**NOTICE OF PROPOSED AWARD (NOPA)**

**Feasibility of Underground Hydrogen Storage in California**

**GFO-23-503**

**October 15, 2024**

On April 03, 2024, the California Energy Commission (CEC) released a competitive solicitation to fund a project that will evaluate the feasibility of using existing underground gas storage facilities to store clean renewable hydrogen in California. Up to $3,000,000 in Gas Research and Development Program funding is available to fund applications in this solicitation.

The CEC received two proposals by the due date, June 28, 2024. Each proposal was screened, reviewed, evaluated, and scored using the solicitation criteria. Both 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 $3,000,000.

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-23-503 are posted on the CEC’s website at <https://www.energy.ca.gov/funding-opportunities/awards>.

For information, please contact:

Crystal Willis, Commission Agreement Officer

(916) 529-1108

Email: Crystal.Willis@energy.ca.gov