



October 11, 2019

**VIA EMAIL**

Coachella Valley Water District  
ATTN: William Patterson, Environmental Supervisor  
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Governor's Office of Planning & Research

**OCT 11 2019**

**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**

Dear Mr. Patterson:

**NOTICE OF PREPARATION  
PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT  
SANITATION MASTER PLAN UPDATE 2020  
COACHELLA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT  
SCH: NO. 2019090307**

The Department of Conservation's Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources (Division) has reviewed the above-referenced project for impacts with Division jurisdictional authority. The Division supervises the drilling, maintenance, and plugging and abandonment of oil, gas, and geothermal wells in California. The Division offers the following comments for your consideration.

The project area is approximately 885 square miles in the Coachella Valley, situated in portions of Riverside, Imperial, and San Diego Counties. The area contains significant areas of the Desert Hot Springs and Hot Mineral Spa low-temperature geothermal fields, each of which contain many active, idle, and plugged geothermal wells. Division records also indicate the presence of scattered active, idle, and plugged geothermal wells and a few plugged oil and gas exploration wells (dry holes). Division information can be found at: [www.conservation.ca.gov](http://www.conservation.ca.gov). Individual well records are also available on the Division's web site, or by emailing [dogdist1@conservation.ca.gov](mailto:dogdist1@conservation.ca.gov).

The scope and content of information that is germane to the Division's responsibility are contained in Section 3000 et seq. of the Public Resources Code, and administrative regulations under Title 14, Division 2, Chapters 2, 3 and 4 of the California Code of Regulations.

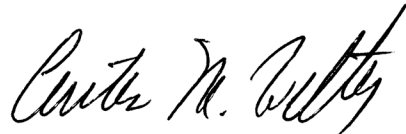
If any wells, including any plugged, abandoned or unrecorded wells, are damaged or uncovered during excavation or grading, remedial plugging operations may be required. If such damage or discovery occurs, the Division's district office must be

contacted to obtain information on the requirements and approval to perform remedial operations.

The possibility for future problems from oil and gas or geothermal wells that have been plugged and abandoned, or reabandoned, to the Division's current specifications are remote. However, the Division recommends that a diligent effort be made to avoid building over any plugged and abandoned well.

Questions regarding the Division's Construction Site Well Review Program can be addressed to the local Division's office in Long Beach by emailing [DOGDIST1@conservation.ca.gov](mailto:DOGDIST1@conservation.ca.gov) or by calling (562) 637-4400.

Sincerely,



Curtis M. Welty, PG  
Associate Oil and Gas Engineer

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Environmental CEQA File