

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-06

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SONOMA CLEAN POWER AUTHORITY ESTABLISHING THE SONOMA-LAKE-MENDOCINO GEOTHERMAL OPPORTUNITY ZONE

Whereas, the Sonoma Clean Power Authority (SCPA) wishes to accelerate the development of renewable energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and

Whereas, SCPA recognizes that baseload renewable energy sources which operate 24 hours per day 365 days per year are necessary to achieve both State and local climate goals; and

Whereas, SCPA's member jurisdictions own and control certain property which may have development potential for baseload renewable energy projects; and

Whereas, SCPA recognizes the long permitting and development timelines for geothermal power projects; and

Whereas, SCPA has an interest in sharing information and working collaboratively together with the Counties of Sonoma, Mendocino and Lake; and

Whereas, SCPA is a publicly-owned and governed electricity provider serving customers in Sonoma and Mendocino Counties ("Counties") and having both an interest in purchasing the electric energy produced by new renewable resources and staff with expertise in resource development; and

Whereas, SCPA wishes to establish a geothermal opportunity zone as set forth in this Resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SONOMA CLEAN POWER AUTHORITY DOES HERBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

1. The above Recitals are true and correct and incorporated by this reference.
2. The Sonoma Clean Power Authority ("SCPA") establishes the Sonoma Lake Mendocino Geothermal Opportunity Zone ("GeoZone",) consisting of the land area in Counties electing to participate or a subset of that land area as agreed to by SCPA and the participating Counties. The GeoZone shall be used to facilitate the potential development of geothermal energy resources within its boundaries. These activities may include identifying potential sites for new geothermal energy production and for the research of new and emerging geothermal technology, collaboratively sharing information among the Counties, soliciting developers to construct new geothermal and other clean power resources, exploring a program environmental impact review to reduce development risks and timelines, seeking federal and state funds and changes in policy to support geothermal development, and facilitating the use of the renewable energy output by customers in the Counties. Activities shall not include any final commitment to develop geothermal energy resources at any site, which shall only be made by SCPA, the Counties, or other applicable regulatory agency after necessary environmental and similar review.

3. The CEO or designee is hereby authorized to take such administrative actions necessary to implement the GeoZone.

4. For the reasons set forth above, the adoption of this Resolution is not a "project" requiring environmental review pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines § 15060, subdivision (c)(3) and §15378, subdivisions (a) and (b)(2), (b)(4) and (b)(5). Alternatively, the actions are statutorily exempt from CEQA review pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines § 15262 and exempt under the "common sense" exemption identified in State CEQA Guidelines § 15061, subdivision (b)(3). None of the exceptions to the use of the "common sense" exemption as identified in Government Code § 15300.2 exist.

5. This Resolution shall be effective immediately.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SONOMA CLEAN POWER AUTHORITY THIS 7TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2021 BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE:

JURISDICTION	NAME	AYE	NO	ABSTAIN/ ABSENT
Cloverdale	Director Bagby	X		
Cotati	Director Landman	X		
Fort Bragg	Director Peters	X		
Petaluma	Director King	X		
Rohnert Park	Director Elward	X		
Santa Rosa	Director Rogers	X		
Sebastopol	Director Slayter	X		
Sonoma	Director Felder	X		
Windsor	Director Fudge	X		
County of Mendocino	Director Gjerde	X		
County of Sonoma	Director Hopkins	X		

In alphabetical order by jurisdiction



Chair, Sonoma Clean Power Authority

ATTEST:



Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Special Counsel,
Sonoma Clean Power Authority