

State of California
Natural Resources Agency / Department of Conservation
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND GEOTHERMAL RESOURCES

California Environmental Quality Act

Notice of Exemption 2019038016

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

From: Department of Conservation
Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources
801 K Street, MS 18-05
Sacramento, CA 95814

Contact: Larry Kleinecke, (916) 445-9686

State Clearinghouse #:

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Project Title: OG SME 2 Wells 03042019

MAR 04 2019

Project Applicant: Santa Maria Energy, LLC

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Project Location: Orcutt Oil Field

County: Santa Barbara Section: 31

Township: 09N Range/Baseline: 33W / SB B&M

Latitude/Longitude: 34.818087 /-120.400674

Project Description: The proposed project consists of drilling two (2) new oil and gas wells in the Orcutt Oil Field in Santa Barbara County. The well names and API numbers of the wells are listed below. The proposed project is located in an established, high-density oil field and exempt from local CEQA requirements.

API#	Well Name	API#	Well Name
0408322959	D-5	0408322958	D-2

Details on well locations can be found on the Division's website at:
<http://www.conservation.ca.gov/dog/Pages/Wellfinder.aspx>

Exempt Status: As Lead Agency, the Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources (Division), has 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 Division 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 exemptions apply (14 CCR 15300.2).

Exemption Type		Statute (PRC)	Regulation (14 CCR)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Statutory Exemption:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ongoing Project (pre-CEQA approval prior to April 5, 1973)	21169	15261(a) or (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"/>	Categorical Exemption:	21084	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 1: Existing Facilities		15301 1684.1
<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 3: New Construction/Conversion of Small Structures		15303
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Class 4: Minor Alterations to Land		15304 1684.2
<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 7: Protection of Natural Resources		15307
<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 8: Protection of the Environment		15308
<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 11: Accessory Structures		15311
<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 21: Enforcement Actions to revoke a permit		15321
<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 30: Minor Actions to Prevent, Minimize, Stabilize, Mitigate, or Eliminate a Release (Actual or Threat) of Hazardous Substances (Waste or Material)		15330
<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 33: Small Habitat Restoration Projects		15333
<input type="checkbox"/>	General Exemption ("common sense")		15061 (b)(3)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Not a "Project" subject to CEQA		15378 (b)(2)
<p><u>CEQA Exceptions to the Exemptions (14 CCR 15300.2):</u> 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:

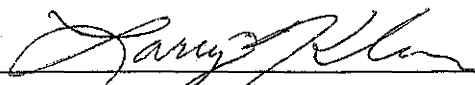
The basis for the Division's determination that the project is exempt from the requirements of CEQA is provided in the brief explanation below.

15261(b) – Ongoing Project: The Division has determined that the project is statutorily exempt under the Ongoing Project (14 CCR 15261(b)) exemption per the CEQA guidelines because the Division identified the Orcutt Oil Field and issued permits in this oil field pre-CEQA (prior to April 5, 1973). Additional permits issued in the developed areas of the Orcutt Oil Field are considered part of an ongoing project and exempt from further CEQA reviews.

Class 4 – Minor Alterations to Land: The Division has determined that the project is categorically exempt from CEQA under the "Class 4" (14 CCR 15304) exemption per CEQA guidelines and per DOGGR regulations (14 CCR 1684.2) because the proposed project is located on previously graded or otherwise recently disturbed land within a densely developed oil field.

Exceptions to Exemptions: The Division 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.

A copy of this NOE (as required by 14 CCR 15062(a)) and all other related materials are available for public inspection at the Division of Oil, Gas & Geothermal Resources/CEQA Unit, located at 801 K Street, 14th floor, Sacramento, CA 95812; or an electronic copy of these documents may be accessed online at: <http://www.conservation.ca.gov/dog/CEQA>

Certified: 
 Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources
 CEQA Unit

Date: 3/4/2019