



**COUNTY OF LAKE  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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April 2, 2024

The Honorable Jennifer Granholm, Secretary  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Ave, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20585

**RE: Letter of Support for Inclusion of Calpine's The Geysers Facility in the  
California Leg of Your "Investing in America" Tour**

Dear Secretary Granholm:

As you are keenly aware, baseload energy resources are essential to America's energy transformation, and Lake County is home to rich geothermal resources. The Lake County Board of Supervisors therefore encourages you to consider including Calpine's geothermal operations at The Geysers as a stop during the California leg of your "Investing in America" tour, or another time this summer, as your schedule permits.

The Geysers provides an ideal setting for a collaborative event between Calpine, the Lake County community, and the Department of Energy (DOE), to highlight long-term job creation and celebrate Calpine's ongoing commitment to sustainable geothermal energy as the company commemorates its 40th anniversary.

The Geysers is a source of around-the-clock renewable energy as well as the single largest geothermal electrical operation in the world. Collectively, The Geysers provides up to 825 MW of natural, clean energy, contributing substantially to California's renewable energy portfolio and powering hundreds of thousands of homes and businesses daily.

Geothermal operations at The Geysers are vital to Lake County, a growing rural community located in Northern California. Long known as a farming community spanning a land area of 1,258 square miles with a population of about 68,000, Lake County is located in a special geological region, including The Geysers geothermal field.

Geothermal from The Geysers provides reliable, renewable energy for Lake County residents and the region while offering stable, well-paying job opportunities and numerous other local benefits. Over 70% of the 300 people Calpine employs at The Geysers reside in Lake County with residents also filling a majority of the 150 independent contractor jobs needed to support power operations.

Calpine is the largest taxpayer in Lake County and the County also receives geothermal royalties resulting from geothermal production. And through their innovative recycled-water-to-energy projects partnerships, Calpine's ongoing commitment locally and dedication to responsibly sustaining The Geysers is commendable. Calpine also continues to consider innovative technologies to optimize The Geysers, and would be honored to host your visit starting at the company's informative Geothermal Visitor Center in Middletown, California.

Visiting The Geysers, whether as part of your tour or at another time this summer, would serve as a powerful testament to the Biden Administration's dedication to expanding our nation's clean energy portfolio and creating clean energy jobs. A collaborative event between Calpine and the DOE would celebrate the achievements and advancements in geothermal technology that have provided reliable renewable energy in California.

This event would also provide an exceptional opportunity to engage with local and state stakeholders, discuss the complexities of sustainable energy production, local benefits, and explore our renewable energy future. Moreover, a tour of The Geysers would provide an inspiring backdrop to highlight our national goals in combating climate change and fostering energy independence.

Our Board urges you to consider this invitation as more than a ceremonial appearance. It is a chance to align federal leadership with local progress and to send a resounding message about the significance of investing in geothermal energy — an investment in our planet, our people, and our future.

Thank you for considering Calpine's Geothermal Visitor Center and its operations at The Geysers as part of the "Investing in America" tour.

Sincerely,

Bruno Sabatier, Chair  
Lake County Board of Supervisors