GEOTHERMAL POWERS IMPERIAL VALLEY, UNLOCKS LITHIUM RESOURCES

The Hudson Ranch I project has tapped into Imperial Valley's geothermal resources to spur new investments and sustainable power for Southern California. The 49.9 MW facility harnesses geothermal brine from the Salton Sea to supply reliable, renewable power compatible with California's ambitious clean energy goals. The plant generates enough power to meet the annual electricity needs of about 50,000 homes and even supports the surrounding electrical grid with increased stability during periods of peak demand.

The Salton Sea geothermal plant also supplies the region with an additional economic opportunity for the community: lithium extracted at the plant is a critical element for both Zero Emission Vehicle batteries and smartphones. Creating a domestic, resilient supply chain for this high-demand resource improves U.S. global competitiveness and creates jobs for Imperial County, which has seen chronic unemployment.

With 11 plants already in operation, geothermal power is rapidly expanding across Southern California, with more projects coming online. Hell's Kitchen Lithium and Geothermal Plant, a comparable project developed by Controlled Thermal Resources, is slated to open in 2023 and will similarly provide cost-effective, environmentally sustainable lithium extraction. The latest and largest geothermal project will employ more than 500 workers and is expected to produce up to 34,700 tons of lithium per year by 2025.

SUPPORT MORE PROJECTS LIKE THESE

Making the investment tax credit (ITC) for geothermal energy refundable, investing in domestic supply chain for lithium-ion batteries, and encouraging advanced energy development in rural and low-income communities can bring more projects like this to California.

BY THE NUMBERS

- ***50 MW*** *geothermal facility*
- ***50,000*** *California homes*
- ***$400M*** *in investment*

COMMUNITY IMPACT

Energy Source partnered with Hannon Armstrong Capital to secure a $400 million investment for Hudson Ranch I, and the plant provides annual lease payments and royalties to the Imperial Irrigation District. The project also has a 30-year PPA with municipal utility Salt River Project.