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

California Environmental Quality Act
Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
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: NOI Rework OWF 057

Project Applicant: Tidelands Oil Production, Co.

Project Location: Los Angeles County, Wilmington Oil Field; T5S R13W, Sec. 4 SB, 33.77281570, -118.24214935

Project Description: Tidelands to conduct casing repair rework to regain mechanical integrity in 1 existing well. Stakeholders include Tidelands, POLB, City of Los Angeles, and California Department of Conservation – Geologic Energy Management Division (CalGEM). The well is located on Pier A – Port of Long Beach. The rework activities will allow Tidelands to maintain production and waterflood operation of the wells. No new construction or facilities expansion will be required for the rework activities. All activities will be limited to fenced in areas protecting the existing wells that are located within concrete cellars. The casing repair rework activities timeline is 10 days per well rework. The well API Number is 0403730289-02.

The proposed project consists of the CalGEM approving permit # 7055020 for Tidelands Oil Production, Co. to rework the well listed below, in the Wilmington Oil Field.

API #	Well Name
0403730289-02	OWF-057

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:**			

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Exemption Type		Statute (PRC)	Regulation (14 CCR)	
☐	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)	
☑	**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.

Class 1, Existing Facilities (14 CCR §§ 15301, 1684.1): The project is categorically exempt from CEQA under the "Class 1" (14 CCR § 15301) exemption per the CEQA Guidelines because the proposed project is a repair or minor alteration of existing facilities and will not involve an expansion of use of the oil field, and therefore is exempt from the need for full CEQA review. Additionally, in accordance with 14 CCR § 1684.1 the Class 1 exemption consists of operation repair, maintenance, minor alternation of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing previously. This Class includes but is not limited to conversion, and abandonment work on oil, gas, injection, and geothermal wells involving the alteration of well casing, such as perforating and casing repair, removal, or replacement; installation or removal of downhole production or injection equipment, cement plugs, bridge plugs, and packers set to isolate production or injection intervals.

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Class 2, Replacement or Reconstruction (14 CCR § 15302): Class 2 applies because it consists of "replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced[.]" Examples of Class 2 include, but are not limited to, "Replacement or reconstruction of existing utility systems and/or facilities involving negligible or no expansion of capacity."

Class 7, Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of Natural Resources (14 CCR § 15307): The project is categorically exempt from CEQA under the "Class 7" exemption per the CEQA Guidelines because the work performed under these contracts would be the plugging and abandonment of 56 wells, restoration of 56 wells sites, the removal / remediation of tank pads, the removal of 3 pads, and the investigation and clean out of 6 unknown possible well sites.

General or "Common Sense" Exemption: CalGEM has determined that the project is exempt from full review under CEQA under the General Rule or "Common Sense" exemption (14 CCR § 15061(b)(3)), which states that a project is exempt from CEQA if "the activity is covered by the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA". As discussed above, CalGEM has determined there is no substantial evidence indicating the project could adversely affect any of the environmental resource areas, as listed in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines.

Exceptions to Exemptions: CalGEM further finds that there are no exceptions to the application of the categorical exemptions (PRC § 21084; 14 CCR § 15300.2 (c)) referenced above. There is no substantial evidence that there are any "unusual circumstances" associated with the proposed project that create a reasonable possibility that the activity will have a significant effect on the environment. The approved project is within a Health Protection Zone (HPZ) as defined by Public Resources Code (PRC) section 3280(b). The HPZ does not present an unusual circumstance because SB 1137 (PRC § 3280 et seq.) requires all oil or gas production facilities or wells with a wellhead within an HPZ to comply with specified health, safety, and environmental requirements. In addition, CalGEM further finds that there are no significant "cumulative impacts" resulting from successive projects of the same type in the same place. Therefore, reliance on the exemption(s) is appropriate.

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

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Certified: Grayson Carlton **Date:** 1/29/2026

Department of Conservation,
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