

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

**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  
 715 P Street, MS 1803  
 Sacramento, CA 95814  
**Contact:** CEQA@conservation.ca.gov

**Project Title:** OG RW CRPC 012024-002

**Project Applicant:** California Resources Production Corporation (CRPC)

**Project Location:** Kern County, Belgian Anticline Oil Field; 30/30S/22E/MD; 35.29191589/-119.65231323

**Project Description:** The originally approved project consists of reworking one oil and gas production well by performing a pressure casing test (cement squeeze or run inner liner and cement to surface if casing does not pass) and selectively perforating. Temporary equipment such as pumps and return bins may be needed. No permanent facilities will be constructed. No expansion of associated facilities will be required. Various mobile temporary equipment will be used including, but not limited to, workover rig, etc., and vehicles to transport personnel and materials to/from the site. There will not be new ground surface disturbance associated with this project.

CalGEM has approved permits for California Resources Production Corporation (CRPC) to rework the oil and gas well listed below, in the Belgian Anticline oil field,

API #	Well Name
0402925790	Midway-McKittrick A 43-30

**Exempt Status:** As the Lead Agency, CalGEM has determined that the proposed project is exempt from full environmental review requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to the specified exemptions marked in the section below. CalGEM 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 application of the exemptions apply (14 CCR § 15300.2).

Exemption Type	Statute (PRC)	Regulation (14 CCR)
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Statutory Exemption:</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing Project ( <i>pre-CEQA approval on 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)

Exemption Type		Statute (PRC)	Regulation (14 CCR)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Categorical Exemption:</b>	21084		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Class 1:</b> Existing Facilities		15301	1684.1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Class 2:</b> Replacement or Reconstruction			
<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 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)	
<p><b>CEQA Exceptions to the Exemptions (14 CCR § 15300.2):</b> where project is located (e.g., sensitive environment); Cumulative Impact; Significant Effect due to Unusual Circumstances; Scenic Highways; Hazardous Waste Sites; Historical Resources.</p>				

**Reasons Why Project is Exempt:** The basis for CalGEM’s determination that the project is exempt from the requirements of CEQA is provided in the brief explanation below.

**Class 1, Existing Facilities (14 CCR §§ 15301, 1684.1);** Class 1 applies to the “operation, repair, maintenance, or minor alteration” of existing facilities involving “negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing previously” (§ 1684.1). The project involves the maintenance of an oil production well and does not include modifications or changes to an existing use. The well is and will remain an oil production well and will generally have the same production capacity. More specifically, the project is a rework of an existing oil well in which the operator proposes to perform an integrity test. If the casing does not pass, the operator will perform cement squeeze or run an inner liner and selectively perforate in order to maintain the integrity of the casing and continue resource development as a production well.

**Class 2, Replacement or Reconstruction (14 CCR § 15302);** Class 2 applies to the “replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced[.]” (14 CCR § 15302). The project involves reconstruction to repair casing by either cement squeeze or running an inner liner, should the casing fail pressure testing. This reconstruction would take place in an existing well pad and would restore the well to its existing production capacity and the well would have substantially the same purpose and capacity.

**Class 4, Minor Alterations to Land (14 CCR §§ 15304, 1684.2);** Class 4 applies to “drilling operations that result only in minor alterations with negligible or no permanent effects to the existing condition of the land, water, air, and/or vegetation” (§1684.2). The project is a minor alteration to an existing well that will take place on an existing well pad with existing roads in a well-developed oil field. The operator indicates that the project does not involve the construction of permanent facilities, the expansion of existing facilities, or the disturbance of ground surface.

***Exceptions to Exemptions:***

CalGEM further finds that there are no exceptions to the application of the categorical exemptions (PRC § 21084; 14 CCR § 15300.2 (c)) referenced above. 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 are no significant “cumulative impacts” resulting from successive projects of the same type in the same place. Therefore, reliance on the exemption(s) is appropriate.

Consistent with the purposes of PRC § 3250 et seq and the documentation available for the preliminary review, the proposed project will benefit the environment. In addition, the work under the contracts and any resulting impacts will be temporary in duration. Therefore, the project can be considered exempt from the need for full CEQA review.

A copy of this NOE (as required by 14 CCR § 15062(a)) and all other related materials are available for public inspection at CalGEM’s CEQA Program, located at 715 P Street, 18th floor, 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:** Mikayla Vaba **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Department of Conservation,  
Geologic Energy Management Division  
CEQA Program