**NOTICE OF PROPOSED AWARD (NOPA)**

**Geothermal Energy Operations and Lithium Innovation (GEO/LI)**

 **GFO-23-304**

**August 1, 2024**

On January 18, 2024, the California Energy Commission (CEC) released a competitive solicitation to fund projects that develop and demonstrate technologies to reduce impacts from scaling and corrosion at geothermal power plants in California or advance processes to enhance the recovery of lithium and other valuable minerals from geothermal brine at the Salton Sea geothermal field. Up to $23 million in Electric Program Investment Charge funding is available to fund applications in the following groups:

* Group 1: Preventing Scaling and Corrosion in Geothermal Facilities
* Group 2: Recovering Minerals and Decreasing Waste Products from Geothermal Brine
* Group 3: Comprehensive Brine Management Concepts to Reduce Operating Costs and Improve Mineral Recovery

The CEC received nine proposals by the due date, April 15, 2024. Each proposal was screened, reviewed, evaluated, and scored using the solicitation criteria. Nine proposals passed the stage one application screening.

The attached NOPA identifies each applicant selected and recommended for funding by CEC staff and includes the recommended funding amount and score. The total amount recommended is $13,824,193.

Funding of proposed projects from this solicitation is contingent upon the approval of these projects at a publicly noticed CEC business meeting and execution of a grant agreement. If the CEC is unable to timely negotiate and execute a funding agreement with an applicant, the commission, at its sole discretion, reserves the right to cancel or otherwise modify the pending award, and award the funds to another applicant.

In addition, the CEC reserves the right to: 1) add to, remove, or shift funding between the different groups if there are insufficient passing proposals in one group; and 2) negotiate with successful applicants to modify the project scope, schedule, or level of funding.

This notice and awardees for GFO-23-304 are posted on the CEC’s website at <https://www.energy.ca.gov/funding-opportunities/awards>.

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