

CalGEM Online Data Virtual Workshops | April 27-29, 2021

Question & Answer Summary

Q: In the past we used to have access to the well record using the web directly, now there is a system that delivers the well record to an inbox, however in some cases the files are too big to get into regular inbox sizes. Are you planning to make well records available online?

We're elevating the issue to executive management. The file request system was meant to be temporary, but it was by no means our first choice. Challenges meeting ADA mandates and security issues required DOC to take down its FTP site, and we're still looking at the best solutions to get our customers the files they need while also reducing the workload associated with these requests - in order to keep response times to a minimum.

Effective 05/29/2021, the DOC File Request System now allows users to request and automatically receive/download files up to 300 MB. Prior to today, the file request system was at a 35 MB file limit, and any request larger than 35 MB was manually gathered by CalGEM staff and shared with requestors.

Q: Is there an instruction manual that gives the information provided in this webinar?

A: We have resources on the CalGEM Online Data webpage found here: https://www.conservation.ca.gov/calgem/Online_Data. Resources include a CalGEM Online Data Reference Guide and YouTube Tutorials that can help you navigate the tools discussed today.

Q: Is there a legend or place where you can find the definitions of well types? For example, how is an active well defined (level of production, etc.)?

A: Yes, well Status definitions can be found in the Glossary of the Well Information dashboard.

You can view these two resources for well definitions:

<https://www.conservation.ca.gov/calgem/maps/Documents/GIS-metadata-ReadMe.pdf>

<https://www.conservation.ca.gov/calgem/Documents/WellFinderHelp-pdfua-ADA.pdf?csf=1>

Q: Do the pre and post 2018 file request links also include injection data?

A: Yes, it does.

Q: How do you do a web-GIS link to the Well Finder map for ArcGIS &/or other interpretive software?

We have map services (REST) available that you can load into mapping software. Well Finder currently does not have the functionality to ingest and display user-supplied data. This functionality will be considered for future application development.

Q: Is there a way to export these lists to excel?

A: Currently, you can export to excel in Well Finder and WellSTAR.

Q: Is there a way to clear your well records search? I've accidentally requested the same file multiple time because it includes my past requests when I search for new data.

A: Department of Conservation IT team is looking further into this.

Q: Is there a way to export latitude and longitude of wells that have been stimulated?

A: Yes.

Q: can you add a feature to allow export of info from the data dashboard once you've filtered for certain parameters (e.g., oil field and time period)?

A: Yes. we are developing that feature.

Q: If I wanted to find the approved frac gradient for a UIC project what would be the easiest way to go about finding it? Also, is there anywhere I can find the most recent PAL for UIC projects?

A: If you view the project and change the view to injection wells, there is a base and operational MASP displayed in the grid as well as the pool frac gradient per well.

Q: Are we able to re watch this workshop.

A: Yes, recording of a workshop will be made available on DOC's YouTube channel, once it is made ADA compliant.

Q: Any plans of having an API? (Application Programming Interface)

A: (GIS) Map services can be used as API to query data. You can find the services on the state geoportal (<https://gis-california.opendata.arcgis.com/search?collection=Dataset&q=calgem%20>) or through the GIS mapping page (<https://www.conservation.ca.gov/calgem/maps/Pages/GISMapping2.aspx>).

Q: Do the pre and post 2018 files request links also include injection data?

A: Yes it does.

Q: can you add a feature to allow export of info from the data dashboard once you've filtered for certain parameters (e.g., oil field and time period)?

A: We can pass along this request/feedback.

Q: I'd really like the 'Add Data' button to be included on the Well Finder site. It would help jurisdictions add local data on top of this, for a quick visual. Any idea if you would consider adding this?

A: (GIS) This functionality will be considered for developing the next version of Well Finder application.

Q: What would cause inconsistencies between the WellStar Data Dashboard and the CalGEM's data file request web page? Which is the more accurate?

A: The data in the dashboard is updated nightly. So that would be more accurate than the excel files provided by the CalGEM Data Request website.

Q: If you want to see documents linked to a well after 2018 (current and back to 2018, not "legacy") how do you do that?

A: <https://wellstar-public.conservation.ca.gov/General/PublicDownloads/Index>

Q: Can you export the well production tables? When does CalGEM expect this tool to be available?

A: We are developing an alternate tool to make that possible.

Q: What is the basis for estimated volumes and why are some of the previous years' volumes still estimated?

A: Estimated production volumes are computed by CalGEM when Operator fail to submit monthly production. The estimated volumes get overwritten with the true volumes when an operator submit missing production volumes.

Q: When you drill down on the water selection, does it say how much is reinjected, or just produced?

A: No, it does not. You will have to view information on water reinjected from the Well Injection Volume page

Q: On the WellSTAR data dashboard under permits, what are the definitions of these categories? denied, active, permitted, cancelled?

A: This can be found under Permit Information from the Data Dashboard, followed by clicking Glossary at the top left corner of the webpage.

Q: How do we access documents prior to when WellStar went live? Will they be uploaded later?

A: These can be accessed through the file request server.

Q: I've submitted requests for assistance through the email and phone and received no response?

A: Please email the CalGEM Public Outreach Coordinator and she can help look into your request. christina.jimenez@conservation.ca.gov.

Q: Is there a feature to download the PDF of the full well files and permits?

A: Permits can currently be downloaded through the Well Subject Detail page by changing the view to "permits."

Q: What's the best way to check WellStar for the most recent MIT 1 on file?

A: Access the subject detail page and view the "test" view.

Q: Is there a way to cull all current NOV's into a database? And is there info about orders in WellSTAR that are public now?

A: Currently, there is not a method to cull all current NOV's into a database.

CalGEM Orders webpage:

https://www.conservation.ca.gov/calgem/Pages/Division_Orders.aspx

Q: The File Request Server, at least via Well Record Search, appears to have a file size limit (~25MB?) for automatically sending a requested file. How can larger files be obtained? I've emailed the webmaster requesting several large files without response.

A: Please email the CalGEM Public Outreach Coordinator and she can help look into your request. christina.jimenez@conservation.ca.gov.

Q: Is the FTP site still functional for the WST disclosure database? Could you go over how to open the files?

A: They are BAK files that have to be opened with Microsoft SQL.

Q: Can lease lines be viewed on the map?

A: (GIS) Lease boundary and the associated spatial and non-spatial information for CalGEM is not readily available at this time. We will consider incorporating the data when the data becomes available.

Q: Are we able to download production volume by lease?

A: This is being considered as a future enhancement.

Q: I noticed that the Pre 2018 Historic Production data goes back to 1977. Is pre-1977 well production accessible?

A: This information can be found at the following link

<https://www.conservation.ca.gov/calgem/Pages/Pre1977ProductionandInjectionScannedDocuments.aspx>

Q: What is a Spud Date?

A: The spud date is the date drilling operations started.

Q: Are you able to export the data in the grid?

A: Yes, you can export data in the grip by using the Export feature in Action. The Actions button is found beside Advanced Filtering on the grid.

Q: Is it only searchable by County? What about by municipality?

A: Yes, only searchable by County.

Q: Can you summarize specific categories status changes such as idle to plugged?

A: You can find a glossary of terms [here](#).

Q: When using the Request Record link...if I use this one time, then I go to find another well and click on Request Record again, it still shows my previous requested file, and then ends up resending me the first selection as well as the current selection. When I hit Clear Filter, this does not reset the request records list of wells requested.

A: Department of Conservation IT team is looking further into this.

Q: What is the criteria for becoming an "ABD" field?

A: The field abandonment will typically follow decommissioning regulation, which in most cases will require total disconnection of all wells and decommissioning of associated facilities (see CCR section 1726.10, for example, for UGS.) Once the district engineers carry out the final inspections, they then update the WellSTAR status.

Q: Why missing 2019 data in Well Prod Vol?

A: 2019 data is in the Well production dataset and will be pulled into the Annual production at the end of 2021.

Q: What is the difference between the "Gas" and "Gas Withdrawn" tabs?

A: Gas is produced. Withdrawn gas is related to Underground Gas Storage Projects. (What is the difference between the "Gas" and "Gas Withdrawn" tabs?)

Q: Can we export from the WellSTAR data dashboard? What is the best way to export data from the Dashboard?

A: Not at the moment, but our team is working on making that feature available soon.

Q: Is SB1281 data being integrated into these applications? The SB 1281 reports page is really out of date. Where can we find the latest data?

A: The public currently has access to this data in an aggregated format through WellSTAR under tools and online forms. And, the project review status and PAL Date on the UIC public WellSTAR are not available in an aggregated table to be queried.

Q: Is there a dataset of violations for download?

A: At this time no, but the team is looking into this.

Q: Is there a way to download Status Date for all wells? It looks like it's not included in the "All Wells" csv. Or can this be downloaded directly from the dashboard?

A: (GIS) Shapefile and CSV downloads from GIS does not include date stamps for well status change. These datasets are updated nightly and are capturing snapshots of WellSTAR database. Well status change history can be found on WellSTAR.

Q: How long does it typically take to receive well records after requesting them?

A: Staff manually gather the data requested and provide it to the inquirer. Response time can vary depending on the record requested.

Q: For UIC projects, can you query for project review status? PAL date? etc?

A: When searching UIC data (<https://wellstar-public.conservacion.ca.gov/UicProject/UicProject/Index>), you can use the Search box to search. There is also a gear function for advanced filtering, including project type, status, and description. The project review status and Pal Date on the UIC public WellSTAR are not available in an aggregated table which can be queried.

Q: For abandonments in the LA Basin, specifically in an urban area, is there a way to get an NOI for abandonment submitted in WellSTAR without CEQA information? As in, CEQA documentation is in process, but has not been completed. Is CalGEM able to act as the CEQA Lead Agency?

A: CalGEM would wait for the City/County to finish their review, recognizing their authority as lead agency. It is the operator's responsibility to obtain all required permits from the local agency before submitting a permit request to CalGEM and before commencing work. Our CEQA Compliance NTO 2019-16 outlines that the operator is required to get their permit from the city/county (if they issue one) prior to applying for one from CalGEM. The CEQA Information step in WellSTAR also asks if the local agency issues a permit and requests a copy of that permit.

Q: Are there field-level reserves data available?

A: No.

Q: Or is there a way to aggregate records just by violations?

A: At this time no, but the team is looking into this.

Q: In the monthly well volumes, when the record indicates Estimated, how is that estimate made and when will those values be converted to updated. I have noticed that there are a lot of estimated values in 2019 and 2020 data.

A: Estimated production volumes are computed by CalGEM when an Operator fails to submit monthly production. The estimated volumes get overwritten with the true volumes when an operator submits production volume data.