

State of California
Natural Resources Agency / Department of Conservation
GEOLOGIC ENERGY MANAGEMENT DIVISION

California Environmental Quality Act

Notice of Determination

To: Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
State Clearinghouse
1400 Tenth Street, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95814

From: Department of Conservation
Geologic Energy Management Division
715 P Street, MS 1803
Sacramento, CA 95814

Contact: CEQA@conservation.ca.gov

Lead Agency: City of Riverbank
6707 3rd St.
Riverbank, CA 95367
Contact: Joshua Mann, Director of Community Development
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(209) 863-7124

State Clearinghouse #: 2011022015

Lead Agency Project Title: Riverbank Army Ammunition Plant Specific Plan
Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and Addendum
Date Certified: November 2013

CalGEM Project Title: 713372_Aemetis_CC

Project Applicant: Aemetis Carbon Capture, Inc.

Project Location: Section 31/ Township 02S/ Range 10E/ Baseline MD

County: Stanislaus County

Project Description: The proposed vertical well (Aemetis Riverbank #1) will be a stratigraphic test well to collect data on subsurface geology. This project includes only the completion of the initial well to provide data that will help determine whether the site is a feasible location for future carbon storage and to plan for that storage. The objective is to deepen the well from shoe of the existing conductor. The well would be drilled at the Riverbank pad located in the northeast quadrant of the Riverbank Army Ammunition Plant (RAAP) property. If the site is determined to be suitable, permitting of any future carbon storage activity will be a separate activity, principally through EPA's Class VI UIC program.

Well construction and drilling activities will last approximately two months. A gravel access road and well pad already exist at the site, and no additional road construction is necessary. The well conductor has also already been installed. Additional temporary facilities include moving a drill rig to the well pad, generators, trailers for the well site crew, and a closed loop mud system. The only

permanent onsite facilities after drilling operations are complete will be the wellhead (in addition to the already existing well pad and gravel access road). Noise reduction during drilling will include the use of a 24-foot-high sound barrier wall to protect the single residence to the north of the site.

Nine standard 53-foot-long 18 wheelers will deliver the necessary rig equipment and drill pipe/casing to the site. The equipment is designed to stand on its own. Rig setup will require two days. Four to six fluid storage tanks will be delivered and remain at the site for water and mud storage during drilling operations. An additional two roll-off storage tanks will be delivered and remain at the site for tailings storage. Three RV-type trailers will remain at the site throughout the construction for on-site personnel offices.

Daily traffic to and from the site will include approximately 15 standard pickup trucks per day for personnel working shifts on the rig (10-mile route), two to four standard pickup trucks per day for tool and other maintenance services (30-mile route). On average, one mud delivery truck per day for 10 days will arrive on site (240-mile route). About sixteen trucks will be used to dispose of tailings with a 60-mile route for each truck. On average, seven cement trucks will arrive on site for well cementing operations over two days (160-mile route) when installing the surface casing.

Water for activities at the site will be obtained from Riverbank Industrial Complex existing wells. A maximum one acre-foot of water (< 200,000 gallons) will be obtained for the well site operations. This water will be moved within the property by an 8,000-gallon water truck. All tailings material generated during drilling is estimated to be 280 tons and will be sent to solids disposal at a nearby non-hazardous waste landfill.

The location is at the Riverbank Industrial Complex in the city of Riverbank, Stanislaus County, California. Section: 31, Township 2S, Range 10E, Mt. Diablo. It is in a field off of Claus Road and Kentucky Avenue, in the northeast corner of the Riverbank Industrial Complex. The environmental setting is described in detail in the EIR and Addendum. The project site is within the Riverbank Industrial Complex. There are no habitable structures within 300 feet of the well site. The site is surrounded by agricultural land to the north and east. To the west, at a distance of approximately 1,300 feet, there are residential areas.

The City of Riverbank has indicated the construction and well drilling activities are considered light industrial activity. This falls within the current zoning and does not require a conditional use permit. The City of Riverbank has already issued a grading permit to construct the access road and well pad, and a noise permit to allow for 24-hour drilling operations.

The project activity(s) being permitted by the California Geologic Energy Management Division (CalGEM) is within the scope of the Riverbank Army Ammunition Plant Specific Plan Addendum to the Environmental Impact Report.

CalGEM, as the CEQA Responsible Agency, approved permit(s) for Aemetis Carbon Capture, Inc. to drill the well listed below, in Stanislaus County.

API #	Well Name	Latitude	Longitude
0409920056	Aemetis Riverbank CO2 1	37.72221400	-120.91767400

CalGEM, as the Responsible Agency under CEQA, conducts an environmental review limited to those project impacts, which are required to be carried out or approved by CalGEM, or which will be subject to the exercise of powers by CalGEM (Pub. Resources Code, § 21002.1; Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15096). This review includes considering the Lead Agency's environmental document(s) and determining whether the proposed permitting activity(s) fall within the scope of the document and whether and how to approve the project involved.

CalGEM completed its review of the proposed permitting activity(s) and determined that CalGEM will rely on the Lead Agency's environmental document(s), as it pertains to the proposed permitting activity(s).

This Notice of Determination (NOD) is to advise that CalGEM, as the **Responsible Agency** under CEQA, approved the above permitting activity(s) on 10/09/2025.

- Environmental Impacts** from the project will
 - Have a significant effect on the environment
 - Not have a significant effect on the environment
- Environmental Document** prepared for this project, pursuant to the provisions of CEQA:
 - Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
 - Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND)
 - Negative Declaration (ND)
- Mitigation Measures** were
 - Made a condition of approval of the project
 - Not made a condition of approval of the project
- Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan** (MMRP) was
 - Adopted for this project
 - Not adopted for this project
- Statement of Overriding Considerations** was
 - Adopted for this project
 - Not adopted for this project
- Findings** were
 - Made for this project, pursuant to the provisions of CEQA (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15091)
 - Not made for this project, pursuant to the provisions of CEQA (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15091)

A copy of the Riverbank Army Ammunition Plant Specific Plan Addendum to the Final Environmental Impact Report and associated documents prepared by the City of Riverbank including the Response to Comments, MMRP, Statement of Overriding Considerations, Findings, and all other related documents, can be made available to the public by contacting the City of Riverbank, located at:

6707 3rd St. , Riverbank, CA 95367, (209) 863-7124; or an electronic copy of these documents may be accessed online at: <https://www.riverbank.org/DocumentCenter/View/3529/LRA-Final-EIR>. A copy of this NOD may also be accessed online at the State Clearinghouse: <https://ceqanet.lci.ca.gov>.

Certified: *Eva Arrieta* **Date:** 10/09/2025

Environmental Scientist
California Geologic Energy Management Division
CEQA Program