

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113 13-2024-058
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

FILED
IMPERIAL COUNTY
Aug 27 2024

CHUCK STOREY, County Clerk

By 
Deputy Clerk

POSTED

AUG 27 2024

Imperial County Clerk-Recorder
California

Project Title: Hell's Kitchen Geothermal 2D & 3D Salton Sea seismic surveys

Project Applicant: Controlled Thermal Resources (CTR)

Project Location – Specific:

From the southeast playa of the Salton Sea to approximately 1.5 miles east of Hwy 111 on Simpson Road, then back to 2 miles west of Niland then 1.3 miles northwest of Hwy 111, with an area of approximately 22,320 acres.

Project Location – City: Unincorporated Project Location – County: Imperial

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The proposed combined 2D/3D seismic reflection survey represents the best available technology for mapping subsurface geology attributes that must be understood to target directional drilling for geothermal brine extraction for the Hell's Kitchen Geothermal (CUP#21-0020) Project. The proposed discharges are associated with drilling for shot holes needed to generate the controlled seismic source of energy for the combined survey. The approximate date for survey work is October 1, 2024, to be completed by February 15, 2025.

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: _____
 Statutory Exemptions, State Code
 Number: 15271

Reasons why project is exempt:

The survey project is exempt pursuant to Section 15271 as follows: "CEQA does not apply to actions undertaken by a public agency relating to any thermal power plant site or facility, including the expenditure, obligation, or encumbrance of funds by a public agency for planning, engineering, or design purposes, or for the conditional sale or purchase of equipment, fuel, water (except groundwater), steam, or power for such a thermal power plant, if the thermal power plant site and related facility will be the subject of an EIR or negative declaration or other document or documents prepared pursuant to a regulatory program certified pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080.5..." These surveys may serve as basis for future projects, which would trigger environmental review.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Jim Minnick

Area Code/

Telephone Extension:

442-265-1736

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:  Date: 8/23/24 Title: ICPDS Director

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Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for Filing at OPR: _____

Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.