NOTICE TO OPERATORS

Subject: Underground Injection Control (UIC) Project Data

Pursuant to Section 1724.6 of Chapter 4, Division 2, Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), operators must obtain approval of the Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources (Division) prior to conducting any subsurface injection or disposal project, including a gas storage or pressure maintenance project (collectively UIC projects). Furthermore, the CCR lists the data required to be filed with the Division for evaluation of a proposed UIC project. Such data may include documents that have been categorized “Interpretive Data” as defined in Section 1996.4 of the CCR.

Section 1997.4 of the CCR outlines provisions for the classification of interpretive data, including a provision for review of its confidential status after a period of five years. While reviewing the data in the Division’s UIC project folders, it was determined that such data should be available for public review during the project approval process pursuant to the California Public Records Act unless an operator can justify to the satisfaction of the State Oil and Gas Supervisor that the interpretive data should be treated as “confidential”.

Historically, there have been a large number of UIC project folders containing data that may have been considered “interpretive” at the time of submittal. This is to inform you that the Division intends to make those UIC project folders available for public inspection on or after February 29, 2008. If you, as the operator that submitted the data for project approval, feel that the data still warrants classification as “interpretive data”, please notify the Supervisor or district deputy on or before February 28, 2008, providing a description of the data and your justification for retaining such data as confidential.

The action described in this Notice to Operators affects UIC projects that were approved prior to January 31, 2003. Data for newer UIC projects will be addressed via individual correspondence with the affected operator. If you have a question whether your UIC project data is scheduled for release on February 29, 2008, please contact the district office where your project(s) is/are located to verify the status.

Hal Bopp
State Oil and Gas Supervisor