

State of California
Natural Resources Agency / Department of Conservation
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND GEOTHERMAL RESOURCES

California Environmental Quality Act
Notice of Determination

To: Office of Planning & Research
State Clearinghouse
1400 Tenth Street, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95814

From: Department of Conservation
Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources
801 K Street, MS 18-05
Sacramento, CA 95814

Contact: Larry Kleinecke, (916) 445-9686

Lead Agency: California Department of Fish and Wildlife
3883 Ruffin Road, San Diego, CA 92123
858.467.4210
Contact: Edmund Pert, ed.pert@wildlife.ca.gov

State Clearinghouse #: SCH# 2000011025

Lead Agency Project Title: Newhall Ranch Resource Management and Development Plan and Spineflower Conservation Plan, Final EIS/EIR

Project Activity Title: OG Newhall Ranch 20 Wells.09302019

Project Applicant: Newhall Land and Farming Company

Project Location: Castaic Junction Oil Field

<i>County:</i>	<u>Los Angeles</u>	<i>Section:</i>	<u>19</u>
<i>Township:</i>	<u>04N</u>	<i>Range/Baseline:</i>	<u>16W/ SB B&M</u>
<i>Latitude/Longitude:</i>	<u>34.41117096/ -118.59948730</u>		

Project Description:

The Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources (DOGGR) has approved permits for Newhall Land and Farming Agency to reabandon 20 plugged and abandoned oil wells located within the Newhall Ranch Resource Management and Development Plan Mission Village grading boundary. The wells are situated in the former Castaic Junction Oil Field within unincorporated Los Angeles County. For the purposes of this project, reabandonment means the adjustment of the well casing of wells that were previously plugged and abandoned in accordance with DOGGR standards at the time of abandonment, for the purposes of implementing approved grading and land development activities. The Project requires the well casings to be either raised or lowered to accommodate changes to the surface grade as part of site development, to meet DOGGR regulations upon completion of final grading within the Mission Village grading boundary. The well adjustments range between less than 5 feet to 80 feet, with an average adjustment (raising or lowering of the well casing) of 22 feet. As such, the casings of these wells will be raised or lowered so that the final plating is 8-10 feet below ground surface of the final grade of the Mission Village development area. All work will be conducted under the oversight of the Coastal District, Ventura Field Office of DOGGR, in accordance with state oil and gas regulations. The reabandonment activity consists of minor alterations to existing oil wells that will not result in expansion of the capacity of any of the subject abandoned wells. Due to the graded condition of the Mission Village area, Newhall does not expect to encounter any contaminated soils; however, if unanticipated discoveries occur during reabandonment activities, the soils will be addressed in accordance with the approved Newhall Ranch Remedial Action Plan/Soil Management Plan, approved by the Los Angeles County Fire Department Health and Hazardous Materials Division, and adopted by CDFW as lead agency for the Project. There are no unusual circumstances associated with the proposed reabandonment activity, nor would the proposal result in any new or more severe significant environmental impacts to cultural resources, special status species, or other sensitive resources due to the graded condition of the Mission Village area.

DOGGR has considered the RMDP EIR/EIS analysis and finds that the Reabandonment activity is within the scope of the activities evaluated in the document. DOGGR has not identified any additional mitigation measures that would substantially lessen or avoid any significant effect that the project would have on the environment. Further, DOGGR

finds that the CDFW and Los Angeles County have already adopted feasible mitigation measures that are relevant to the abandonment activity to reduce impacts to less than significant levels, and that Los Angeles County has the authority to implement such mitigation measures.

The Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources has approved permits for Newhall Land and Farming Agency to reabandon the oil and gas wells listed below.

API#	Well Name	API#	Well Name	API#	Well Name	API#	Well Name
0403716513	NLF #48	0403716475	NLF #04	0403716478	NLF #07	0403716484	NLF #13
0403716487	NLF #16	0403716488	NLF #17	0403716495	NLF #24	0403716498	NLF #27
0403716300	NLF #29	0403716501	NLF #31	0403716502	NLF #32	0403716504	NLF #34
0403716505	NLF #35	0403716508	NLF #41	0403716512	NLF #46	0403716514	NLF #49
0403716519	NLF #56	0403716522	NLF #59	0403716528	NLF #69	0403716530	NLF #72

Details on well locations can be found on the Division's website at:

<http://www.conservation.ca.gov/dog/Pages/Wellfinder.aspx>

This Notice of Determination (NOD) is to advise that the Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources (Division), as the **Responsible Agency** under CEQA, has approved the above project activity on September 24, 2019.

Pursuant to the provisions of CEQA, an environmental document was prepared by the Lead Agency for the project, as follows:

- **Lead Agency Name:** California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- **Project Title:** Newhall Ranch Resource Management and Spineflower Conservation Plan, Final EIS/EIR
- **SCH #:** 2000011025
- **Date Certified or Adopted:** 12/3/2010

During the review and approval process for this project activity, the Division considered the environmental impacts of the project, as shown in the environmental document prepared by the Lead Agency, and accepts the following determinations made by the Lead Agency:

1. **Environmental Impacts** from the project will
 - Have a significant effect on the environment
 - Not have a significant effect on the environment
2. **Environmental Document** prepared for this project, pursuant to the provisions of CEQA:
 - Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
 - Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND)
 - Negative Declaration (ND)
3. **Mitigation Measures** were
 - Made a condition of approval of the project.
 - Not made a condition of approval of the project.
4. **Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan (MMRP)** was
 - Adopted for this project
 - Not adopted for this project
5. **Statement of Overriding Considerations** was
 - Adopted for this project
 - Not adopted for this project
6. **Findings** were
 - Made for this project, pursuant to the provisions of CEQA (14 CCR 15091)

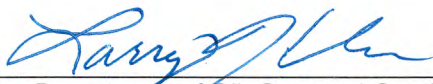
Not made for this project, pursuant to the provisions of CEQA (14 CCR 15091)

A copy of the environmental document prepared by the Lead Agency for the project identified above, including any Response To Comments, MMRP, Statement of Overriding Considerations, Findings, and all other related documents, are available for public examination at the California Department of Fish and Game, located at: 4949 Viewridge Ave., San Diego, California; or an electronic copy of these documents may be accessed online at: <https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/documents/ContextDocs.aspx?cat=NewhallRanchFinal>.

For any **additional environmental impacts** identified by the Division that are beyond those already identified by the Lead Agency, the Division has prepared additional documents as part of its Responsible Agency review and approval process for this project activity, as follows:

No Additional Impacts **MMRP** **Findings** **Statement of Override**

A copy of these documents may be examined online at: <http://www.conservation.ca.gov/dog/CEQA>

Certified:  **Date:** 9/30/2019
Department of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources