

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

California Environmental Quality Act Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
 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: 661545_Crimson_UIC

Project Applicant: Crimson Resource Management Corp

Project Location: Kern, Midway-Sunset; 25/31S/22E/MD; 35.20611572/119.55661011; 767 W and 1130 S of NE

Project Description: The proposed rework will consist of perforating a well and returning it to steam injection. The rework will take ±1 day to complete during daylight hours. Existing lease roads will be utilized to access the well location. Modifications to roads and location are not required for this project. Modifications to existing service lines are not required for this project. Produced water will be utilized for rework operations and hauled in via vacuum truck. Temporary equipment such as a wireline unit, vacuum truck, fluid returns bins and various vehicles to transport personnel and materials to mobilize and demobilize equipment will be utilized. Self-contained toilets will be used for human waste. Toilet holding tanks will be serviced weekly or as needed and the contents thereof will be disposed of at an approved sewage disposal facility. Garbage that is generated will be stored in closed top containers and disposed of at a licensed facility. The existing well is located in Section 25, T31S, R22E MDBM, Midway-Sunset Oilfield, Kern County, California. The project area is zoned A and oil and gas activities are considered compatible with the zoning. The site coordinates are Lat 35.206116, Long -119.556607. The surrounding land use consists of a densely developed oil field. Oil and gas production has been ongoing since the discovery well was drilled in 1894. Kern County Planning and the Natural Resource Department does not currently issue job cards for rework activity.

| API # | Well Name |
|------------|---------------------|
| 0403055868 | Unspecified 109-7BI |

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) | |
|---|--|---|---|
| ** Statutory Exemption: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> .. Ongoing Project (<i>pre-CEQA approval on April 5, 1973</i>) ** Ministerial ** Declared Emergency ** Emergency Projects | <p style="text-align: center;">21169</p> <p>21080 (b)(1)</p> <p>21080 (b)(3)</p> <p>21080 (b)(4)</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">15261 (b)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">15268</p> <p style="text-align: center;">15269 (a)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">15269 (b) or (c)</p> | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Categorical Exemption: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Class 1: Existing Facilities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Class 2: Replacement or Reconstruction .. Class 3: New Construction/Conversion of Small Structures <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Class 4: Minor Alterations to Land .. Class 7: Protection of Natural Resources ** Class 8: Protection of the Environment ** Class 11: Accessory Structures .. Class 21: Enforcement Actions to revoke a permit Class 30: Minor Actions to Prevent, Minimize, Stabilize, Mitigate, or Eliminate a Release (Actual or Threat) of Hazardous Substances (Waste or Material) ** .. Class 33: Small Habitat Restoration Projects | <p style="text-align: center;">21084</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">15301</p> <p style="text-align: center;">15302</p> <p style="text-align: center;">15303</p> <p style="text-align: center;">15304</p> <p style="text-align: center;">15307</p> <p style="text-align: center;">15308</p> <p style="text-align: center;">15311</p> <p style="text-align: center;">15321</p> <p style="text-align: center;">15330</p> <p style="text-align: center;">15333</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">1684.1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1684.2</p> |
| ** General Exemption ("common sense") | | <p style="text-align: center;">15061 (b)(3)</p> | |
| ** Not a "Project" subject to CEQA | | <p style="text-align: center;">15378 (b)(2)</p> | |

CEQA Exceptions to the Exemptions (14 CCR § 15300.2): where project is located (e.g., sensitive environment); Cumulative Impact; Significant Effect due to Unusual Circumstances; Scenic Highways; Hazardous Waste Sites; Historical Resources.

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 Facility: The project is categorically exempt from CEQA under the "Class 1" (14 CCR § 15301) exemption per the CEQA Guidelines because the proposed project is a repair or minor alteration of existing facilities and will not involve an expansion of use of the oil field, and therefore is exempt from the need for full CEQA review. Additionally, in accordance with 14 CCR § 1684.1 the Class 1 exemption consists of operation repair, maintenance, minor alternation of existing public or private

structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing previously. The proposed work consists of perforating one existing well within an existing zone and returning its use back to steam injection. Additionally, a CalGEM engineer has confirmed that the proposed work would be a continuation of operations within the UIC Project 46400038, as permitted by the project approval letter (PAL).

Class 2 – Replacement or Reconstruction (14 CCR §15302): Class 2 applies because it consists of “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.” The proposed project would make minor alterations to one existing well by adding perforations and returning its use back to steam injection, which was its originally intended use. The work will be done on an existing wellbore, which is located on an existing well pad. The project will not expand operations or change the existing use of the well. Additionally, a CalGEM engineer has confirmed that the proposed work would be a continuation of operations within UIC Project 46400038, as permitted by the PAL.

Class 4 – Minor Alterations to Land (14 CCR §§ 15304, 1684.2): Class 4 consists of “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.” The proposed project will add perforations to an existing well and return its use back to steam injection, its originally intended use. The project would be conducted entirely on an existing pad with enough space to contain all equipment. The project would not disturb any undisturbed areas. The proposed project is located within an active and dense oil field. There would be no construction of new facilities or expansion of existing facilities.

Exceptions to Exemptions: CalGEM further finds that there are no exceptions to the application of the categorical exemptions (PRC § 21084; 14 CCR § 15300.2) referenced above. For example, 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 exemptions is appropriate.

A copy of this NOE (as required by 14 CCR § 15062(a)) and all other related materials can be made available to the public by contacting the CalGEM CEQA Program, located at 715 P Street, MS 1803, Sacramento, CA 95814; by calling (916) 445-9686; or an electronic copy of these documents may be requested by contacting CEQA@conservation.ca.gov. The notice filed with the State Clearinghouse may be accessed online at: <https://ceqanet.opr.ca.gov>

Certified:

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Mila Galovski
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Date 2/20/2025

Department of Conservation,
Geologic Energy Management Division