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**PLANNING AND NATURAL  
RESOURCES DEPARTMENT**

Planning  
Community Development  
Administrative Operations

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND HEARING ON  
THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT  
FOR THE CARBON TERRAVALT I (KERN COUNTY) PROJECT**

This is to advise that the Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the project identified below. As mandated by State law, the minimum public review period for this document is 45 days.

**PROJECT TITLE:** Carbon TerraVault I (Kern County) by California Resources Corporation (CRC) (PP22405); ZCC 5, Map 119; ZCC 4, Map 120; CUP 13, Map 118; CUP 14, Map 118; CUP 5, Map 119; CUP 6, Map 119; CUP 3, Map 120; CUP 2, Map 138.

**PROJECT LOCATION:** Within the administrative boundary of the Elk Hills oilfield (9,130 surface acres) which is owned and operated by CRC in unincorporated Kern County. The proposed project area is situated on the west side of Elk hills Road and the north side of Skyline Road. It is located on Sections 12 and 13 of Township 30 South, Range 22 East; Sections 7, 8, 17-22, 25-30, and 34-36 of Township 30 South, Range 23 East; Section 30 and 31 Township 30 South, Range 24 East; and Section 1 of Township 31 South, Range 23 East of the Mount Diablo Base and Meridian (MDBM). The boundaries of the Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) Surface Land Area and Underground Storage Area (pore space) for the proposed project are approximately 26 miles from Bakersfield city center, approximately 8.5 miles from the City of Taft, approximately five (5) miles from the unincorporated community of Tupman, and approximately four (4) miles from the unincorporated community of Buttonwillow.

**DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY:** The Draft EIR and the documents referenced in it are available for public review at the Planning and Natural Resources Department, which is located at 2700 "M" Street, Suite 100, in Bakersfield, CA 93301 or on the Department website at: <https://kernplanning.com/environmental-doc/carbon-terravault-1-kerncounty>

**PUBLIC WORKSHOPS:** The Kern County Planning and Natural Resources staff and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) staff will jointly present a series of public workshops to present the Draft EIR and the EPA Underground Injection Control (UIC) Permitting process to provide an opportunity for comments. Spanish translation will be provided for all workshops.

**Virtual Workshop – January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 3:00 to 5:00 pm (via Microsoft Live Events)**

Instructions for participating in this briefing will be made available at the Kern County Planning and Natural Resources by January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 5:00 pm on our website at: <https://kernplanning.com/ccs/>.

**Taft Workshop – January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 6:00 to 9:00 pm**

**Westside Recreation and Park District**  
500 Cascade Place  
Taft, CA 93268

**Buttonwillow Workshop – January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024 at 6:00 to 9:00 pm**

**Buttonwillow Recreation and Park District Community Center**  
556 Milo Ave  
Buttonwillow, CA 93206

**EPA Hearing and Buttonwillow Workshop – February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**Buttonwillow Recreation and Park District Community Center**  
556 Milo Ave  
Buttonwillow, CA 93206

Workshop Schedule – 3:00 to 5:00 pm  
Break Schedule – 5:00 to 6:00 pm  
EPA Hearing Schedule – 6:00 to 9:00 pm

Additional Information at: [UIC Permits in EPA's Pacific Southwest \(Region 9\) | US EPA](#)

**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT  
(Government Code Section 54953.2)**

Disabled individuals who need special assistance to attend or participate in a Kern County Planning and Natural Resources virtual workshop may request assistance at the Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department, 2700 "M" Street, Suite 100, Bakersfield, California 93301, or by calling Keith Alvidrez at (661) 862-5015. Every effort will be made to reasonably accommodate individuals with disabilities by making meeting materials available in alternative formats. Requests for assistance should be made five (5) working days in advance whenever possible.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** The required Draft EIR public review period is 45 days.

**December 19, 2023 – February 12, 2024**

Days have been excluded for the County Winter Recess from December 22, 2023 to January 2, 2024 when the Planning and Natural Resources Department will be closed.

**Written comments** may be submitted to the project planner identified below prior to the close of the DEIR public review period on **February 12, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.** to:

**Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department**  
**ATTN: Keith Alvidrez, Planner II**  
**2700 "M" Street, Suite 100, Bakersfield, CA 93301**  
**Phone: (661) 862-5015**  
**E-mail: [CTVIEIRComments@kerncounty.com](mailto:CTVIEIRComments@kerncounty.com)**

**PUBLIC HEARING:** A public hearing has been scheduled with the Kern County Planning Commission to consider a recommendation on the project and solicit comments on the adequacy and completeness of the analysis and proposed mitigation measures described in the Draft EIR. You may comment by providing testimony at the public hearing on:

**DATE:** March 28, 2024  
**TIME:** 7:00 P.M. or soon thereafter  
**LOCATION:** Chambers of the Board of Supervisors  
Kern County Administrative Center, First Floor  
1115 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93301

After consideration by the Planning Commission, a public hearing will be scheduled for the Kern County Board of Supervisors for final consideration and action. Comments may be provided at that hearing or prior to any action by the Board of Supervisors on any matter. The Board of Supervisors decision is final.

**ASSISTANCE:** If you have any questions about the proposed project or issues accessing the document, please contact the project planner directly :

**Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department**  
**ATTN: Keith Alvidrez, Planner II**  
**2700 “M” Street, Suite 100, Bakersfield, CA 93301**  
**Phone: (661) 862-5015**  
**E-mail: [Alvidrezk@kerncounty.com](mailto:Alvidrezk@kerncounty.com)**

If you challenge the action taken on this request in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at this public hearing, or in written correspondence delivered to the Planning and Natural Resources Department at, or prior to, the public hearing.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** A proposed CCS facility for permanent underground storage of up to 48 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> in two reservoir formations on approximately 9,130 surface acres in the Elk Hills Oilfield in unincorporated Kern County and the related initial source for the capture of CO<sub>2</sub>.

The initial source of CO<sub>2</sub> is the pre-combustion oilfield gas from infield locations, including uses associated with the existing Elk Hills Power Plant. Maximum injection per year from future sources would be up to 2, 210,000 tons per year divided between the two formations (R-26 and A1-A-2). The facility consists of an underground pore space, approved by the EPA as the “area of review” where CO<sub>2</sub> will become permanently mineralized into rock, the CCS Surface Land Area over the underground storage area where limited uses will be permitted, approval of six (6) EPA Class VI UIC wells, conversion and creation of wells for CO<sub>2</sub> leak monitoring and seismic activity, approximately 13 miles of facility and injection underground pipeline for capture of pre-combustion gas, and the related infrastructure improvements for the capture, transfer, and permanent storage of CO<sub>2</sub>.

Implementation of the proposed project includes the following requests :

- Zone Change Cases (ZCC No. 5, Map No. 118 and ZCC No. 4, Map No. 120): From A-1 (Limited Agriculture) to A (Exclusive Agriculture) on approximately 6,160 acres; and
- Conditional Use Permits (CUP No. 13 Map No. 118, CUP No. 14 Map No. 118, CUP No. 5 Map 119, CUP No. 6 Map 119, CUP No. 3, Map 120, CUP No. 2 Map No. 138): For a CCS underground facility for CO<sub>2</sub> storage, the capture of pre-combustion oilfield gas as a source, and the transport of CO<sub>2</sub> by underground facility pipeline on approximately 9,130 surface acres in the A ( Exclusive Agriculture) Zone District.

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW FINDINGS:** Anticipated significant and unavoidable impacts on Agricultural Resources, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Energy, Geology and Soils, Greenhouse Gases, Water Supply (Hydrology), Energy, Mineral Resources, and Water Supply (Utilities and Service Systems.)

LORELEI H. OVIATT, AICP, Director  
Planning and Natural Resources Department

To be published once only on next available date and as soon as possible

**THE BAKERSFIELD CALIFORNIAN**  
**TAFT MIDWAY DRILLER**

KTA (12/19/23)

cc: County Clerk (2) (with fee)  
Environmental Status Board  
LiUNA  
Supervisory District No. 4