



COUNTY OF MENDOCINO

Board of Supervisors

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California Energy Commission
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Letter of Support: Sonoma Clean Power Proposal for Paving the Way for California's Gas Transition Grant Funding Opportunity (GFO-24-501)

Dear California Energy Commission Members:

Mendocino County would like to express support for Sonoma Clean Power Authority's proposal for the California Energy Commission's Grant Funding Opportunity (GFO-24-501) entitled, Paving the Way for California's Gas Transition.

With ambitious statewide goals accelerating the expected timeline for moving away from natural gas, rural and Tribal communities are at risk of being left behind or bearing disproportionately high costs of the energy transition. Additionally, these residents face unique technical and practical barriers to meeting all-electric requirements. As a result, it is crucial that high quality, localized research be conducted into cost impacts, workforce availability, and infrastructure needs.

Sonoma Clean Power Authority intends to submit a research proposal for Group 1 of GFO-24-501. If awarded, Sonoma Clean Power Authority and its project partners will conduct research to understand, evaluate, and communicate the distinct energy system challenges facing rural communities and Tribal Nations through a combination of technical research, economic, and social science research. This work will also aim to identify realistic pathways and timelines that support an fair and cost-effective energy transition for rural customers in Willits, Hopland and surrounding regions.

This effort represents a timely opportunity to engage rural Mendocino County residents on these important issues, understand how they make energy decisions, and learn how to best support them through this critical transition. With these benefits to our constituents in mind, Mendocino County offers its strong support for Sonoma Clean Power Authority's proposal.

John Haschak, Chair
Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

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