

State of California
Natural Resources Agency / Department of Conservation
CALIFORNIA GEOLOGIC ENERGY MANAGEMENT DIVISION

**Notice of Intent
to use a Finding of No Significant Impact
in lieu of a Negative Declaration**

California Environmental Quality Act

Date: November 2, 2022

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

From: Lead Agency
Department of Conservation
California Geologic Energy Management Division
715 P Street, MS 1803
Sacramento, CA 95814

Contact: Daisy Duenas, (916) 445-9686

Project Title: Sentinel Peak Resources California LLC
79 Applications for Permit to Drill McKittrick Unit II
DOI-BLM-CA-C060-2021-0073-EA
Programmatic Project #119

Project Applicant: Sentinel Peak Resources California LLC (SPR)

Project Location: Cymric Oilfield, Kern County

County: Kern

Section: 6

Township: 30S

Range: 22E

Baseline: MDBM

Latitude/Longitude: 35.350033, -119.647249

The U.S. Department of the Interior/Bureau of Land Management (BLM) prepared an Environmental Assessment/Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the above-named project, which identifies and evaluates the potential for significant environmental impacts from the proposed project. The BLM completed its review of the FONSI and signed a Record of Decision on August 29, 2022, approving the proposed project.

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (PRC §21000, *et seq.*) and the CEQA Guidelines (14 CCR 15000, *et seq.*), and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the California Geologic Energy Management (Division) is the CEQA lead agency for the proposed project, while the BLM is the NEPA lead agency. The Division has reviewed BLM's approved FONSI (DOI-BLM-CA-C060-2021-0073-EA) and finds that it meets the requirements of CEQA. BLM found that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment; therefore, the Division intends to use the FONSI rather than preparing a Negative Declaration for this project.

Project Description: The Division received seventy-nine (79) Notices of Intention to Drill New (NOIs) from the Applicant to conduct well operations on mineral and surface estates administered by the BLM Bakersfield Field Office within the Cymric Oilfield in Kern County. The proposed project would occur on previously disturbed well pads that require minor grading to level the location.

Project implementation would include the grading of existing disturbed locations, the installation of associated pipelines and power poles, and the drilling of seventy-nine new wells. The proposed project consists of permitting the construction of 79 new well pads to accommodate the drilling of 79 new wells: McKittrick Unit 2 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, I-16, I-17, I-18, I-19, I-20, I-21, I-22, I-23, I-24, I-25, I-26, I-27, I-28, I-29, I-30, I-31, I-33, I-34, I-35, I-36, I-37, I-38, I-39, I-40, I-41, I-42, I-43, I-44, I-45, I-46, I-47, I-48, I-49, & I-50, including the construction of access roads to the pads and pipelines as needed on federal mineral lease CAS0020995 in Section 6, T30S, R22E, MDBM. The maximum possible habitat disturbance would be 3.61-acres.

The proposed project site is not present on any of the lists enumerated under Section 65962.5 of the Government Code including, but not limited to lists of hazardous waste facilities, land designated as hazardous waste property and hazardous waste disposal sites, and the information in the *Hazardous Waste and Substances Statement* required under subdivision (f) of that section.

Details on well locations can be found on the Division's website at:

<http://www.conservation.ca.gov/calgem/Pages/Wellfinder.aspx>

Public Review Period: BLM held a 30-day public review period for the proposed project, which began on July 19th, 2021, and ended on August 18, 2021. BLM posts Applications for Permit to Drill (APDs) in the front lobby of their Bakersfield Field Office located at 3801 Pegasus Drive, Bakersfield, CA. Additionally, BLM lists the environmental documents prepared for proposed projects on the California BLM NEPA webpage (see link below) to notify the public of the proposed projects and to invite any comments from those interested.

Available Documents: The APDs, approved FONSI, DR, and any supporting documents are available for review on BLM's website at: <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/home>