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

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 Division of Oil, Gas & Geothermal Resources 801 K Street, MS 18-05 Sacramento, CA 95814

Contact: Tharon Wright, (916) 445-9686

Project Title: OG CRPC 1 Well 11122019

Project Applicant: California Resources Production Corporation

Project Location: Bardsdale Oil Field

County:	Ventura	Section:		06	
Township:	03N	Range/Baseline:	19W	/ SB B&M	
Latitude/Longitude:	34.36534300, -118	.90903388			

Project Description:

The proposed project consists of drilling one new well in the Bardsdale Oil Field in Ventura County. The proposed well is located on an existing pad in a densely developed oil field, within a parcel under active oil production and is consistent with Ventura County's General Plan and Zoning Ordinance.

API #	Well Name	
0411122407	Elkins 12-6	

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

Exempt Status:

As the 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)	
Ø	 Statutory Exemption: Ongoing Project (pre-CEQA. Approval prior to April 5, 1973) Ministerial Declared Emergency Emergency Projects 	21169 21080 (b)(1) 21080 (b)(3) 21080 (b)(4)	15261 (b) 15268 15269 (a) 15269 (b) or (c)	
	 Categorical Exemption: Class 1: Existing Facilities Class 3: New Construction/Conversion of Small Structures Class 4: Minor Alterations to Land Class 6: Information Collection 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 	21084	15301 15303 15304 15306 15307 15308 15311 15321 15330 15330	1684.1
	General Exemption ("common sense")		15061 (b)(3)	
	Not a "Project" subject to CEQA	<u>x</u>	15378 (b)(2)	

<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.

<u>Reasons Why Project is Exempt:</u>

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 project is statutorily exempt from CEQA under the Ongoing Project exemption (PRC 21169; 14 CCR 15261(b)) because the Division identified administrative boundaries of the Bardsdale oil & gas field that were approved prior to April 5, 1973 (pre-CEQA). Division permit approvals for oil & gas activities within this field occurred before April 5, 1973 and those permit approvals occurring after that date do not involve a greater degree of responsibility or control over the project as a whole than did the prior approvals.

Class 1 – Existing Facility: The project is categorically exempt from CEQA under the "Class 1" (14 CCR §15301) exemption per the CEQA Guidelines and per DOGGR's regulations (14 CCR §1684.1) because the well will be installed within an existing oil field and involves no expansion of use of the oil field.

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: 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. Therefore, this project is not subject to CEQA.

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's CEQA Unit, located at 801 K Street, 14th floor, Sacramento, CA 95812; or an electronic copy of these documents may also be accessed online at the State Clearinghouse: <u>https://ceqanet.opr.ca.gov</u>; and/or the Division's website at <u>http://www.conservation.ca.gov/dog/CEQA</u>

T.WYGM Certified:

12/2/19 Date:

Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources CEQA Unit