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## State Water Resources Control Board

### **Notice of Board Meeting** **Proposed Aquifer Exemption for the Kern River Oil Field in Kern County**

The State Water Resources Control Board will consider adoption of a resolution during the June 16, 2026 Board meeting related to the proposed aquifer exemption for the Kern River Oil Field, located in Kern County, California. If adopted, the resolution will direct State Water Board staff to issue a final concurrence letter to the Oil and Gas Supervisor of the California Geologic Energy Management Division (CalGEM) supporting approval of the proposed aquifer exemption by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA). Additional information about this project is provided below.

#### **Participation Options**

##### Review the Available Documents

Review the aquifer exemption documents through the following link. Physical copies of the available documents may be mailed to you upon request by contacting staff as described below.

[Oil and Gas Monitoring Program - Aquifer Exemptions | California State Water Resources Control Board](#)

##### Attend the Public Meeting

A Board Meeting agenda will be available 10 days before the meeting at [www.waterboards.ca.gov/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/).

- Participate in person to observe or provide a comment:  
1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814
- Submit an online speaker card if you wish to provide a public comment at the Board meeting in person or remotely: [bit.ly/speaker-card-form](https://bit.ly/speaker-card-form). The form accepts responses a few days prior to the Board meeting. The Board Clerk will provide instructions to join Zoom in advance of the meeting. For more information about participating remotely at a Board meeting, please visit [bit.ly/providingcomments](https://bit.ly/providingcomments).
- For those who only wish to watch the meeting, the webcast remains available at either [youtube.com/user/BoardWebSupport](https://youtube.com/user/BoardWebSupport) or [video.calepa.ca.gov](https://video.calepa.ca.gov) (closed captioning available) and should be used UNLESS you intend to comment.

### Submit Written Comments

Written comments on the Kern River Aquifer Exemption must be received by **12:00pm (noon) on April 20, 2026**. Comments received after this time and date may not be considered.

Staff will not respond to comments received during this comment period in writing. The documents noted above were subject to public comment from November 6 through December 22, 2025 in connection with a joint public hearing held by CalGEM and the State Water Board in Bakersfield, California on December 9, 2025. Public comment summaries and responses from that comment period are available as described herein.

Please email your written comments in PDF format to [commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov) and include Kern River Aquifer Exemption in the subject line. You may also mail or hand deliver your written comments to the following address:

State Water Resources Control Board  
Attention: Courtney Tyler, Clerk to the Board  
P.O. Box 100, Sacramento, CA 95812-0100 (by mail)  
1001 I Street, 24<sup>th</sup> Floor Sacramento, CA 95814 (hand delivery)

### **Language Services**

This meeting will be offered in English. To request translation of a written document, interpretation services for the meeting, or sign language services please use one of the following options at least ten (10) business days before the meeting, if possible, by June 5, 2026:

- Submit an online request: [bit.ly/LanguageAccessForm](https://bit.ly/LanguageAccessForm)
- Call (916) 341-5254
- Email [languageservices@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:languageservices@waterboards.ca.gov)

Contact us to request information in your language.

Contáctenos para solicitar información en su idioma.

Свяжитесь с нами, чтобы запросить информацию на вашем языке.

귀하의 언어로 작성된 정보를 요청하려면 저희에게 문의하십시오.

ਆਪਣੇ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਸਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

Makipag-ugnayan sa amin para humiling ng impormasyon sa iyong wika.

### **Accessibility & Reasonable Accommodations**

Users of a Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) may contact the California Relay Service at (800) 735-2929 or the teletype (TTY) voice line at (800) 735-2922.

Any person who requires a reasonable accommodation to participate in the meeting should email [contact@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:contact@waterboards.ca.gov) or call (916) 341-5254, at least ten (10) business days prior to the meeting. Learn more about accessibility within Zoom at [www.zoom.com/en/accessibility](http://www.zoom.com/en/accessibility).

### **Building and Parking Information**

- Directions to the Joe Serna, Jr. (CalEPA) Building and public parking information: <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/headquarters-sacramento/location/>.
- Visitors to the CalEPA Building are required to sign in and obtain a badge at the Visitor Services Center located just inside the main entrance on 10th Street.
- Please allow 5 to 10 minutes to receive security clearance

### **Background**

On January 16, 2017, the California Geologic Energy Management Division (CalGEM) provided the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) with a proposal to expand the aquifer exemption for the Kern River Formation of the Kern River Oil Field for Class II injection. On September 28, 2020, CalGEM provided a revised proposal to also include oil-bearing portions of the Chanac Formation. The Operator, Chevron, provided an additional revised application dated March 26, 2025 (Revised Proposal) which included updated aquifer exemption boundaries and a conduit analysis.

State Water Board staff, in consultation with Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board staff, reviewed the Revised Proposal and determined that criteria set forth in California Public Resources Code section (§) 3131 and § 146.4 of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations were met.

On May 14, 2025, State Water Board staff preliminarily concurred with the proposal for the exemption of oil-bearing portions of the Kern River and Upper Chanac Formations below the 'C' (Capping) Silt (C-Silt). On December 9, 2025, CalGEM and State Water Board conducted a joint public hearing in connection with a 45-day public comment period. A link to the joint CalGEM and State Water Board Public Comment Summaries and Responses document is included in this notice, with full public comments available from CalGEM upon request at <https://www.conservation.ca.gov/index/Pages/publicrecords.aspx>.

### **Stay Informed**

Subscribe to receive email notifications at <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CAWRCB/subscriber/new>.

Enter your email address and password, then select the submit button. If this is your first time subscribing to a Water Boards email subscription list, you will have to register and create a password then select the Oil & Gas Groundwater Monitoring program under the Water Quality tab.

Any person interested in receiving additional information about this Oil & Gas Groundwater Monitoring, including any change to the date, time, or meeting location in this public notice, should subscribe to the email distribution list.

**Contact Information**

- Staff contact: Linsey Moore at [Linsey.Moore@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Linsey.Moore@waterboards.ca.gov)
- Program contact: Forest Kan at [Forest.Kan@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Forest.Kan@waterboards.ca.gov)
- Website: <https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/oil-gas/>

March 6, 2026

Date

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Courtney Tyler". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Courtney Tyler  
Clerk to the Board