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: 770549_ SoCalGas _UGS

Project Applicant: Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas)

Project Location: Los Angeles County, Honor Rancho Gas Field; Section 07, Township 04N, Range 16W, Base SB; 34.45092582, -118.59861921

Project Description: SoCalGas (the Operator) proposes to rework an existing gas storage well by performing casing expansions and installing new completion equipment. The intent of this project is to inspect the well integrity and remediate identified conditions as part of the Storage Integrity Management Program (SIMP). Temporary equipment such as a mud pump and returns bins will be utilized. No permanent facilities will be constructed during the process and no expansion of associated facilities will be required.

The proposed project consists of the California Department of Conservation, Geologic Energy Management Division (CalGEM) approving 1 permit for SoCalGas to rework the well listed below, in the Honor Rancho Gas Field in Los Angeles County.

API #	**Well Name**
0403721681	WEZU 24B

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)	

Exemption Type		Statute (PRC)	Regulation (14 CCR)	
☐	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 6**: Information Collection		15306	
☐	**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):
Class 1 consists of the "operation, repair, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing previously." (14 CCR § 1684.1.) This includes "publicly-owned utilities used to provide electric power, natural gas, sewerage, or other public utility services." (14 CCR § 15301(b).) The Operator proposes to make minor alterations to an existing gas storage well by performing casing expansions and installing new completion equipment. The well would remain a gas storage well with substantially the same purpose and capacity.

Class 2, Replacement or Reconstruction (14 CCR § 15302):
Class 2 consists of the "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." (14

CCR § 15302.) The project would reconstruct the casing of an existing gas storage well, which is located on an existing well pad. The well would remain a gas storage well with substantially the same capacity.

Class 4, Minor Alterations to Land (14 CCR §§ 15304, 1684.2):
Class 4 consists of "drilling operations that result only in minor alterations with negligible or no permanent effects to the existing condition of the land, water, air, and/or vegetation." (14 CCR §1684.2.) The proposed project would rework an existing gas storage well. The well would remain a gas storage well with substantially the same capacity. The well is located on an existing well pad, which is large enough to accommodate the necessary equipment and can be accessed by existing access roads. The project does not involve the construction of new facilities or the expansion of existing facilities. Therefore, there would be no new surface disturbance that would significantly impact the surrounding environment.

Exceptions to Exemptions: CalGEM further finds that there are no exceptions to the application of the categorical exemptions (PRC § 21084; 14 CCR § 15300.2) referenced above. For example, 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, and that there are no significant "cumulative impacts" resulting from successive projects of the same type in the same place. Therefore, reliance on the exemptions 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.lci.ca.gov

Certified: Mikayla Vaba **Date:** 2/4/2026

Department of Conservation,
Geologic Energy Management Division