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Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Napa Valley Transportation Authority  
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**Jul 28 2020**

## STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

CEQA Project: **SCH# 2020060572**

Lead Agency: **Napa Valley Transportation Authority**

Project Title: **Napa Valley Vine Trail: St. Helena to Calistoga Section**

The California Geologic Energy Management Division (Division) oversees the drilling, operation, maintenance, and plugging and abandonment of oil, natural gas, and geothermal wells. Our regulatory program emphasizes the wise development of oil, natural gas, and geothermal resources in the state through sound engineering practices that protect the environment, prevent pollution, and ensure public safety. Northern California is known for its geothermal energy fields, and as such, division staff have reviewed the above referenced documents depicting the proposed project.

The purpose of this project is to fill a gap in the Napa County bike trail system with a new segment between the cities of Calistoga and St. Helena. The proposed project is one segment of the Napa Valley Vine Trail, which is envisioned as a 47-mile, mostly Class I mixed-use path for pedestrians and cyclists that will run the length of the Napa Valley (Calistoga to American Canyon) and connect to the Vallejo Ferry Terminal in Vallejo, California. The Napa Valley Vine Trail – St. Helena to Calistoga segment is an approximately 6.8-mile Class I bicycle/pedestrian trail that would complete a segment of the Napa Valley Vine trail. The proposed project is located within Caltrans and public right of way (ROW), State Park lands, and on easements to be obtained from private property owners. The south end of the project would terminate in St. Helena at Pratt Avenue on SR 29 at postmile (PM) 29.244. The north end of the new trail segment terminates at an existing segment of the Vine Trail at Dunawee Lane east of PM 35.308. Completion of the proposed project would help close a gap in the regional bicycle and pedestrian transportation network; provide bicyclists and pedestrians with a safe alternative to using SR 29 from the City of St. Helena to Calistoga and encourage the use of non-motorized travel.

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Division staff have reviewed the documents describing the proposed project area. No known geothermal wells are located within the proposed project area. There are fourteen idle ("IDLE"), eight active ("ACTV"), four unknown ("UNKN"), and three abandoned ("ABDN") status wells of types commercial low-temperature geothermal ("CLT"), non-commercial low-temperature geothermal ("NLT"), and water ("WW") within 300 feet of the project boundary, which are shown on the Well Location Map - space permitting. A final letter was issued indicating the abandoned ("ABDN") wells were abandoned to standard at that time. Abandonments included the placing of a surface plug in the well bore and restoration of the well location. The thirty total wells, in no particular order, are referred to as (API number, well status, and well type are in parentheses) the **(05590128, ABDN/CLT) "Crystal" 2, (05590130, ABDN/CLT) "Crystal" 3, (05590131, IDLE/CLT) "Crystal" 4, (05590132, IDLE/CLT) "Crystal" 5, (05590165, IDLE/NLT) "George" 1, (05590097, ACTV/NLT) "Washington Ave" 702, (05590090, ABDN, NLT) "Ideal" 1, (05590054, ACTV/NLT) "Cirio's" 1, (05590158, IDLE/NLT) "Mt. View Apts." 1, (05590151, ACTV/NLT) "Coopers" 1, (05590050, UNKN/NLT) "Donshick" 1, (05590155, IDLE/NLT) "Eddy St Unrecord" 1, (05590162, IDLE/NLT) "Casablanca" 1, (05590160, IDLE/NLT) "Reysen" 1, (05590161, ACTV/NLT) "Reysen" 2, (05590142, ACTV/WW) "Calistoga Spa" 3, (05590057, ACTV/CLT) "Calistoga Spa" 2, (05590056, ACTV/CLT) "Calistoga Spa" 1, (05590112, IDLE/NLT) "Franklin St" 1418-A, (05590143, IDLE/CLT) "Franklin St" 1418-B, (05590144, IDLE/NLT) "Franklin St" 1418-C, (05590164, UNKN/NLT) "Gray" 2, (05590163, UNKN/NLT) "Gray" 1, (05590157, IDLE/NLT) "Hummingbird" 1, (05590122, IDLE/CLT) [unnamed lease operated by Calistoga Mineral Water Co.] 1, (05590173, UNKN/NLT) "Green Hotel" 1, (05590123, IDLE/CLT) "CDHS" 1, (05590147, IDLE/NLT) "Compton" 2, (05590154, UNKN/NLT) "Clara" 1, (05590146, IDLE/NLT) "Compton" 1, and (05590051, ACTV/CLT) "Wilkinson" 1.**

The Division has conducted a records and map review within the proposed project boundary but not an on-site evaluation of any known geothermal wells located within the project boundary.

For future reference, you can review geothermal wells located on private and public land at the Division's website:

<https://www.conservation.ca.gov/dog/geothermal/geosteam>.

The local permitting agencies and property owner should be aware of, and fully understand, that significant and potentially dangerous issues may be associated with development near oil and gas, or geothermal wells. These issues are non-exhaustively identified in the following comments and are provided by the Division for consideration by the local permitting agency, in conjunction with the property owner and/or developer, on a parcel-by-parcel or well-by-well basis. As stated above, the Division provides the above well review information solely to facilitate decisions made by the local permitting agency regarding potential development near a geothermal well.

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1. If, during the development of this proposed project, **any unknown geothermal well(s) is/are discovered**, the Division should be notified immediately so that the newly-discovered well(s) can be incorporated into the records and investigated. The Division recommends that any wells found during this project, and any pertinent information obtained after the issuance of this letter, be communicated to the appropriate county recorder for inclusion in the title information of the subject real property. This is to ensure that present and future property owners are aware of (1) the wells located on the property, and (2) potentially significant issues associated with any improvements near geothermal wells.
2. No well work may be performed on any low or high temperature geothermal well without written approval from the Division in the form of an appropriate permit. This includes, but is not limited to, mitigating leaking fluids or gas from abandoned wells, modifications to well casings, and/or any other re-abandonment work. (NOTE: The Division regulates the depth of any well below final grade (depth below the surface of the ground). Title 14, section 1981 of the California Code of Regulations states that all well casings shall be cut off at least 6 feet below grade. If any well needs to be lowered or raised (i.e. casing cut down or casing riser added) to meet this grade regulation, a permit from the Division is required before work can start.)

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:  
  
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Charlene L Wardlow  
Northern District Deputy

The project boundary (approximate) is delineated in purple.



Well Location Map (source: Division/records)