

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: (Public Agency).
County of Imperial
Planning & Development Services
801 Main Street
El Centro, CA 92243

County Clerk
County of Imperial
940 Main Street
El Centro, CA 92243

13-2024-039

FILED
IMPERIAL COUNTY
Jun 07 2024

CHUCK STOREY, County Clerk

By Michelle Umalla
Deputy Clerk

Project Title Hell's Kitchen Geothermal (HKG) – R&D Mineral Pilot Work

Project Applicant: Controlled Thermal Resources (CTR)

Project Location – Specific:
7903 Davis Road, 3.6 miles southwest of Niland, California (APN 020-010-012-000)

Project Location – City: Niland Project Location – County: Imperial

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project

Hell's Kitchen Geothermal, LLC (a subsidiary of Controlled Thermal Resources) requests an extension of NOE #23-0035 of 90 days, from May 2024 to July 2024, for their decommissioning activities. During the decommissioning period, HKG may operate specialized units to complete any outstanding direct lithium extraction (DLE) tests with conditioned brine produced and stored during normal operations. In addition, CTR is requesting another NOE to store well testing equipment for up to 12 months, which, according to their application document is "critical to the stage 1 commercial plant onsite"

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Imperial County Planning and Development Services

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Diana Robinson, Planning Division Manager

Exempt Status: (check one):

- Ministerial (Sec 21080(b)(1), 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number.** 15306
- Statutory Exemptions, State Code Number:**

POSTED

JUN 07 2024

**Imperial County Clerk-Recorder
California**

Reasons why project is exempt:

The pilot project consisted on validating engineering models and optimizing mineral extraction, with a particular emphasis on lithium. The pilot project is situated of the mineral extraction geothermal brine at Well Pad #1 (pursuant to G#16-0001). This project is exempt as it consisted of data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. It was for information gathering purposes. The extension of 90 days to decommission site and the requested 12-month extension for storage would not constitute a significant impact to the environment

Lead Agency _____ Area Code/ Telephone Extension: 442-265-1736
Contact Person: Jim Minnick

If filed by applicant:

- 1 Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature Sor [Signature] Date: 6-6-2024 Title: ICPDS Director

S:\Users\APN\020101012\IS24-0023\IS24-0023 NOE Hell's Kitchen Pilot 05-06-24 docx

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code
Reference Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152 1, Public Resources Code

Date Received for Filing at OPR _____