$10,000	0%
<b>Phase Two: Full Applications. Open to Local Jurisdictions and Private Entities</b>	\$4,560,000	\$250,000	\$1,500,000	0% for local jurisdictions and CA Native American tribes  100% for private entities



# I.E. Key Activities

**\* Anticipated Dates, Subject To Change**

ACTIVITY	DATE	TIME
Solicitation Release	February 6, 2024	
Pre-Application Workshops	Multiple	
<b>Deadline for Written Questions</b>	<b>March 29, 2024</b>	<b>5:00 p.m.</b>
Distribution of Q&A Document	*Week of April 8, 2024	
Deadline to Submit Phase One – TA Applications	May 3, 2024	11:59 p.m.
Notice of TA Applications (NOTAR) Results Posting Date	Week of June 3, 2024	
Energy Commission Business Meeting Date	August 14, 2024	
Deadline to Submit Phase Two - Full Applications	*4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter of 2024	11:59 p.m.
Notice of Proposed Award (NOPA) Posting Date	*1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2025	
Energy Commission Business Meeting Date	*2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter of 2025	
Agreement Start Date	*2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter of 2025	
Agreement End Date	*2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter of 2028	



# I.G. Questions

## Preparing for Phase One and Phase Two Applications

Due March 29, 2024, by 5:00 PM

## Administrative and submission

Due prior 5:00 p.m. of Phase Two Deadline

### Submit Questions to:

Commission Agreement Officer (CAO)

Crystal Willis

California Energy Commission

715 P, MS-18

Sacramento, California, 95814

Telephone: (916) 529-1108

E-mail: [crystal.willis@energy.ca.gov](mailto:crystal.willis@energy.ca.gov)

All communication should be directed in writing to the assigned CAO  
Expected Distribution of Q&A Document – Week of April 8, 2024



# I.H. Applicant's Admonishment

## Phase One:

Are responsible for the cost of developing the TA Application.

## Phase Two:

Excluding awardees from Phase One, are responsible for the cost of developing full application.

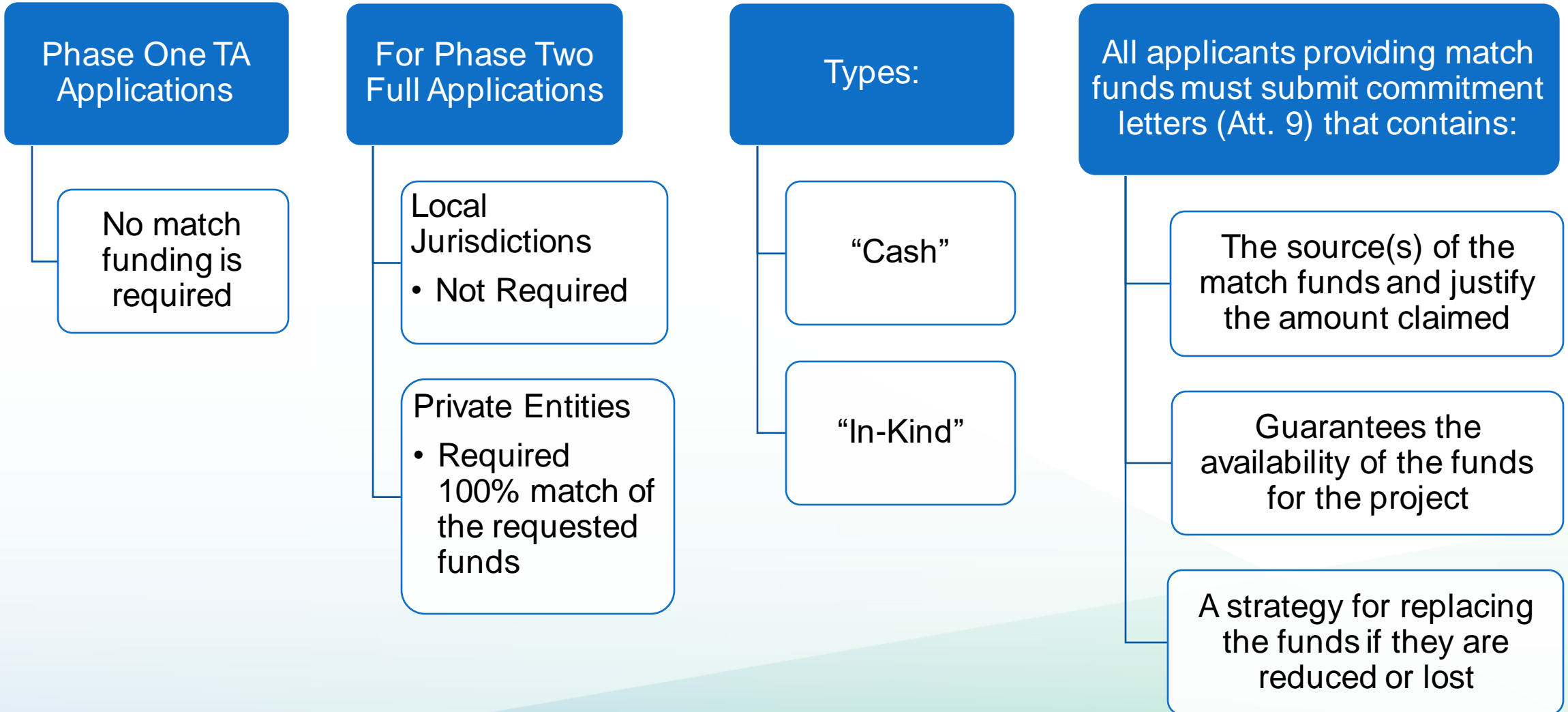
Documents will become public upon request after the posting of NOPA for Phase Two.

If an agreement is not being successfully executed, the CEC may cancel a proposed award and award funds to the next highest scoring applicant.



# I.J. Match Funding

Match funds must be spent only during the agreement term





# II.A. Eligible Applicants

## Local Jurisdiction (PRC 3807)

- Any unit of California Native American Tribes (Tribe)
- Any city, county, or district, including, but not limited to, regional planning agencies and public utility districts
- **Must submit a resolution form (Att. 11)**

“Public utility district” does not include any public utility district which generates for sale more than 50 megawatts of gross electricity.

## Private Entities (PRC 3809):

- Any individual or organization engaged in exploration and development of geothermal energy for profit
- **Must provide tangible benefits to a local jurisdiction (Att. 3)**
- **Must be approved by the City, County or CA Native American tribe where project is to be located (Att. 9)**

Federal agencies and labs, state universities, and state agencies:

- not eligible to apply for funding as applicant;
- may be eligible as a project partner or subcontractor.



## II.B. Terms and Conditions (T&C)

### Agreement with the CEC:

- Geothermal Standard T&C
- Geothermal Special T&C for Native American tribe for Phase Two
- **Applicants are responsible to read standard T&C before signing the application form (Att. 1 and Att. 1A)**

### If a Unit of Indian Government is listed as an awardee in Phase Two:

- A resolution by the governing body authorizing the entity to enter into the proposed agreement, including the special T&C
- A limited waiver of sovereign immunity
- A resolution delegating authority to execute the agreement

For more information, visit [Geothermal Grant and Loan Program Terms and Conditions](#)





# II.C. California Secretary of State Registration

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All corporations that conduct intrastate business in California are required to be registered and in good standing with the California Secretary of State prior to its project being recommended for approval at a CEC Business Meeting.

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Sole proprietors using a fictitious business name must be registered with the appropriate county and provide evidence of registration to the CEC prior to their project being recommended for approval at a CEC Business Meeting.

For more information, contact the [Secretary of State's Office](#) via its website at [www.sos.ca.gov](http://www.sos.ca.gov).



# III. A. Application Format, Page limits, and Number of Copies

## Phase One and Phase Two Format

Font	Margins	Spacing	File Format
11 pt. Arial	1"	Single Space	MS Word version 2007 or later or PDF excluding excel spreadsheet (Phase Two)

## Phase One – TA Application

Max Page Limit Recommendation	Phase One Application	File Format
Technical Assistance Application (1A)	No page limit	.docx., .pdf
Technical Assistance Project Summary (2A)	3 pages	.docx., .pdf
Technical Assistance Scope of Work (3A)	No page limit	.docx., .pdf



# III.A. Application Format cont.

## Phase Two – Full Application

Max Page Limit Recommendation	Phase Two Application	File Format
Application Form (1)	No page limit	.docx., .pdf
Executive Summary (2)	2 pages	.docx., .pdf
Project Narrative (3)	20 pages excluding CEQA	.docx., .pdf
Team Form (4)	2 pages for each resume	.docx., .pdf
Scope of Work (5)	30 pages	.docx., .pdf
Project Schedule (6)	4 pages	.xlsx
Budget Form (7)	No page limit	.xlsx
CEQA/Environmental Compliance Form (8)	No page limit	.docx., .pdf
Commitment and Support Letter Form (9)	2 pages excluding the cover page	.docx., .pdf
Application Declaration (10)	1 page	.docx., .pdf
Local Jurisdiction Resolution (11)	1 page	.docx., .pdf
Feasibility Study (12)	20 pages	.docx., .pdf
Contacts (13)	No page limit	.docx., .pdf



# III.B. Method for Delivery

Submit applications using the CEC Grant Solicitation System (GSS), available at: <https://gss.energy.ca.gov/>.

New Users information to apply: [GSS](#)

**NO EXCEPTIONS** will be entertained.

## Deadlines:

Phase One:  
**May 3, 2024,**  
**at 11:59 p.m.**

Phase Two: To be determined



# III.C. Phase One – Technical Assistance (TA) Application Content

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## TA Application (Att. 1A)

Requests basic information about the applicant and the project

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## TA Project Summary (Att. 2A)

Describe the proposed project

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## TA Scope of Work (Att. 3A)

Describe the work to be conducted with the TA funds

A budget table and project schedule is included in this document



# III.D. Phase Two – Full Application Content

## Application Form (1)

- Basic information of applicant and project

## Executive Summary (2)

- Proposal description including goals and objectives

## Project Narrative (3)

- Detailed description of project

## Team Form (4)

- Resumes

## Scope of Work (5)

- Identifies tasks to complete project

## Project Schedule (6)

- Key dates for tasks of the project

## Budget Form (7)

- Estimates for labor costs, indirect costs, etc. of project

## CEQA Compliance Form (8)

- Evaluation of proposed activities under CEQA

## Commitment and Support Letter (9)

- Support letter: stakeholder support
- Commitment letter: match funds commitment

## Application Declaration (10)

- Proof of not a delinquent or being sued

## Local Jurisdiction Resolution (11)

- Require a resolution from the local jurisdiction's governing body

## Feasibility Study (12)

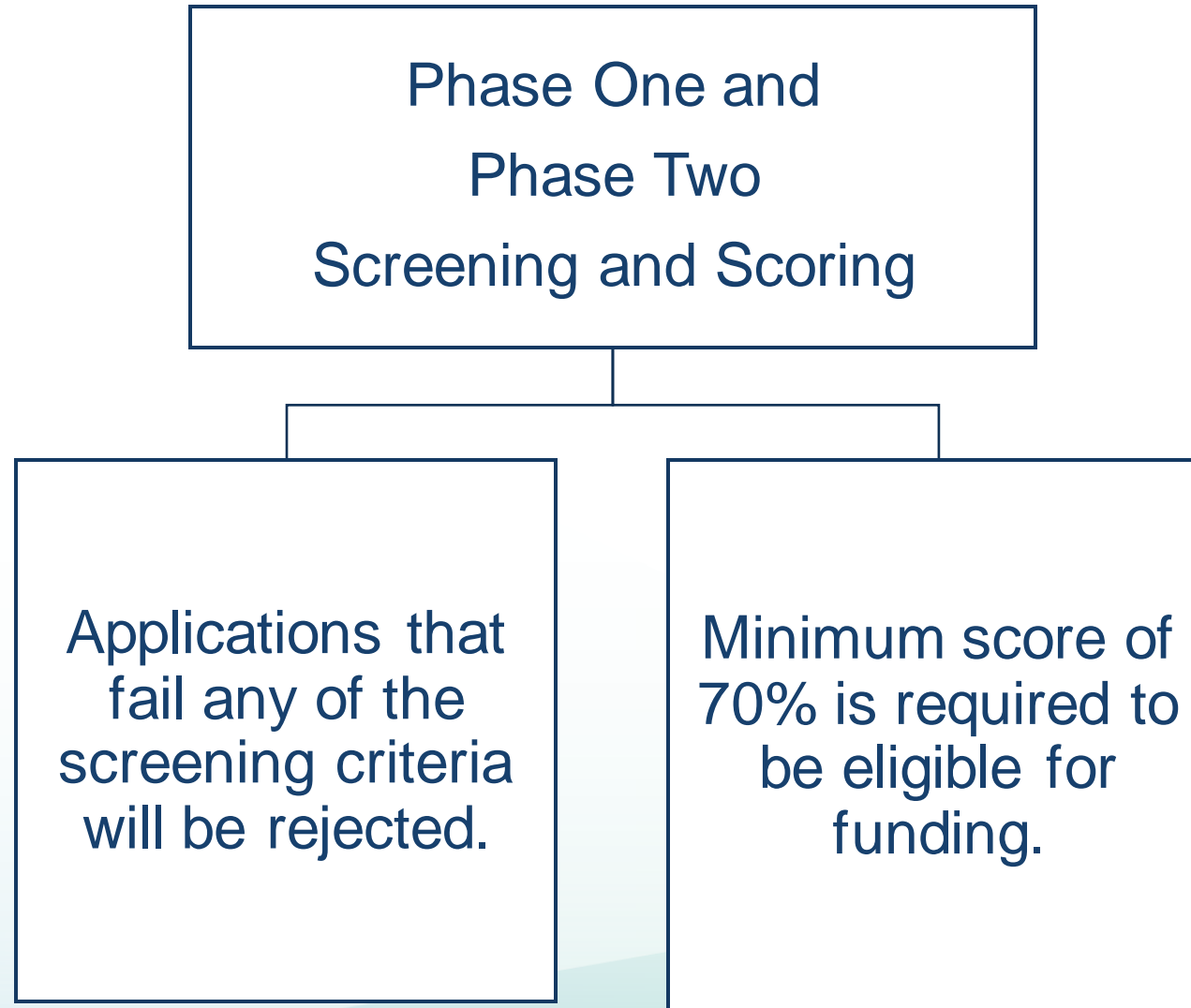
- Project focused on resource development, directly resulting in revenue or energy savings

## Contacts (13)

- Authorized representatives for the State and the applicant

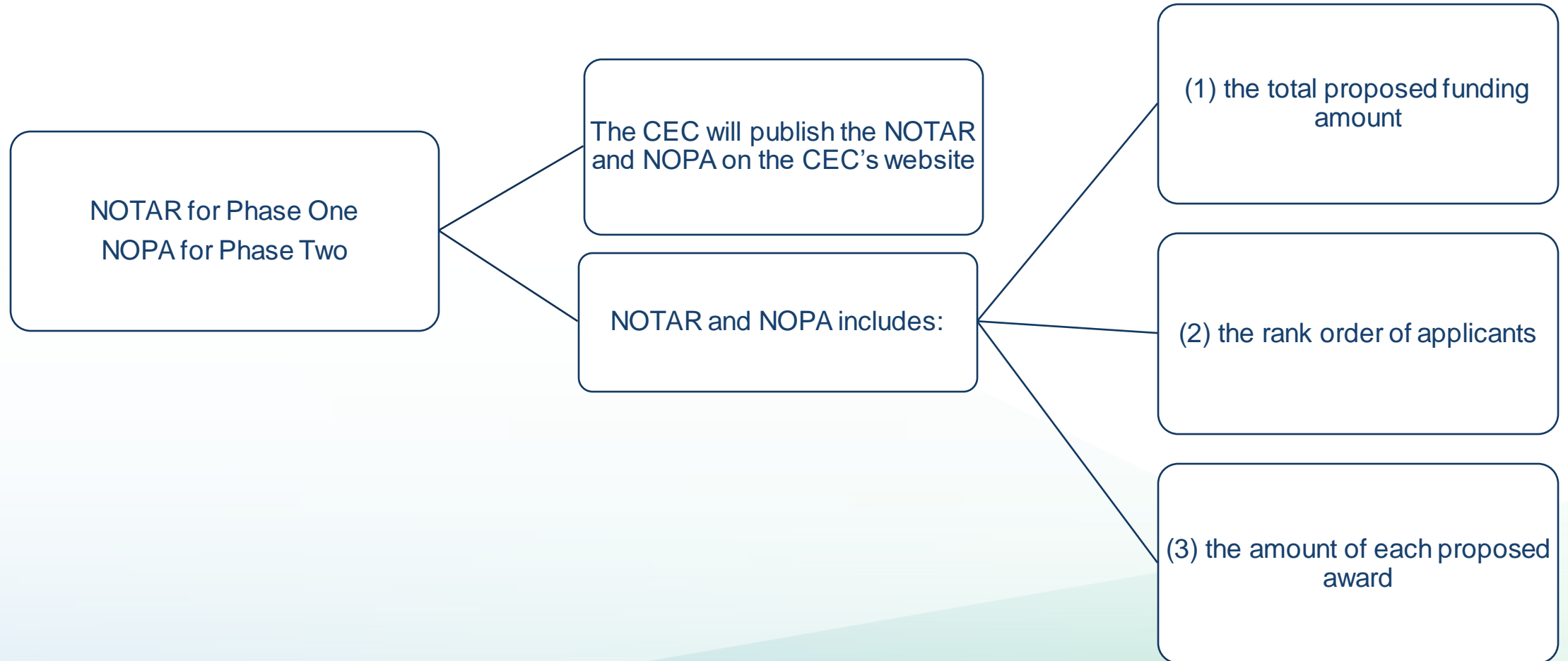


# IV.A. Application Evaluation





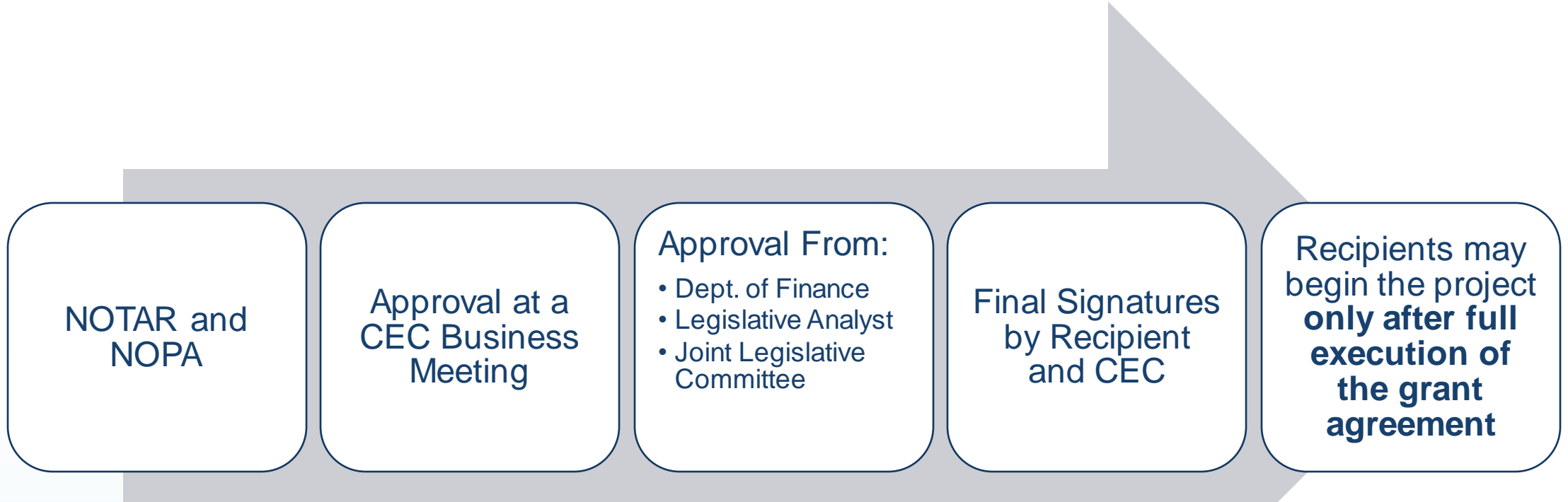
# IV.B. Notice of Technical Assistance Results (NOTAR), Notice of Proposed Award (NOPA)





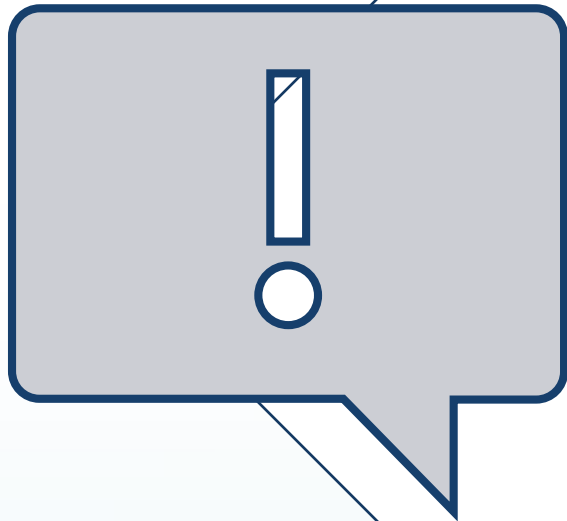


# IV.B. Agreement Development for Phase one and Two





# IV.C. Grounds to Reject an Application or Cancel an Award



Applications that do not pass the screening stage will be rejected

The CEC reserves the right to reject an application and/or to cancel an award



# IV.D. Miscellaneous

In this section you will find information about

Solicitation Cancellation and Amendment

Modification or Withdrawal of Application

Confidentiality

Solicitation Errors

Immaterial Defect

Disposition of Applicant's Documents

Tiebreakers

Clarification Interviews

Opportunity to Cure Administrative Errors



# IV.E. Technical Assistance Application Phase One – Screening



A complete TA application is submitted to GSS by the **May 3, 2024, 11:59 p.m. deadline**



Is a local jurisdiction or CA Native American tribe



# IV. F. Technical Assistance Application Phase One – Scoring (Att. 2A – TA Project Summary)

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50 pts.                      The availability of energy resource and technology opportunities.

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30 pts.                      The project definition and likelihood of success.

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20 pts.                      Local needs and potential project benefits.

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Total 100 pts.            Only TA applications with a minimum score 70% for each scoring criteria will be eligible to receive TA funds.

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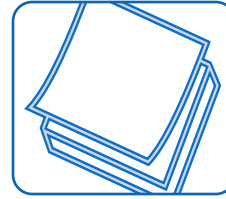


# IV. G. Full Application Phase

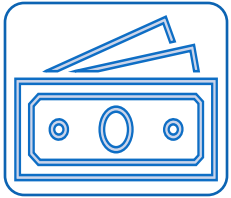
## Two – Screening



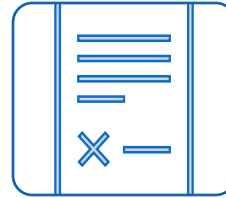
The application is submitted to GSS by the deadline



If the applicant has submitted more than one application, each application is for a distinct project



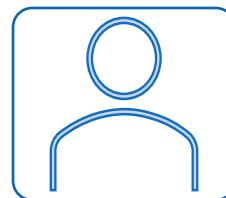
The requested funding falls within the minimum and maximum range



Private entities: includes Commitment Letters that total the minimum of 100% in match share (Att. 9)



The application does not contain any confidential information or identify any portion of the application as confidential.



The applicant is an eligible applicant



The applicant accepted the terms and conditions (Att. 1)



The project is an eligible project



# IV. H. Full Application Phase Two – Scoring (Att. 3 – Project Narrative)

20 pts.	Demonstrated Need or Value of the Project
15 pts.	Proven Extent of the Resource
15 pts.	Contribution to Development of California’s Geothermal Energy and Lithium Recovery from Geothermal Brine
15 pts.	Likelihood of Success
10 pts.	Public Involvement
10 pts.	Payback and Cost Effectiveness
10 pts.	Economic and Employment Benefit
5 pts.	Match Funds
Total 100 pts.	Only applications with a minimum score 70% for <b>each</b> scoring criteria, excluding match funds, will be eligible for funding



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# I.F. Notice of Pre-Application Workshop

## California Native American tribe

Virtual\*

Tuesday, March 19, 2024,  
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Remote Access via Zoom

Contact: Sierra Graves  
[sierra.graves@energy.ca.gov](mailto:sierra.graves@energy.ca.gov)

## Lake County

In-Person\*

Friday, March 22, 2024,  
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Lower Lake Town Hall

16195 Main St.  
Lower Lake, CA 95457

\*Meetings will be recorded and posted on the Geothermal Pre-Application Workshop webpage.



# Geothermal Grant and Loan Program Webpage

## Geothermal Grant and Loan Program



## Geothermal Grant and Loan Program

The California Energy Commission's Geothermal Grant and Loan Program promotes and maintains the development of California's geothermal resources, extraction of minerals from geothermal brines, and related activities to support the State's energy and climate goals by offering grant opportunities and other resources to participating parties.

### GEOTHERMAL GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM

Geothermal Grant and Loan Program Workshops

Geothermal Resources Development Account (GRDA) Law and Regulations

Collapse All

#### Background



#### How Do I Get Involved?



#### Funding Opportunities



- Geothermal Grant and Loan Program Solicitation
- Solicitations

#### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- Standard Terms and Conditions
- Special Terms and Conditions for Tribes

#### Tools and Resources



- Geothermal Grant and Loan Program Frequently Asked Questions
- Geothermal Grant and Loan Program: Frequently Asked Questions about Lithium Recovery from Geothermal Brine in California
- Known Geothermal Resource Areas Map [↗](#)
- List of geothermal projects and reports

### CONTACT

Geothermal  
[geothermal@energy.ca.gov](mailto:geothermal@energy.ca.gov) [✉](#)

### PROCEEDING INFORMATION

Docket Log (17-GRDA-01) [↗](#)

Submit Comments (17-GRDA-01) [↗](#)

### RELATED LINKS

Geothermal Resources, Department of Conservation [↗](#)

Renewable Energy Markets and Resources

Geothermal Technologies Office, Department of Energy [↗](#)



# Local Jurisdictions and CA Native American tribes

CEC Staff would like to know if 3 months is enough time for awarded local jurisdictions and CA Native American tribes to hire a contractor and prepare a proposal.

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# Local Jurisdictions and CA Native American tribes



3 minutes per person  
1 representative per organization



By computer: use “raise hand” feature



State your name and affiliation



Write Questions and Comments in “Q&A” feature



Unless you want to remain anonymous



By telephone: dial \*9 to “raise hand” and \*6 to mute or unmute



Will be on mute until hosts call on you and open your line



In person: proceed to the podium

For Phone Participation: (888) 475-4499 Enter Webinar ID: 831 8834 9791



# Questions and Answer Period



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# I.G. Questions

## Preparing the application

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## Administrative and submission

Due prior 5:00 p.m. of Phase Two  
Deadline

### Submit Questions to:

Commission Agreement Officer (CAO)

Crystal Willis

California Energy Commission

715 P, MS-18

Sacramento, California, 95814

Telephone: (916) 529-1108

E-mail: [crystal.willis@energy.ca.gov](mailto:crystal.willis@energy.ca.gov)

All communication should be directed in writing to the assigned CAO  
Expected Distribution of Q&A Document – Week of April 8, 2024



# Thank You

Contact CAO: [crystal.willis@energy.ca.gov](mailto:crystal.willis@energy.ca.gov)

General inbox: [geothermal@energy.ca.gov](mailto:geothermal@energy.ca.gov)

Subscription Topic: Geothermal