



PUBLIC NOTICE: 15-DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

The California Department of Conservation, Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources (“Division”), in consultation with the State Water Resources Control Board and the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (collectively “Water Boards”), is opening a 15-day supplemental comment period to receive public input regarding new information added to the proposal to expand the current aquifer exemption designation for the Dollie sands of the Pismo formation in the Arroyo Grande Oil Field in unincorporated San Luis Obispo County (the “Arroyo Grande Aquifer Exemption Proposal”). The new information being made available for public comment consists of additional data supporting the proposal, and related modifications to the originally-proposed aquifer exemption boundary. This supplemental public comment period follows two previous invitations for public comment regarding the Arroyo Grande Aquifer Exemption Proposal: (1) a 30-day comment period beginning August 20, 2015, regarding the proposal as originally developed, and (2) a 15-day supplemental comment period beginning December 2, 2015, regarding a first batch of additional information prepared in support of the proposal. With concurrence from the State Water Resources Control Board, on February 8, 2016, the Division submitted the Arroyo Grande Aquifer Exemption Proposal to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (“US EPA”) for review and approval. After reviewing the proposal, the US EPA requested additional supporting data on certain issues. In response, the Division developed the information now being presented for public comment. Subject to approval by the US EPA, the Arroyo Grande Aquifer Exemption Proposal would allow the State, in compliance with the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, to approve Class II injection into the identified area, either for enhanced oil recovery or for injection disposal of fluids associated with oil and gas production. The Division invites written comments to be submitted by email to Comments@conservation.ca.gov; by facsimile (FAX) to (916) 324-0948; by mail to: Department of Conservation, 801 K Street, MS 24-02, Sacramento, CA 95814, ATTN: Aquifer Exemption – Arroyo Grande. The written comment period closes at 5 pm on December 22, 2017, and the Department will not consider any comments received at the Department’s offices after that time.

The new information that is the subject of this notice, as well as information previously made available, including the complete Arroyo Grande Aquifer Exemption Proposal, can be accessed at www.conservation.ca.gov/dog/Pages/Aquifer_Exemptions.aspx or obtained from the local Division Office, 195 S. Broadway, Ste 101, Orcutt, CA 93455 or by contacting Jon Iverson, 805-937-7246.

Signed: Patricia A. Abel, District Deputy