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: 826449_43200024_Chevron_UIC

Project Applicant: Chevron

Project Location: Kern County, Lost Hills Field; Section 32, Township 26S, Range 21E, Base MD; 35.628155, -119.736728; FR NW cor 1866Ely 731Sly

Project Description: Chevron proposes to rework an existing well to repair the casing. This well is in the existing and heavily developed Lost Hills Oil Field. Water used during the rework operations will be metered, reclaimed produced water, approximately 300 barrels. The work will not increase the depth of the well. It is expected to take approximately 3 operational days to complete all phases.

Project Well(s):

- Well Name: 6-8UW, API: 0 403025925

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).

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.

Exempt Status:

☐ **Statutory Exemption(s):**
☐ Ongoing Project (PRC § 21169 and 14 CCR § 15261 (b))
☐ Ministerial (PRC § 21080 (b)(1) and 14 CCR § 15268)
☐ Declared Emergency (PRC § 21080 (b)(3) and 14 CCR § 15269 (a))

☐ Emergency Projects (PRC § 21080 (b)(4) and 14 CCR § 15269 (b) or (c))

☑ **Categorial Exemption(s):**

☑ Class 1, Existing Facilities (14 CCR §§ 15301, 1684.1)
☑ Class 2, Replacement or Reconstruction (14 CCR § 15302)
☐ Class 3, New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures (14 CCR § 15303)
☑ Class 4, Minor Alterations to Land (14 CCR §§ 15304, 1684.2)
☐ Class 6, Information Collection (14 CCR § 15306)
☐ Class 11, Accessory Structures (14 CCR § 15311)
☐ Class 21, Enforcement Actions to revoke a permit (14 CCR § 15321)
☐ Class 30, Minor Actions to Prevent, Minimize, Stabilize, Mitigate, or Eliminate a
☐ Release (Actual or Threat) of Hazardous Substances (Waste or Material) (14 CCR § 15330)
☐ Class 33, Small Habitat Restoration Projects (14 CCR § 15333)

☐ **General Exemption:** (14 CCR §§ 1501 (b)(3))

☐ **Not a "Project" subject to CEQA:** (14 CCR §§ 15378 (b) (2))

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 4, Minor Alterations to Land (14 CCR §§ 15304, 1684.2): Class 4 exemption applies. The proposed project would be conducted entirely on an existing pad with enough space to contain all equipment. The project would not disturb any undisturbed areas. The proposed project is located within an industrial area. Therefore, the proposed project "consists of drilling operations that result in only minor alterations with negligible

or no permanent effects to the existing condition of the land, water, air, and/or vegetation." The rework/sidetrack would not expand the facility.

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: *Maggie Harrington* **Date:** 7/24/2026

Department of Conservation,
Geologic Energy Management Division