



## NOTICE TO OPERATORS

2025-01

January 24, 2025

### **GUIDANCE FOR CEQA COMPLIANCE AND SUBMISSION OF NOTICES OF INTENTION**

The California Geologic Energy Management Division (CalGEM) is issuing this notice to inform oil and gas operators of CalGEM's new process for completing environmental reviews of Notices of Intention (NOIs), applications, and other projects proposed by operators (proposed project) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). In addition, this notice also provides additional clarification pertaining to incomplete information submitted by operators.

As of September 2024, a majority of proposed projects under environmental review either required additional information and/or satisfaction of SB 1137 requirements. When this occurs, CalGEM staff are unable to complete the environmental review process, resulting in a backlog.

#### **Operators are informed of the following:**

With the goal of omitting a backlog and to facilitate an efficient environmental review, CalGEM has implemented the following process:

- For proposed projects that require additional information to resolve observed discrepancies in the record:
  1. CalGEM CEQA staff will email the operator representative(s) identified as part of the proposed project and request the required additional information.
  2. If the operator does not provide an adequate response to the initial request within five (5) business days, CalGEM staff will follow up with a final email to again request the required additional information.
  3. If after an additional five (5) business days the operator has not provided an adequate response to the request to the satisfaction of CalGEM CEQA staff, the proposed project will be returned to the operator in WellSTAR or via email. After the proposed project is returned, an operator may resubmit the returned proposed project that includes the required additional information.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding compliance with this notice, please contact CalGEM Headquarters via email at: [CEQA@conservation.ca.gov](mailto:CEQA@conservation.ca.gov). In the email subject line, include "NTO 2025-01."

Elizabeth Yura

Elizabeth Yura on behalf of

Doug Ito  
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