



Geothermal Resources Council

March 10, 2015

Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I St., 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814



Subject: Comment Letter – Salton Sea

Dear Chair and Members of the Board,

The Geothermal Resources Council (GRC) is a non profit organization of academic, educational, development and scientific entities. GRC has over 1400 members who are interested in the further development of geothermal energy on a world-wide basis. Therefore, the hearing of the California State Water Resources Control Board next week is of vital interest to our members. We want to express our interest in the Imperial Irrigation District's petition requesting your board to have a stakeholder's meeting regarding the restoration of the Salton Sea. The geothermal industry should be part of those discussions.

The Imperial Valley and the Salton Sea areas have a tremendous potential for future geothermal exploration. It is estimated that 1500-2000 MW of new geothermal resources will be discovered. This would make the Imperial Valley the largest geothermal producing area in the United States. Of course, this would mean a significant number of new jobs and payment of significant property taxes and royalties. This positive economic benefit is in addition to the significant contributions to the local economies for the last 30 years. Geothermal has proven to be a good neighbor.

As the Salton Sea is restored, the geothermal industry plans to be a part of any environmental solutions. Geothermal provides efficient and reliable power with minimal environmental impact

The GRC stands ready to participate in the discussions regarding the issues you are facing.

Sincerely,

Steve Ponder
Executive Director