

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 **From:** Department of Conservation
State Clearinghouse 715 P Street, MS 1803
1400 Tenth Street, Room 113 Sacramento, CA 95814
Sacramento, CA 95814 **Contact:** CEQA@conservation.ca.gov

Project Title: NOI Rework X 52

Project Applicant: Tidelands Oil Production, Co.

Project Location: Los Angeles County, Wilmington Oil Field; T5S R13W, Sec. 2 SB,
33.76277161, -118.21823883

Project Description: Tidelands Oil Production, Co. (Tidelands) to plug an unproductive zone and add pay (recomplete) in a shallower zone in the well. The purpose of the proposed operation is to restore productive capacity. Stakeholders include Tidelands, Port of Long Beach (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 well work activities timeline is approximately 10 days. The well API Number is 0403702707-02.

The proposed project consists of the CalGEM approving permit # 7055580 for Tidelands Oil Production, Co. to rework the well listed below, in the Wilmington Oil Field.

API #	Well Name
0403702707	X 52

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)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Statutory Exemption:			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ongoing Project (<i>pre-CEQA approval on April 5, 1973</i>)	21169	15261 (b)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ministerial	21080 (b)(1)	15268	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Declared Emergency	21080 (b)(3)	15269 (a)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Emergency Projects	21080 (b)(4)	15269 (b) or (c)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Categorical Exemption:	21084		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Class 1: Existing Facilities		15301	1684.1
<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 2: Replacement or Reconstruction		15302	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 3: New Construction/Conversion of Small Structures		15303	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 4: Minor Alterations to Land		15304	1684.2
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Class 7: Protection of Natural Resources		15307	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 8: Protection of the Environment		15308	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 11: Accessory Structures		15311	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 21: Enforcement Actions to revoke a permit		15321	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Class 30: Minor Actions to Prevent, Minimize, Stabilize, Mitigate, or Eliminate a Release (Actual or Threat) of Hazardous Substances (Waste or Material)		15330	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 33: Small Habitat Restoration Projects		15333	
<input type="checkbox"/>	General Exemption ("common sense")		15061 (b)(3)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Not a "Project" subject to CEQA		15378 (b)(2)	
<p>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.</p>				

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.

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://ceganet.opr.ca.gov>

Certified: Grayson Carlton **Date:** 4/7/2026
Department of Conservation,
Geologic Energy Management Division