

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  
4820 McGrath Street, Suite 210  
Ventura, CA 93003

**Contact:** [NorthernRecords@conservation.ca.gov](mailto:NorthernRecords@conservation.ca.gov)

**Project Title:** 804865\_Termo\_OG

**Project Applicant:** The Termo Company

**Project Location:** Los Angeles, Oat Mountain; Sec. 20, Twn. 03N, Rng. 16W, Base SB;  
Latitude: 34.32797241, Longitude: -118.58893585

### Project Description:

*Proposed Project:* The Termo Company proposes to return to production, with new perforations, the OM Gardett 2-20 API # 0403724070. The well is in the Oat Mountain Oil Field in northern unincorporated Los Angeles County. The purpose of this work is to return the well to production. The well will not be deepened or altered, except for the additional perforations. There will not be an associated increase in transportation nor facility size. All oil is transferred by infield flowline to the main facility tank farm. Only temporary equipment is needed. No permanent facilities will be constructed. No expansion of associated facilities will be required. Lease / Produced water will be used where appropriate. The proposed equipment for this work includes a portable workover rig, cement truck(s), wireline truck, water tank, mud tank, test separator, and solid waste bin. All equipment will fit on the existing well pad or be staged within Termo's facilities adjacent to the well pad. Water will be sourced from the lease and will be recycled to the extent possible. The work is expected to last 5 - 7 days. The proposed work will start with the rigging up and removal of current rod string followed by the installation and testing of the BOPE. The workover rig will then be used to unset the anchor and pull tubing. Wireline will be set up and well perforated. Crew will run tubing and production assembly back in well as before and the well will be turned to production. Once completed, the work-over rig will rig down, clean the pump and tank, and move off location. All waste will be stored onsite in a temporary tank and bin to await a disposal determination. Waste may stay on site for up to 60 days. All fluid used in the workover process will be contained within tank(s) onsite and will be disposed of following analysis and determination of an appropriate disposal site or recycled.

*Environmental Setting:* The well pad is in an active part of the Oil Field and is adjacent to Termo's wastewater facility and other wells. The pad dimensions are 250 feet x 100 feet. Pad area is graded, bermed, and covered in gravel. A pumping unit sits on the pad.

The proposed project consists of the California Department of Conservation, Geologic Energy Management Division (CalGEM) approving 1 permit for The Termo Company to rework the well(s) listed below, in the Oat Mountain Oil Field.

<b>API #</b>	<b>Well Name</b>
<b>0403724070</b>	<b>Gardett 2-20</b>

**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).

<b>Exemption Type</b>	<b>Statute (PRC)</b>	<b>Regulation (14 CCR)</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Statutory Exemption:</b>			
<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"/> <b>Categorical Exemption:</b>	21084		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Class 1:</b> Existing Facilities		15301	1684.1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Class 2:</b> Replacement or Reconstruction		15302	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Class 3:</b> New Construction/Conversion of Small Structures		15303	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Class 4:</b> Minor Alterations to Land		15304	1684.2
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Class 7:</b> Protection of Natural Resources		15307	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Class 8:</b> Protection of the Environment		15308	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Class 11:</b> Accessory Structures		15311	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Class 21:</b> Enforcement Actions to revoke a permit		15321	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Class 30:</b> Minor Actions to Prevent, Minimize, Stabilize, Mitigate, or Eliminate a Release (Actual or Threat) of Hazardous Substances (Waste or Material)		15330	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Class 33:</b> Small Habitat Restoration Projects		15333	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>General Exemption</b> (“common sense”)		15061 (b)(3)	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Not a “Project” subject to CEQA</b>		15378 (b)(2)	
<b>CEQA Exceptions to the Exemptions (14 CCR § 15300.2):</b> 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." This includes "remedial, maintenance, 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." (14 CCR § 1684.1.) The proposed project would make minor alterations to the well(s), resulting in negligible expansion of use beyond that existing previously. The proposed project and related permit approval is consistent with the laws that govern the operations, including statutory and regulatory provisions that protect public health, safety, and the environment.

**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 proposed project would reconstruct the casing and wellbore(s) of existing wells. The work would take place on the existing wellbore(s) and well pads. The proposed work involves negligible change in use of the wells. The proposed project and related permit approval is consistent with the laws that govern the operations, including statutory and regulatory provisions that protect public health, safety, and the environment.

**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; see also 14 CCR § 15304.) The proposed project involves negligible or no vegetation removal, expansion of the existing well pads, and ground disturbance. Therefore, there would be no surface disturbance related activities that would significantly disturb the surrounding environment. The proposed project and related permit approval is consistent with the laws that govern the operations, including statutory and regulatory provisions that protect public health, safety, and the 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 District office, located at

4820 McGrath Street, Suite 210, Ventura, CA 93003; or an electronic copy of these documents may be requested by contacting [NorthernRecords@conservation.ca.gov](mailto:NorthernRecords@conservation.ca.gov). The notice filed with the State Clearinghouse may be accessed online at: <https://ceganet.opr.ca.gov>.

**Certified:** John Alcid **Date:** 5/13/2026  
Department of Conservation,  
Geologic Energy Management Division