



August 7, 2012

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The Honorable Jerry Brown  
Governor, State of California  
California State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: AB 2205 (Perez) – SUPPORT**

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of CleanTECH San Diego, please accept this letter as one of support for AB 2205 (V. Manuel Pérez).

CleanTECH San Diego is a nonprofit association focused on accelerating the greater San Diego region's transition to a clean energy economy. We have a broad and diverse membership that includes private sector companies, local governments, nongovernmental agencies and universities and research institutions.

Lithium and other critical materials are vital to electric vehicles, grid storage, and other clean energy technologies needed to meet the state's climate targets. Unfortunately, traditional material mining and production processes are extremely damaging to the environment, with severe water, land, and air pollution impacts. These materials are also produced overseas, undermining America's energy independence and California's clean energy economic goals.

A new environmentally safe process developed in California eliminates these negative impacts while creating an important source of high paying jobs. The process extracts lithium and other critical materials out of the brine from an existing geothermal power plant. The process is connected to the geothermal plant and is a subpart of the plant's operation. While this cutting edge development can protect our environment, supply the critical materials needed to grow the clean energy economy, improve the competitiveness of geothermal energy from material extraction proceeds, and create jobs, an ambiguity in current law could prevent its adoption.

AB 2205 would clarify that existing, stringent regulations and exemptions that apply to geothermal plants extend to material extraction processes that are connected with the geothermal plant in a closed-loop system. This clarification would enable any company employing environmentally responsible methods to extract clean energy materials and other beneficial substances in a highly regulated system.

We respectfully urge you to sign AB 2205, as it will help foster California's clean energy economy and meet our environmental targets. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jason Anderson