

Salton Sea Agentic AI workflow

by Brad Steer, Co-founder – Concurrent Build AI

Permitting is a bottleneck

Geothermal developers face permitting processes that span 18+ months, across six agencies: BLM, CEC, County, Tribal, and Utility authorities. Delays lead to missed incentives, higher costs, and stalled timelines.

TODAY

Manual doc review
Phone calls to agencies
Risk of missing incentives

OPPORTUNITY

→ Automate reasoning
→ Codify permitting logic
→ Save time, avoid misses

USE CASE

GEOCA-2025-Q3 **Federal Geothermal Lease Sale | BLM California State Office August 26, 2025**
13 California parcels covering 22,685,470 acres available for lease

Agent flagged key bid stipulations:

Bid “stipulations” Discovery:

- CASO-LN-1 Migratory Birds
- CASO-LN-3 Water
- CASO-LN-5 Fire
- HQ-CR-1 Cultural Resources
- HQ-TES-1 Endangered Species

Register to bid on:

All Asset Offerings

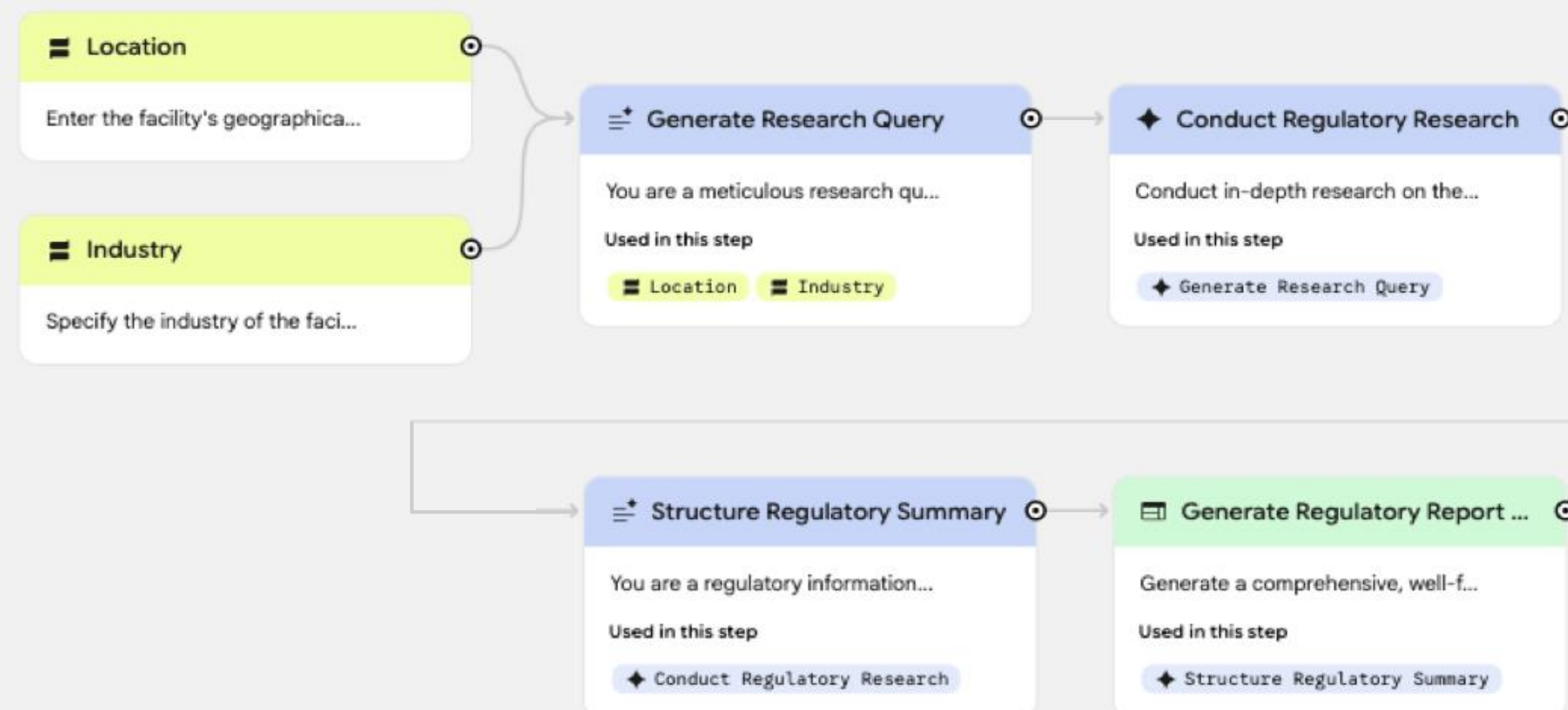
- Oil & Gas Auctions
- Federal & State Assets
- Real Estate
- Renewables
- Mining & Commodities

Requires:

- ✓ Financial accreditation
- ✓ Buyer & bid consent
- ✓ Sale group terms
- ✓ Bid allowance confirmed

What we tested

Could autonomous agents accelerate permitting workflows?

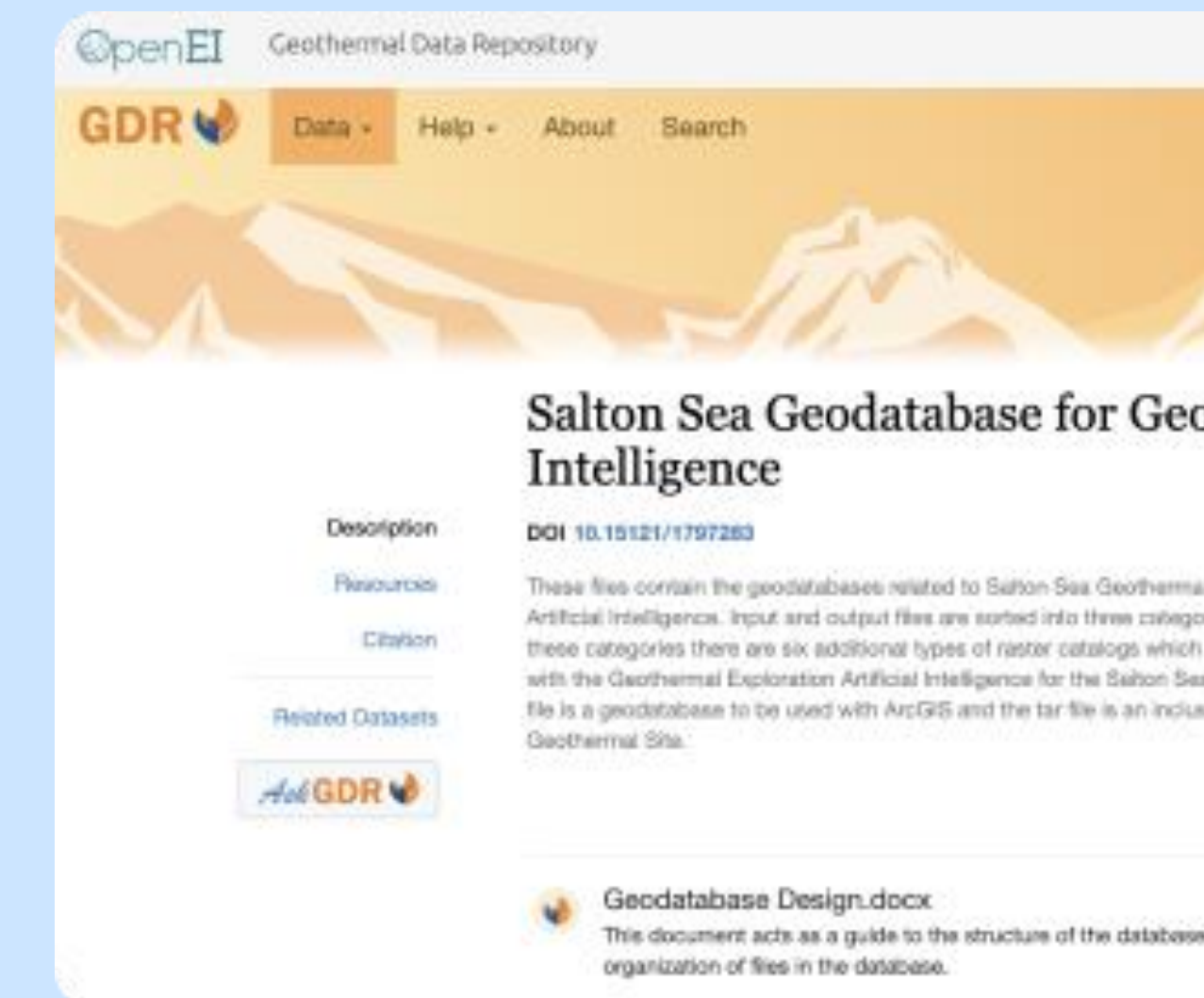


Outcomes and validation

- Agents returned answers in <2 minutes
- Citations matched expert-reviewed
- Draft language ready to plug into applications
- Validated by engineering and policy experts

System Methods & QA

- Public agency sites (BLM, CEC, EPA, DOE, etc.)
- Structured + unstructured data → reasoning agents
- GIS overlays, tribal policies, federal incentives
- Human-in-the-loop QA



AGENT FLOW

How it works

- **INPUT**
Developer prompt (e.g. “What permits do I need for an exploratory well in Salton Sea?”)
- **AGENT PARSES**
CEQA + County code (Imperial §91017) + GIS layers + BLM filings
- **OUTPUT**
 - Required permits
 - Timeline estimates
 - Draft application language
 - Citations to real policy

Permit Context

Federal: BLM leases require full environmental review
State: SLC oversees geothermal permitting on state lands
County (Imperial):

- CUPs required in Renewable Zones
- Land use standards prioritize farmland and habitat
- Developers coordinate with agencies like IID, Planning, Sheriff, etc.
- *Salton Sea Plan* simplifies permitting for lithium & geothermal

How we built the agents

We trained agents over a high-fidelity corpus:

- 1,000+ pages of CEQA code and county regs
- BLM and CEC permitting guides
- GIS data layers
- Historical filings and case law

Let's work together

We're expanding this pilot to more geothermal and solar projects.

Let's codify permitting workflows — **together.**

 **CONCURRENTBUILD.AI**

