

Summary of Regulatory Agencies

Numerous federal, state, regional, and local agencies regulate oil wells and production facilities, including: California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), California Water Boards (RWQCB), California Department of Conservation Geologic Energy Management Division (CalGEM), California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), California Occupational Safety and Health Administration (CalOSHA), Department of Transportation (USDOT), Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), Governor's Office of Emergency (Cal OES), Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD), and State Fire Marshall. In addition to the Department of Regional Planning (DRP), County agencies include the Fire Department, Department of Public Health (DPH), and Public Works (PW). The following is a partial list of regulatory agencies and areas of oversight:

Regulatory Agencies and Areas of Oversight											
	USEPA	USDOT	OSHA/CalOSHA	CalGEM	RWQCB or DTSC	Cal OES	Caltrans	State Fire Marshall	SCAQMD	DPH	County Fire Department (including CUPA)
Emergency Response, Conducting Drills, etc...								x			x
Hazardous Materials Spills	x				x						x
Inspections of Facilities for Code Compliance	x		x	x					x		x
Noise and Vibration										x	
Odor									x	x	
Pipeline Transport of Hazardous Materials								x			
Preparation of Emergency Response and Hazardous Materials Plans						x					x
Site Contamination	x				x						x
Spill Cleanup	x				x	x					x
Storm Water Discharges					x						
Toxic and Hazardous Materials Emissions	x								x		
Truck Transport of Hazardous Materials		x					x				
Worker Safety/Workplace Conditions			x								

CalGEM is the primary agency in California that regulates oil wells and production facilities. CalGEM is responsible for regulations from several California Codes including: Civil Code, Code of Civil Procedure, Government Code, Health and Safety Code, Public Resources Code, Public Utilities Code, and Water Code. Within the last five years, CalGEM updated their operations and regulations, including establishing a dedicated

office for enforcement and an idle well testing and closure program. CalGEM is in the process of updating rules for public health, pipelines, and underground gas storage.

The State Water Boards are responsible for protecting the above and below ground water resources of California and regulates potential groundwater contamination sources, sumps, and storage ponds. SCAQMD regulates air quality, including emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), toxic air contaminants (TAC) emissions and Total Organic Compounds (TOC) from oil wells and production facilities.

In addition to DRP, other County agencies that regulate oil wells and production facilities include the Fire Department, DPH, and PW. The Fire Department requires a permit for oil wells, inspects sites annually, has oversight over hazardous materials, requires setbacks for buildings and occupancy, and responds in an emergency. DPH's Environmental Health Division is responsible for health, safety, and environmental protection, including noise, vibration, and odors. PW oversees the Office of Oil and Gas and Environmental Programs Division. PW's Environmental Programs Division is responsible for the protection of buildings from methane and other gas hazards in compliance with the Building Code.