



United States Department of the Interior



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Four Applications for Permit to Drill in Kettleman Middle Dome

EA Errata

After publication of the Environmental Assessment in ePlanning on June 7, 2024, the Bakersfield Field Office discovered the following errors on page 1, and page 32 of the EA as follows:

Page 1 - 1.2 Purpose and Need

“The purpose of the proposed action is to respond to the APDs submitted by CRPC to drill six new oil wells and stage associated facilities required to increase production on federal mineral leases CACA004999 & CAS019301C.”

The paragraph is hereby corrected as follows:

“The purpose of the proposed action is to respond to the APDs submitted by Innex to drill four new oil wells and stage associated facilities required to increase production on federal mineral leases CAS0019275A & CAS0019275C.”

Page 32 – 3.6.2 Environmental Impacts/Proposed Action (Water Quality and Quantity)

“Each well would require approximately 2,500 barrels of fresh water for drilling, dust control and pad construction; all water would be obtained from a local private owner located in Section 22, T23S, R19E, MDBM. The average amount of water expected to be produced during the operational phase of each well is 1,200 barrels of water per day. The produced fluids (oil and water) would be transported to the North Unit treatment facility in Section 4, T27S, R28E MDBM for processing. Following processing, the water would be sent to either the Pyramid Hill waterflood injection project or wastewater disposal wells Glide WD 464, Glide WD 473, and Glide WD 453. The water disposal project and the disposal wells are covered under an Underground Injection Permit issued by the California Department of Conservation, Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources (CDOGGR), now named California Geologic Energy Management Division (CalGEM).

The Design Features of the Proposed Action would avoid direct and indirect impacts to underground sources of drinking water and surface waters. Although there is a groundwater aquifer that is not exempt from the waiver system set for by the Regional Water Quality Control Board, engineering controls such as casing and cementing would isolate any sources of groundwater during drilling operations. Surface waters are not expected to be directly or indirectly impacted because Berry would avoid modification to the adjacent drainage. Also, Berry would implement all applicable Design Features to avoid erosion, sediment carry, and other impacts to the adjacent drainage. In addition, water used and

produced during the project would be recycled and/or reinjected back into the groundwater aquifer under an Underground Injection Permit issued by CalGEM.”

The paragraphs are hereby corrected as follows:

“Each well would require approximately 2,500 barrels of fresh water for drilling, dust control and pad construction; all water would be obtained from a local private owner located in Section 22, T23S, R19E, MDBM. The average amount of water expected to be produced in the operational phase of each well is expected to average about 100 barrels of water per day in the first year increasing to about 1,500 barrels of water per day during the productive life. The produced fluids (oil and water) will be separated in the KMDU facilities located adjacent to the east of the 45-30 well pad and southeast of the 43-30 well pad locations. Water will be disposed in the project’s existing disposal well KMD 11-29 (API No. 031-20443), Section 29, T23S, R19E, MDBM, approved by the California Department of Conservation, Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources (CDOGGR), now named California Geologic Energy Management Division (CalGEM).

No underground sources of drinking water are known to exist in the project area; therefore, no underground sources of drinking water would be impacted by project activities. Still, techniques to separate the well bore from underlying aquifers are incorporated in the design and construction of the well bore. This includes the immediate installation of steel pipe (casing) and cement sheaths to prevent fluid communication (the migration and/or transport of fluids between subsurface layers) once drilling through the aquifer is complete. Innex would follow state drilling regulations, which require the casing to be set below the lowest groundwater aquifer. This requirement ensures isolation of the groundwater aquifer zone from the material inside the well bore. The well bore continues beyond the groundwater zone until it reaches the hydrocarbon bearing zone. The hydrocarbon zone is the target for production. The hydrocarbon zone produces into the well bore, and the production is contained within the well all the way to the surface. This containment is what is meant by the term “well integrity.” In addition to the structural requirements of the casing and well bore, regular monitoring takes place during drilling and production operations to ensure these operations proceed within established parameters and in accordance with the well design, well plan, and permit requirements.

Additionally, surface waters are not expected to be directly or indirectly impacted because there are no perennial rivers, lakes or streams in the project area. Furthermore, there are no blue-line drainages that would be altered on the project site. Innex would implement all applicable Design Features (COAs), which would avoid erosion, sediment carry, and other potential impacts to the adjacent drainages in the general project area.”

The corrections to the Environmental Assessment (EA) reflect updates to both the entities involved and the technical details of the proposed actions.

Here’s a summary of the key changes:

Page 1 Correction:

Original:

- The action was attributed to CRPC with six oil wells on leases CACA004999 & CAS019301C.

Corrected:

- The action is now attributed to Innex, involving four oil wells on leases CAS0019275A & CAS0019275C.

Page 32 Correction:

Original:

- Mentioned the requirement of 2,500 barrels of water per well by Innex, sourced from a local owner, with 1,200 barrels of water produced daily during operations.
- Described transport to the North Unit facility for processing and mentioned specific disposal wells (Glide WD 464, WD 473, WD 453).
- Stated design features to protect underground drinking water and control sediment and erosion, with the involvement of CalGEM permits.

Corrected:

- Maintained the requirement of 2,500 barrels of water per well by Innex but revised the operational water production to an average of 100 barrels/day initially in the first year, increasing to 1,500 barrels/day during productive life.
- Changed the processing and disposal locations to the KMDU facilities and disposal well KMD 11-29.
- Clarified there are no underground sources of drinking water in the project area, with additional emphasis on well design to maintain integrity and prevent fluid communication.
- Noted that there are no perennial water bodies or blue-line drainages affected, and Innex will follow design features to mitigate erosion and sediment impacts.

This Errata does not affect any alternative considered in the EA. These corrections merely address the specific inaccuracies identified by the Bakersfield Field Office, updating both factual and technical aspects of the EA.

Authorized Officer

Date