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**Title:** Reuse and Recycle: Preparing California for a Sustainable Battery-Reliant Energy Future

**Abstract:** Given the state's ambitious climate goals to achieve 100% clean energy by 2045 and reduce GHG emissions to 80% of 1990 levels by 2050, and the resulting demand for lithium ion batteries to power the growing fleet of electric vehicles, which is estimated to reach 266 million EVs globally by 2030, and large-scale energy storage, it is estimated that California alone will need 36.3 million megawatts to reach its clean energy goals, a paradigm-shifting transition to a battery-reliant economy is inevitable. While Li-ion batteries present an exciting opportunity for a cleaner society, any major technological change is accompanied by its own unique winners and losers, and battery manufacture is no exception. It is therefore critical that policymakers be informed about the potential implications of ramping up lithium production and take proactive steps to ensure that current electrification policies do not lead to unintended environmental degradation, human rights valuations, and decreased energy security. This paper explores the implications of current trends in battery material sourcing and end-of-life disposal, as well as the current market opportunities and challenges for repurposing and recycling Li-ion batteries. Finally, we recommend several policies and short and long term strategies the state should adopt to encourage the responsible management, reuse, and disposal of batteries.