



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

RESPONSIBLE AGENCY CEQA REVIEW FORM

*** OTHER COUNTIES ***

insert name of local lead City/County here

Revision: 11.19.2021

I. PROJECT INFORMATION

State Clearinghouse #: SCH# 1996121013

Project Activity Title: *OG California Resources 082022-209*

Permit Applicant: *California Resources Elk Hills, LLC*

POC Info: *Adam Hipolito*
562-999-8526
Adam.Hipolito@crc.com

Project Location: *Elk Hills Oil Field*

County: Kern

District/Subarea: Inland

Additional info: See table below (*check on correct Baseline and Meridian for location*)

Application #	API #	Well Name	Section	Township	Range/ Baseline	LAT, LONG	
376439	0403069537	64NEH-4G	04	31S	24E/MD B&M	35.261988, -119.398749	OG California Resources 082022-209

CalGEM Discretionary Approval Action:	New Drill Permit <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rework/Redrill Permit <input type="checkbox"/> P&A Permit <input type="checkbox"/> WST Permit <input type="checkbox"/>	Geothermal <input type="checkbox"/> Underground Injection Control <input type="checkbox"/> Underground Gas Storage <input type="checkbox"/>
	# Wells: <u>1</u>	PAL <input type="checkbox"/> Wells <input type="checkbox"/> Project #: NO UIC # Wells: _____

CalGEM District: Inland CalGEM Program: OG

POC Name/Phone #: _____ POC Name/Phone #: _____

II. LEAD AGENCY ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT

The approved project consists of drilling one (1) new wells in the Elk Hills oil field specifically within the Shallow Oil Zone (SOZ). All project activities are covered by the Elk Hills Oilfield Incidental Take Permit (ITP 2081-2014-019-04) and are subject to all pre-activity survey requirements, project monitoring, disturbance compensation and compliance reporting conditions within that permit. The project consists of a 1997 SEIS/PEIR which allows exploratory and development drilling in the Elk Hills Oil Field.

Pursuant to the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Program Environmental Impact Report prepared and certified by the Lead Agency, Kern County and the U.S. Department of Energy, for the project [OG California Resources 082022-209](#) (SCH# 1996121013). The SEIS/PEIR for the project was approved on 12/15/1997 and became effective on 1/15/1997. An electronic copy of the final environmental document, including any Response To Comments, MMRP, Statement of Overriding Considerations, Findings, and all other related documents, may be accessed online at: N/A

Lead Agency:	Kern County and the U.S. Department of Energy		
State Clearinghouse #:	SCH# 1996121013		
Project Title: (CEQA doc relied upon)	OG California Resources 082022-209		
Document Type & Date:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certified EIR	Date: 12/15/1997	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted ND/MND
Scope of Proposed Project Activity:	<p>Is the proposed Project Activity within the scope of the Lead Agency's CEQA document? -- If YES, identify the activity and page #s where it can be found within the document.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Exploratory and development drilling is addressed on pages: # 440 of PDF (Page 45 of PDF for project location)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No. A Supplemental or Subsequent environmental document may be required.</p>		

III. IMPACT ANALYSIS

The Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources (CalGEM), as the Responsible Agency under CEQA, conducts an environmental review limited to only those project activities which are within CalGEM's area of expertise, or, which are required to be carried out or approved by CalGEM, or, which will be subject to the exercise of powers by CalGEM (14 CCR 15096). In conducting the environmental review, CalGEM relies on the Lead Agency's environmental document and considers the environmental impacts (as determined by the Lead Agency) to the project areas over which CalGEM has jurisdiction. CalGEM also examines supplementary information during the review process, which would typically include, but not be limited to, the following documents (depending on various factors, such as type of project activity and location): permit application and approved permit(s) from the local Lead Agency; Field Check Report and other pertinent information from the applicable CalGEM District; project description and other information provided by the operator (such as Waste Management Plans, Water Management Plans, SPCC Plans, etc.); WST Permit Application, MOA Agency review comments, and ADSA results; UIC Permit Application, and AOR results; and project information from other agencies (e.g.; air or water monitoring results). Additionally, the CEQA Guidelines Environmental Checklist (Appendix G) was consulted during the environmental review to assist CalGEM in its determination as to whether there are any additional environmental impacts beyond those already determined by the Lead Agency in its certified EIR. The results of CalGEM's environmental review are as follows:

Project Description:	Was project description submitted by applicant adequate & complete?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
	Is project activity located in a densely developed oilfield?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Environmental Setting:	<i>Check approved local permit or lead agency's environmental document to verify. If NO, complete "Attachment A: Additional Impact Review" for other counties.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
	Is area previously disturbed?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Map:	Review of aerial imagery and topo map on WellSTAR map to: (1) examine site characteristics; (2) identify any sensitive environmental features; and (3) determine if the project activity have the potential to impact nearby communities.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

WST Activity: Results of the ADSA Review are found in the CEQA project file and incorporated herein.

Groundwater Protection: Does the operator have a Groundwater Monitoring Plan (GWMP)? Yes No

• **Approved:** Yes No

• **In Review:**

Does the operator have a GWMP Exclusion? Yes No

• **Approved:** Yes No

• **In Review:** Yes No

Surface Water: Is surface water present at or within 100 ft. of the proposed well? Yes No

WST Base Fluid: Is groundwater proposed for use in the WST base fluid? Yes No

WST Base Fluid Toxicity Results: Did operator submit toxicity test results for WST base fluid? Yes No

Additional Impacts to the Environment: Based on review of the project description, environmental setting, site map(s), and CalGEM's technical review of the proposed project activity, additional environmental impacts beyond those already concluded by the Lead Agency were determined, as follows:

No additional impacts **Additional impacts** (see below)

IV. MITIGATION REVIEW

A mitigation monitoring and reporting program (MMRP) compliance document was submitted by the applicant and was previously approved by the Lead Agency. The MMRP describes compliance with each applicable mitigation measure identified in the Lead Agency's environmental document. As the Responsible Agency, CalGEM reviewed this document and considered the mitigation measures as part of its environmental review. The MMRP submitted by the operator can be found in the CEQA project file.

SB4 EIR Mitigation Measures, or CCST Recommendations: Are any **SB4 EIR Mitigation Measures** or **CCST recommendations** applicable? Yes No

Additional Mitigation Measures Required: Does the project activity require **additional Mitigation Measures** to reduce significant impacts? If YES, list below ... Yes No

MM Review Results: **No Additional Mitigation Measures**

Based on the results of this environmental review, CalGEM has determined that no additional significant impacts to the environment were associated with this project activity; therefore, no additional feasible mitigation measures are deemed necessary. Since no additional impacts were identified, CalGEM has determined that no additional mitigation measures are necessary, other than those already required by the Lead Agency, as identified in its CEQA document and approved local permit for this project activity.

Additional Mitigation Measures

Based on the results of this environmental review, CalGEM finds that additional feasible mitigation measures within its power are necessary to substantially lessen or avoid any potentially significant impacts the project activity would have on the environment. These additional mitigation measures will be included in the attached Mitigation Monitoring & Reporting Plan (MMRP) prepared by CalGEM, and/or included as a condition of the permit.

Permit Conditions

Based on the results of this environmental review, CalGEM finds that additional permit conditions are necessary for reasons other than to lessen or avoid any potentially significant impact on the environment (e.g. information request to fulfill CCST recommendations or responsibilities outlined in PRC 3106).

Legal CEQA Language: Ensure the following legal CEQA language is in the Permit: **Included**

This permit is for an oil or gas activity within the scope of the analysis set forth in the 1997 SEIS/PEIR certified on 12/15/1997 prepared by Kern County and DOE in connection with [OG California Resources 082022-209](#). The California Division of Oil, Gas and Geothermal Resources considered the 1997 SEIS/PEIR and the analysis therein, and issues this permit in its capacity as a Responsible Agency with expertise in the activities authorized by this permit.

V. REVIEW CONCLUSIONS

Consideration of the Lead Agency Environmental Document:

As a Responsible Agency under CEQA, CalGEM has evaluated and considered the environmental impacts, as shown in the environmental document prepared by the Lead Agency, during the environmental review of the proposed project activity. Based on the results of this review, CalGEM has reached its own conclusions, as follows:

- CalGEM **accepts** the overall findings made by the Lead Agency, as they pertain to this proposed project activity.

- CalGEM accepts the Lead Agency findings, only if the **Mitigation Measures** identified in Section IV of this document are incorporated as part of the permit, as follows:
 - “ **Attached MMRP** and/or “ **Permit Conditions of Approval (COA)**”

- CalGEM **does not** accept the Lead Agency findings.

Additional Environmental Impacts: Additional Environmental Impacts? **Yes** **No**

Additional Mitigation Measures: Additional Mitigation Measures required? **Yes** **No**

Additional Findings of Fact: Additional Findings of Fact required? **Yes** **No**

Additional Statement of Override: Additional Statement of Overriding Considerations required? **Yes** **No**

VI. REVIEW COMPLETED BY:

CEQA Project Reviewer: Xinyi (Renee) Hu **Date:** 8/26/22
Environmental Planner
California Geologic Energy Management Div