

# Got a Well? Then You Have A Generator

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### CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

Study	Funding	Findings
1. Groundwater Bank Energy Storage Systems (EPC-15-049)	\$0.2 M from CEC	APH is feasible but not economic for new wells using current retail rates (completed in 2017)
2. Water/Energy Bank Proof-of- Concept (EPC-16-029)	\$1.0 M from CEC	Demand Response with the State Water Project is feasible (completed in 2019)
3. 50 kW Aquifer Pumped Hydro Demonstration. Retrofit a single existing well (EPC-19-058)	\$2.0 M from CEC	Design, build, and demonstrate a 50 kW APH at one well for one year (finishes in March 2026*)
4. 200 kW Aquifer Pumped Hydro Demo. APH on a cluster of four wells. (EPC-20-008)	\$6.4 M from CEC	Demonstrate a 200 kW APH system at 4 wells for one year (finish in July 2026)









- Well motor becomes a generator when rotated in reverse
- Idle wells provide existing infrastructure to generate electricity
- Water cycles up and down from aquifer to surface water storage reservoir





Aquifer Pumped Hydro (APH) Schematic

# 50 kW project





Existing Well Pump to APH



### **APH Valve**



APH site with Container



APH Container with EV charger

# APH Valve Installed Below Pump Bowls





 Existing wells can store energy daily, can also extract energy during injection recharge (one way),
Small 17-acre-foot earthen reservoir onsite provides 10 hours of energy discharge.

- Store water in a reservoir for 10 hours of energy discharge
- Onsite reservoir will be lined and covered
- We will drain the reservoir after each use
- Will install a chlorine feed system in case it is needed
- APH wells to have a spacing of half a mile or more
- Lahontan RWQCB requires a pilot program to re-inject groundwater







Willow Springs Water Bank

- Store energy for later discharge on-peak
- Use of Net Energy Metering to reduce cost to pump wells



What we would like: a letter of support for this project