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

California Environmental Quality Act
Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning & Research
State Clearinghouse
1400 Tenth Street, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95814

From: Department of Conservation
715 P Street, MS 1803
Sacramento, CA 95814
Contact: CEQA@conservation.ca.gov

Project Title: Stern 13 (05920880) Rework

Project Applicant: CalNRG Operating, LLC

Project Location: Orange County, Richfield Oil Field; Section 28, Township 3S, Range 9W San Bernardino Base; 33.87550354, -117.83183289

Project Description: Proposal is to convert the well to a Chapman injection well by setting a bridge plug at 4,100', pressure test the casing, running a Cement Bong Log, squeeze cement behind 7" casing if needed, add select perforations between 3,068' and 3926', and return the well to active status as an injection well. Various mobile temporary equipment will be used including, but not limited to, a rig and vehicles to transport equipment/materials to/from the site, perforating and logging truck, and test truck. The duration of the job is expected to take between 7 and 10 business days to complete. The project does not require the addition of new or expansion of existing facilities, no permanent facilities will be constructed. There will not be new ground surface disturbance associated with this project.

Exempt Status: As the Lead Agency, CalGEM has determined that the proposed project is exempt from full environmental review requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to the specified exemptions marked in the section below. CalGEM further finds that the proposed project would not result in a significant adverse impact to the environment, or that any of the exceptions to the application of the exemptions apply (14 CCR § 15300.2).

Exemption Type		Statute (PRC)	Regulation (14 CCR)	
☐	**Statutory Exemption:**			
	☐ Ongoing Project (*pre-CEQA approval on April 5, 1973*)	21169	15261 (b)	
	☐ Ministerial	21080 (b)(1)	15268	
	☐ Declared Emergency	21080 (b)(3)	15269 (a)	
	☐ Emergency Projects	21080 (b)(4)	15269 (b) or (c)	

Exemption Type		Statute (PRC)	Regulation (14 CCR)	
☑	**Categorical Exemption:**	21084		
	☑ **Class 1**: Existing Facilities		15301	1684.1
	☑ **Class 2**: Replacement or Reconstruction		15302	
	☐ **Class 3**: New Construction/Conversion of Small Structures		15303	
	☐ **Class 4:** Minor Alterations to Land		15304	1684.2
	☑ **Class 7**: Protection of Natural Resources		15307	
	☑ **Class 8**: Protection of the Environment		15308	
	☐ **Class 11:** Accessory Structures		15311	
	☐ **Class 21**: Enforcement Actions to revoke a permit		15321	
	☐ **Class 30**: Minor Actions to Prevent, Minimize, Stabilize, Mitigate, or Eliminate a Release (Actual or Threat) of Hazardous Substances (Waste or Material)		15330	
	☐ **Class 33**: Small Habitat Restoration Projects		15333	
☐	**General Exemption** ("common sense")		15061 (b)(3)	
☐	**Not a "Project" subject to CEQA**		15378 (b)(2)	
	CEQA Exceptions to the Exemptions (14 CCR § 15300.2): where project is located (e.g., sensitive environment); Cumulative Impact; Significant Effect due to Unusual Circumstances; Scenic Highways; Hazardous Waste Sites; Historical Resources.			

Reasons Why Project is Exempt: The basis for CalGEM's determination that the project is exempt from the requirements of CEQA is provided in the brief explanation below.

This NOI states the proposed project was identified by CalGEM district engineers as involving remedial/rework to address well integrity issues that requires swift action for the protection of public health, safety, and the environment. The categorical exemptions that apply in this case include, but are not necessarily limited to Class 1, Existing Facilities, Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §§ 15301, 1684.1, Classes 7 and 8, Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of Natural Resources and the Environment, Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §§ 15307, 15308, and may also include Class 2, Replacement or Reconstruction, Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15302, and Class 4, Minor Alterations to Land, Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §§ 15304, 1684.2.

A copy of this NOE (as required by 14 CCR § 15062(a)) and all other related materials can be made available to the public by contacting the CalGEM CEQA Program, located at 715 P Street, MS 1803, Sacramento, CA 95814; by calling (916) 445-9686; or an electronic copy of these documents may be requested by contacting CEQA@conservation.ca.gov. The notice filed with the State Clearinghouse may be accessed online at: https://ceqanet.opr.ca.gov

Certified: Kathleen M. Andrews **Date:** 11/7/2025

Department of Conservation,
Geologic Energy Management Division