

California Environmental Quality Act
Notice of Exemption

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

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

Contact: M. Meraz (916) 445-9686

Project Title: Geothermal Underground Injection Project, Golden Haven Spa, Calistoga, California

Project Applicant: Golden Haven Hot Springs Resort

Project Location: 1713 Lake Street, Calistoga CA 94515

County: Napa Section: 36

Township: 9N Range/Baseline: 7W / MD B&M

Latitude/Longitude: 38.585363, -122.582008

Project Description: The project proposal is to construct one geothermal re-injection well that will utilize an existing heat exchanger that is part of the spa operations, in the City of Calistoga, Napa County.

The well to be drilled (GHS" 3, API No. 055-90195) is on property owned by Golden Haven Hot Springs Resort located at 1713 Lake St., Calistoga CA 94515. The location is in an open area surrounding the resort, with an urban environment with numerous commercial and residential structures in close proximity.

DOGGR's approval is limited to injection operations consisting of "return flow" fluid produced from well GHS-2 (API No. 055-90139) and injected into well GHS-3 (API No. 055-90195). This operation shall also be conducted in accordance with the conditions specified by DOGGR and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Details on well locations can be found on the Division's website at:
<http://www.conservation.ca.gov/dog/Pages/Wellfinder.aspx>

Exempt Status: As the Lead Agency, the Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources (Division), has determined that the proposed project is exempt from further environmental review requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to the specified exemptions marked in the section below. The Division 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 exemptions apply (14 CCR 15300.2).

Exemption Type		Statute (PRC)	Regulation (14 CCR)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Statutory Exemption: <input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing Project (pre-CEQA. Approval prior to April 5, 1973) <input type="checkbox"/> Ministerial <input type="checkbox"/> Declared Emergency <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Projects	21169 21080 (b)(1) 21080 (b)(3) 21080 (b)(4)	15261 (b) 15268 15269 (a) 15269 (b) or (c)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Categorical Exemption: <input type="checkbox"/> Class 1: Existing Facilities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Class 3: New Construction/Conversion of Small Structures <input type="checkbox"/> Class 4: Minor Alterations to Land <input type="checkbox"/> Class 6: Information Collection <input type="checkbox"/> Class 7: Protection of Natural Resources <input type="checkbox"/> Class 8: Protection of the Environment <input type="checkbox"/> Class 11: Accessory Structures <input type="checkbox"/> Class 21: Enforcement Actions to revoke a permit <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Class 30: Minor Actions to Prevent, Minimize, Stabilize, Mitigate, or Eliminate a Release (Actual or Threat) of Hazardous Substances (Waste or Material) <input type="checkbox"/> Class 33: Small Habitat Restoration Projects	21084	15301 15303 15304 15306 15307 15308 15311 15321 15330 15333	1684.1 1684.2
<input type="checkbox"/>	General Exemption ("common sense")		15061 (b)(3)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Not a "Project" subject to CEQA		15378 (b)(2)	

CEQA Exceptions to the Exemptions (14 CCR 15300.2): where project is located (e.g. sensitive environment); Cumulative Impact; Significant Effect due to Unusual Circumstances; Scenic Highways; Hazardous Waste Sites; Historical Resources.

Reasons Why Project is Exempt:

The basis for the Division's determination that the project is exempt from the requirements of CEQA is provided in the brief explanation below.

Class 3 – New Construction/Conversion of Small Structures: The Division has determined that the project is categorically exempt from CEQA under the "Class 3" (14 CCR §15303) exemption per the CEQA Guidelines because the project consists of drilling a geothermal reinjection well and utilizing an existing heat exchanger that is a part of the spa operations. The project consists of small structures, installation of accessory structures, and the conversion of existing small structures where only minor modifications are made.

Class 30 – Minor Actions to Prevent or Minimize release of Hazardous Substances: The Division has determined that the project is categorically exempt from CEQA under the "Class 30" (14 CCR §15330) exemption per the CEQA Guidelines because the project consists of drilling a geothermal reinjection well to reduce born and antimony discharged to the City's sewer collection system.

Exceptions to Exemptions: The Division further finds that there are no exceptions to the otherwise-applicable categorical exemptions (PRC §21084; 14 CCR 15300.2(c)). 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 is no significant "cumulative impacts" resulting from successive projects of the same type in the same place. Therefore, this project is not subject to CEQA.

A copy of this NOE (as required by 14 CCR 15062(a)) and all other related materials are available for public inspection at the Division of Oil, Gas & Geothermal Resources/CEQA Unit, located at 801 K Street, 14th floor, Sacramento, CA 95812; or an electronic copy of these documents may be accessed online at: <https://ceganet.opr.ca.gov/>

Certified:


 Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources
 CEQA Unit

Date:

September 24, 2019