

State of California
Natural Resources Agency / Department of Conservation
GEOLOGIC ENERGY MANAGEMENT DIVISION

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
Geologic Energy Management Division
715 P Street, MS 1803
Sacramento, CA 95814

Contact: CEQA@conservation.ca.gov

Lead Agency: Orange County Public Works
601 N. Ross Street, Santa Ana, CA 92701
Contact: Kevin Canning
(714) 667-8847
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State Clearinghouse #: 2012121071

Lead Agency Project Title: Esperanza Hills Revised Final Environmental Impact Report
Project No. PA120037

CalGEM Project Title: 578129_Group_Visioncraft_PA

Project Applicant: Visioncraft Energy, LLC

Project Location: Esperanza Oil Field; Section 19, Township 03S, Range 08W.
The wells are located in a residential development known as Esperanza Hills, located within unincorporated area of the County of Orange, east of San Antonio Road and north of Stonehaven Drive (Via del Agua) near the City of Yorba Linda.

County: Orange County

Project Description: The project activity is the re-abandonment of two existing plugged and abandoned wells to current California Geologic Energy Management Division (CalGEM) standards. The project disclosed in the certified CEQA document consists of a residential development consisting of: a maximum of 340 single-family residential units on 468.9 acres of undeveloped land in unincorporated Orange County; 13.9 acres of active and passive parks; seven miles of trails (pedestrian, bicycle, and equestrian); 230 acres of open space; two underground water reservoirs; fuel modification areas; two estate lots; continued oil production; and grading of approximately 15 to 16 million cubic yards. The EIR describes the existing oil and gas production as three active wells and four plugged and abandoned wells. The EIR includes consideration of well abandonments and the hazards associated with oil and gas wells. As the proposed project is the re-abandonment of two existing plugged and abandoned wells, the EIR addresses the proposed project.

The project activity(s) being permitted by the CalGEM is within the scope of Esperanza Hills Revised Final Environmental Impact Report Project No. PA120037.

CalGEM, as the CEQA Responsible Agency, approved permit(s) for Visioncraft Energy, LLC. to re-abandon the wells listed below, in Esperanza Oil Field in Orange County.

API #	Well Name	Latitude	Longitude
0405900069	Anaheim Union Water #2	33.89587402	-117.75409698
0405905527	Westpet Texas #2	33.89732361	-117.75554657

CalGEM, as the Responsible Agency under CEQA, conducts an environmental review limited to those project impacts, which are required to be carried out or approved by CalGEM, or which will be subject to the exercise of powers by CalGEM. (Pub. Resources Code, § 21002.1; Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15096). This review includes considering the Lead Agency’s environmental document(s) and determining whether the project falls within the scope of the document and whether and how to approve the project involved.

CalGEM completed its review of the proposed project activity(s) and determined that CalGEM will rely on the Lead Agency’s environmental document(s), as it pertains to the proposed project activity(s).

This Notice of Determination (NOD) is to advise that CalGEM, as the **Responsible Agency** under CEQA, approved the above project activity(s) on 09/10/2024.

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 (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15091)
 - Not made for this project, pursuant to the provisions of CEQA (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15091)

A copy of the Esperanza Hills Revised Final Environmental Impact Report Project No. PA120037 and associated documents prepared by Orange County, including the Response To Comments, MMRP, Statement of Overriding Considerations, Findings, and all other related documents, can be made available to the public by contacting Orange County Public Works, located at 601 N. Ross Street, Santa Ana, CA 92701; or an electronic copy of these documents may be accessed online on the Orange County Public Works website. A copy of this NOD may also be accessed online at the State Clearinghouse: <https://ceqanet.opr.ca.gov>.

NOD – CalGEM as Responsible Agency (Non-Kern County)

Certified:

DocuSigned by:

Heather White

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Senior Environmental Scientist Supervisor
Geologic Energy Management Division
CEQA Program

Date:

9/11/2024