



# GEOHERMAL GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM SOLICITATION

Application Submission Deadline: January 27, 2025

## Background

The California Energy Commission's (CEC) Geothermal Grant and Loan Program (Geothermal Program) was created in 1980 by Assembly Bill 1905. The purpose of this Geothermal Program solicitation (GFO-23-402) is to provide funding for projects focused on advancing the following program goals:

1. Promote the development of California's vast resources of geothermal energy and recovery of minerals\* from geothermal brine, such as lithium, to support the State's energy and climate goals.
2. Mitigate any adverse impacts that may be caused by geothermal development and lithium recovery from geothermal brine.
3. Help local jurisdictions offset the costs of providing public services necessitated by geothermal related activities.

## How Much Funding is Available?

A funding level of \$5,700,000 is available through this solicitation. Minimum funding amount per project is \$250,000 and maximum funding amount per project is \$1,500,000.

**NOTE:** Match funding is required in the amount of 100% of the requested grant funds for private entities. Match funding is not required for local jurisdictions.

## Who is Eligible?

### Local Jurisdictions

- Unit of Indian government\*\*, city, county, districts, including but not limited to, regional planning agencies and public utility districts\*\*\*, or any combination thereof formed for the joint exercise of any power.

### Private Entities

- Any individual or organization engaged in exploration and development of geothermal energy for profit.

**NOTE:** Federal agencies, national laboratories, state universities, and state agencies are not eligible for funding; however, they may be eligible as a project partner or subcontractor. Only local jurisdiction and private entities are eligible for funding as a grant recipient. They can also be a project partner and subcontractor.

\* Lithium and other metals can be recovered from the minerals contained in the geothermal brine.

\*\* A "Unit of Indian government" includes a California Native American tribe or a subdivision, agency, department, county, parish, municipality, or other unit of the government thereof, and includes, but is not limited to, a tribal public utility district.

\*\*\* A "public utility district" does not include any public utility district which generates for sale more than 50 megawatts of gross electricity.

## What Projects Are Eligible?

Projects under this solicitation must be located in California and must focus on the following selected topics related to the program goals (see section I.C. Project Focus of the Solicitation Manual).

- Research and Development
- Planning and Policy
- Regulation and Mitigation
- Law, Regulation, and Ordinance Compliance
- Socioeconomic Impact
- Public Services Infrastructure
- Natural Resource Remediation
- Lithium, Minerals, and/or Metals

## Key Dates:

- **Virtual Office Hours:** August – October 2024
- **Hybrid Solicitation Workshop:** September 30, 2024
- **Full Application Submission Deadline:** January 27, 2025
- **Full Application Projects Start Dates:** Third Quarter 2025

## Get Ready to Apply!

Review the Solicitation Manual and attachments and submit a Full Application package before January 27, 2025. Apply to the GFO-23-402 solicitation using Grant Solicitation System (GSS) found in the Geothermal Program Solicitation (GFO-23-402) webpage.

Attend a Pre-Application Workshop on September 30, 2024, online via Zoom or in-person at the Warren Alquist Building, Rosenfeld Hearing Room, 1516 9th Street, Sacramento, CA, 95814.

Attend our office hours held online every second and fourth Thursday of the month until October 10, 2024.

## Informational Links

For more information visit:

- Geothermal Program Solicitation GFO-23-402 documents: <https://www.energy.ca.gov/solicitations/2024-02/gfo-23-402-geothermal-grant-and-loan-program>
- Geothermal Program webpage: <https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/programs/geothermal-grant-and-loan-program>
- Subscribe to Geothermal Grant and Loan Program Topic to receive updates on the solicitation: <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CNRA/signup/31719>
- For questions about the Geothermal Program, email [geothermal@energy.ca.gov](mailto:geothermal@energy.ca.gov)
- For questions about the Geothermal Program solicitation, email [crystal.willis@energy.ca.gov](mailto:crystal.willis@energy.ca.gov)

