

**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  
Geologic Energy Management Division  
801 K Street, MS 18-05  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Contact:** Daisy Duenas, (916) 445-9686

**Project Title:** PAL Matrix 66012001

**Project Applicant:** Matrix Oil Corporation

**Project Location:** Sansinena Oil Field

County: Los Angeles

Section: 27, 28, 33, 34

Township: 02S

Range/Baseline: 10W / SB B&M

Latitude/Longitude: 33.95800400, -117.92433929

**Project Description:** Matrix Oil Corporation (Matrix) has applied for a modification of its current UIC PAL (UIC #66012001) to convert two existing production wells to injection wells to improve resource recovery by more uniformly distributing water throughout the field back into the underground zone from which it was produced. The original Water Injection UIC PAL #66012001 was initiated in 2003 with the issuance of a Final Water Injection Project Approval letter to Bentley-Simonson, Inc. The most recent PAL is dated June 15, 2015. There is one injection well associated with the project. The UIC project well Sansinena 8 B 12 (API# 0403715329) is a waterflood well that is currently active. There will be no ground disturbance, grading or road construction associated with this project. The facility will not be modified (i.e. no new electrical lines or tanks). Minor above-ground pipelines will be added for the well conversions. Details on Underground Injection Control can be found on CalGEM's website at: <http://www.conservacion.ca.gov/calgem/Pages/Undergroundinjectioncontrol.aspx>

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

➤ **Reasons Why Project is Exempt:**

The basis for CalGEM's determination that the project is exempt from further CEQA review is briefly explained below.

**15261(b) Ongoing Project:** CalGEM has determined that the project is statutorily exempt under the Ongoing Project (14 CCR 15261 (b) exemption per the CEQA Guidelines because the UIC project proposed continued operation of an existing well that received approval prior to April 5, 1973. The UIC activities do not involve a greater degree of responsibility and control over the project as a whole than did approval of the existing well.

**Class 1 – Existing Facility:** The project is categorically exempt from CEQA under the "Class 1" (14 CCR §15301) exemption per the CEQA Guidelines and CalGEM's regulations (14 CCR §1684.1) because the project proposes continued operation of a single permitted well and does not include expansion of existing use.

**Class 4 – Minor Alterations to Land:** The project is categorically exempt from CEQA under the "Class 4" (14 CCR § 15304) exemption per the CEQA Guidelines because the project involves the minor alteration of the condition of land and/or vegetation within a densely developed oil field and does not require the removal of healthy, mature scenic trees.

**Exceptions to Exemptions:** CalGEM 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 and all other related materials are available for public inspection at CalGEM's CEQA Unit, located at 715 P Street, MS 1803, Sacramento, CA 95814; or an electronic copy of these documents may also be accessed online at the State Clearinghouse:

<https://ceqanet.opr.ca.gov>

**Certified:** DocuSigned by:  
Daisy Duenas **Date:** 8/17/2022  
Geologic Energy Management Division  
CEQA Unit