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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

NEETA THAKUR, et al.,	)	CASE NO. 3:25-cv-04737-RL
	)	
Plaintiffs,	)	
	)	
vs.	)	Parties' Stipulations and Agreement to Obviate
	)	Discovery as to DoE and DoE's Stipulations of
DONALD J. TRUMP, ET AL.,	)	Fact and Agreement to Produce Grants
	)	Spreadsheet
Defendants.	)	
	)	

Plaintiffs and DoE hereby agree that, with respect to the claims and defenses in this litigation as to DoE, neither Plaintiffs nor DoE shall seek discovery under the Federal Rules of

Civil Procedure, whether written, by deposition, or otherwise, subject to the terms in this stipulation. The Parties further agree that this agreement withdraws the requests for production and interrogatories served on DoE, and anticipated deposition notices, as well as the requests for production and interrogatories served by Defendants as to the named plaintiffs associated with claims against DoE. The Parties further agree that this agreement applies to any discovery, whether written, by deposition, or otherwise, that could otherwise be sought and served as to any Plaintiff, as to DoE, as to any other Defendant, or as to any non-party to this suit, to the extent that discovery seeks to establish a claim or defense as to DoE.

In exchange for obviating already-served discovery and discovery that could otherwise be sought and served, DoE agrees to produce the spreadsheet of grants described below and to the stipulations set forth below, and Plaintiffs agree to the stipulation set forth below.

I. Spreadsheet of Grants

DoE agrees to produce a spreadsheet with the categories of information listed in this section. The spreadsheet will consist of all grants that the agency has identified as involving University of California researchers, including faculty, staff, academic appointees, and employees across the University of California system who are named as principal researchers, investigators, or project leaders on the grant applications for previously awarded research grants at DoE that were terminated or indefinitely suspended from January 20, 2025 to the present, excluding those grants terminated or indefinitely suspended through the PRP process discussed in the stipulations. The produced spreadsheet will be signed by a DoE official.

DoE agrees that Plaintiffs have the right, within 7 days of production of DoE's spreadsheet, to meet and confer and raise any identified technical errors, omissions, or formatting issues with the spreadsheet. DoE will make reasonable, good-faith efforts to resolve any identified issues. If DoE and Plaintiffs are unable to resolve any remaining disputes regarding

the spreadsheet, the Parties agree to submit their disagreement to the Court for resolution in accordance with the Court's procedures regarding discovery disputes.

Spreadsheet Columns

Grant details¹:

1. Granting Agency (including sub-agency if applicable, e.g., HHS-NIH)
2. Federal Award ID # (FAIN)
3. Project Name/Description/Title of Award/Project Summary
4. Recipient/Grantee Name (i.e., the direct grantee entity, e.g., "UC Irvine" or "Brown University")
5. UC location (for direct or, if applicable, sub-awards, e.g., "UCLA")
6. UC principal researcher, investigator, and/or project leader on the grant application(s)
7. Date obligated
8. Grant term (both start & end dates)
9. Date terminated or suspended
10. Date reinstated

Funding Details:

11. Amount awarded
12. Amount funded as of March 30, 2026 or to date (agency's best estimate)
13. Amount remaining when terminated or suspended
14. Statute(s) directing/authorizing the grant funds

Termination details:

15. EO(s) or executive directive(s) or agency priority implicated in the grant's termination
16. Term(s) or phrases identified in grant that resulted in termination
17. Other than the EO(s) or executive directive(s) identified above, any legal basis DoE contends allowed it to terminate the grant

II. Stipulations

As to DoE

Solely for the purposes of the present litigation and for no other purpose, with respect to the financial awards at issue in this litigation, Defendant DOE stipulates that:

¹ DOE systematically tracks and can reliably identify awards made directly to a UC entity. But DOE does not systematically track—and has no mechanism that would facilitate a workable search for—awards based exclusively on whether a UC entity is a subawardee or whether an individual UC researcher is listed as a principal researcher, investigator, and/or project leader on a grant application. Accordingly, DOE's spreadsheet will include only awards made directly to a UC entity.

1. In May 2025, Department of Energy (“DOE”) Secretary Chris Wright executed a policy memorandum titled “Ensuring Responsibility for Financial Assistance” that, among other things, established a Portfolio Review Process (PRP). The PRP tasked program offices with (1) reviewing their financial assistance awards (“grants”) against a number of criteria; (2) developing proposals to retain, modify, or terminate grants; (3) presenting these proposals for feedback and recommendations to a PRP committee; and (4) making (and implementing) the ultimate decision whether to retain, modify, or terminate grants.
2. Consistent with its Executive Branch obligation to clear its funding decisions with the Office of Management and Budget (“OMB”), DOE submitted to OMB in September 2025 two lists: a list of 77 Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations (“OCED”) projects that OCED had reviewed and proposed to retain, modify, or terminate, and a list of 2,265 financial assistance awards that other program offices had reviewed and proposed to retain, modify, or terminate.
3. 624 grants on these lists were designated either “termination” or “cancel”; these grants are identified in Exhibit A to this stipulation. This 624-grant list included proposals to terminate awards with a recipient location and/or at least one place of performance in States that awarded their electoral votes to Kamala Harris in the 2024 election and has two Democratic-caucusing Senators, and also awards with a recipient location and/or at least one place of performance in a State that awarded its electoral votes to President Trump in the 2024 election or has at least one Republican-caucusing Senator.
4. In October 2025, OMB identified 284 specific grants on the aforementioned lists for inclusion in a tranche of termination notices.
5. DOE subsequently announced it had terminated those grants. A true and correct copy of the list of 284 grants that DOE terminated on or after October 1, 2025, is attached to this stipulation as Exhibit B.

6. With one exception, the 284 terminated grants had a recipient location and/or at least one place of performance in a state that awarded its electoral votes to Kamala Harris in the 2024 election and has two Democratic-caucusing Senators (“Blue State” grants). These grants included those whose applications named Plaintiffs Louise Bedsworth as: (1) Project Lead / Principal Investigator, CALDAC; and Plamen Atanasov as: (1) Co-Principal Investigator, DE-FOA-0002792; (2) Principal Investigator, UCI subcontract DE-EE0011347; and (3) Senior Advisor for Business Development and Production, ARCHES.
7. The remaining approximately 340 grants proposed for termination were not terminated in October 2025, and they have not since been terminated. All such grants had a recipient location and/or at least one place of performance in a state that awarded its electoral votes to President Trump in the 2024 election or has at least one Republican-caucusing Senator (“non-Blue State”).
8. DOE accepts that neither the inclusion of the ARCHES grant nor any other grants in the October notice tranche was based on any programmatic, statutory, cost-reduction, or performance-based factor.
9. DOE accepts that the inclusion of grants in the October notice tranche was based solely on the political identity of the grant recipient’s state, i.e., whether the recipient’s location and/or place of performance was in a Blue State or a non-Blue State. DOE will not contend that it looked beyond the prime grantee(s) to consider the political identity or geographic distribution of downstream beneficiaries of the grant funds.
10. DOE accepts that the differential treatment resulting in the October 2025 termination of Blue State grants and the non-termination of non-Blue State grants was not based on a rational connection between the recipient’s location and/or place of performance and DOE’s past or current agency priorities.

11. Terminating Blue State grants in October 2025 while not terminating similarly situated non-Blue State grants was not part of DOE's PRP Charter. Specifically, (1) the political identity of the grant recipient's state was not a factor that DOE's program offices considered in evaluating whether to retain, modify, or terminate grants, and (2) DOE's program offices had proposed to terminate similarly situated Blue State and non-Blue State grants.



Jeff Novak
Principal Deputy General Counsel
U.S. Department of Energy

As to Plaintiffs

1. With respect to Funding Opportunity Announcement DE-FOA-0002779 and Award Number DE-CD0000041 (ARCHES grant), Plaintiffs identify the following persons upon whom they presently intend to rely as putative class members for purposes of establishing numerosity:

Lawrence Berkeley National Lab

Hanna Breunig, Staff Scientist
Mohammed Tamim Zaki, postdoc
Seongeun Jeong, Research Scientist
Robert Hosbach, Staff Data Scientist
Anna Spurlock, Research Scientist
Ling Jin, Research Scientist
Jie Zhang, postdoc
Yuebin Fan, PhD student
Xiaodan Xu, research scientist
Cristian Poliziani, postdoc
David McCallen, Senior Scientist
Ahmet Kusoglu, Staff Scientist
Julie Fornaciari, Program Manager
Adam Weber, Senior Scientist, ARCHES Chief Technical Officer

UC San Diego

Bruce Appelgate, Professor
Sephen Zoltan Kelety, Marine Superintendent Scripps

UC Davis

Lewis Fulton, Director, Professor
Stefi Mitova, project scientist
Jingyuan Zhao, project scientist
Vishnu Vijakumar PhD student
Laura Restrepo, MS student
John Cadiz, PhD student
Madhu Laimacchane, PhD student

UC Irvine

Plamen Atanassov, Professor
Jack Brouwer, Professor
Jeffery Reed, Director Emeritus
Lawrence Nelson, PhD student

UC Berkeley

Tim Lipman, Co-Director, Professor
Matthew Elke, Staff Engineer