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8 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**  
9 **NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY**  
10 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION**  
11 **GEOLOGIC ENERGY MANAGEMENT DIVISION**

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14 **ORDER TO PAY A CIVIL PENALTY AND PERFORM REMEDIAL WORK**  
15 **NO. 1610**  
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18 **Operator: Aera Energy, LLC (A0610)**  
19 **Field Name: Cymric, Lost Hills, Midway-Sunset, North Belridge, and South Belridge**  
20 **County: Kern**  
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1 **I. Introduction**

2 The State Oil and Gas Supervisor (**Supervisor**), acting through the Geologic Energy  
3 Management Division (**CalGEM**), and under the authority of Division 3 of the Public Resources  
4 Code (**PRC**; commencing with PRC section 3000) and title 14 of the California Code of  
5 Regulations (**Regulations**), may impose a civil penalty on a person who violates any statutory  
6 provision of the PRC, or any regulation that implements those statutory provisions. (PRC, §  
7 3236.5.)

8 Based on CalGEM's records, Aera Energy, LLC (**Operator**) is the "operator" (as defined  
9 in PRC, § 3009) and is responsible for the Wells and associated Production Facilities identified  
10 on **Attachment A**, incorporated herein (the "**Wells**" and "**Facilities**"). As described in more  
11 detail below, Operator has not maintained compliance with applicable requirements for  
12 operation of the Wells and the Facilities. Operator's failure to comply with the Regulations  
13 poses a potential threat to life, health, property, and natural resources and constitute  
14 violations requiring remedial work and for which the Supervisor has determined imposition of a  
15 civil penalty is appropriate. Therefore, pursuant to PRC sections 3013, 3106, 3224, 3225, 3226,  
16 3236.5, and 3270, and Regulations section 1777, the Supervisor is ordering Operator to (1)  
17 perform remedial work to bring the Well and Facilities into compliance; and (2) pay an  
18 administrative civil penalty for the violations.

19 **Attachment B**, incorporated herein, contains a list of definitions and authorities that are  
20 applicable to this Order.

21 **II. Alleged Acts and Omissions**

22 Based on CalGEM's records, at all times relevant to this Order, Operator was the  
23 operator, as defined in PRC section 3009, of the Wells and Facilities. During the months of  
24 December 2024 and January, February, March, April, June, July, August, September, and  
25 October 2025, CalGEM conducted inspections of the Wells and Facilities where the violations  
26 described below were observed and documented in the North Belridge, South Belridge,  
27 Cymric, Lost Hills, and Midway-Sunset Fields. (**Attachments C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P,**

1 **Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z, AA, AB, AC, AD, AE, AF, AG, AH, AI, AJ, AK, AL, AM, AN, AO, AP, AQ,**  
 2 **AR, AS, and AT,** incorporated herein.)

3 CalGEM records reflect Operator has not maintained compliance with applicable  
 4 requirements for operation of the Wells and the Facilities. Operator's lack of adherence to  
 5 Regulations poses a potential threat to life, health, property, and natural resources. The  
 6 violations at issue are identified below.

7 **A. Failure to maintain production facilities in good condition and in a manner to prevent**  
 8 **leakage or corrosion. (Regulations, § 1777, subd. (a).)**

9 Operators are required to maintain production facilities in good condition and in a  
 10 manner to prevent leakage or corrosion and to safeguard life, health, property, and natural  
 11 resources and conduct operations in accordance with good oilfield practices. (Regulations, §  
 12 1777, subd. (a).) Production facilities include wellheads. (PRC, § 3010; Regulations, § 1760,  
 13 subd. (r).)

14 During its inspections, CalGEM observed a liquid leak at the following wellheads,  
 15 indicating that the wells were not being maintained in a good condition and in a manner to  
 16 prevent leakage or corrosion, in violation of the Regulations, section 1777, subdivision (a):

API	Well Designation	Violation Status
0403038640	Lost Hills Govt. 4316	Resolved
0403060560	Marina 3176B-10	Resolved
0403005646	Belridge 3139-11	Resolved
0403051785	Marina 3350A-3	Resolved
0403043074	Marina 3416B-3	Resolved
0403006243	Anderson-Goodwin H114	Resolved
0403044661	Marina 3152A-10	Resolved
0403029181	Fitzgerald 6215	Resolved
0403018559	Marina 3231-10	Resolved
0403008100	Neely X110	Resolved

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0403051939	521H2-1	Resolved
0403067296	Belridge I 3143A-2	Resolved
0403018560	Marina 3258-10	Resolved
0403063381	Marina 3213-10	Resolved
0403063377	Marina 3184-10	Resolved
0402945986	Belridge III 40R-3	Resolved
0403024258	Belridge 3125A-11	Resolved
0403003306	Marina 3029-10	Resolved
0403065707	Young Estate S 3574-11	Active
0402986865	Bolivar 1C	Resolved
0403002093	Marina 3576-3	Active
0403050825	Belridge V 7386G-2	Resolved
0403051180	25G-20	Resolved
0403057082	14G-20	Resolved
0403060573	SEBU T 3298B-12	Active
0403065934	Lost Hills One 7140A-4	Active
0403033275	DTR 548THZL-33	Resolved
0403005685	Marina 3342A-3	Resolved
0403024313	DTR 917L-28	Resolved
0402929602	Unspecified 9-27	Resolved
0403066181	Unspecified 931RR-33	Active
0403064927	Unspecified 87-12	Resolved
0403046452	Dow Chanslor F-5	Active
0403053915	T.O.L. 4587	Active
0403053906	T.O.L. 4536	Active
0403053912	T.O.L. 4584	Resolved

0403053910	T.O.L. 4562	Active
0403053992	T.O.L. 4608	Resolved
0403053905	T.O.L. 4512	Resolved
0403066137	T.O.L. TOL4582R-12	Resolved
0403033717	Belridge 3228B-11	Resolved
0403063672	Belridge 3276A-11	Resolved
0403058716	Unspecified 83E-12	Resolved
0403003368	United 8012	Active
0403003370	United 8014	Active
0403067342	Emily Hopkins 16S-7	Resolved
0403052714	Unspecified 564D5-35	Active
0402961932	Anderson 6	Resolved
0403001378	Anderson F3	Resolved
0403068248	Anderson-Fitzgerald 7308A-26S	Resolved
0403063192	Unspecified 949G-35	Resolved
0403053907	T.O.L. 4537	Resolved

According to CalGEM records, 40 of these violations have been remediated by Operator. As of the date of this Order, CalGEM does not have any records from Operator demonstrating that the outstanding 12 violations have been addressed or remediated.

**B. Failure to Keep Well Cellar Drained. (Regulations, § 1777, subd. (c)(3).)**

The well cellar is an excavated area around the wellhead that provides space for equipment at the top of the wellbore. Operators are required to keep well cellars drained. (Regulations, § 1777, subd. (c)(3).)

During the inspection, CalGEM observed fluids in the well cellar, in violation of Regulations, section 1777, subd. (c)(3), at the following Well:

API	Well Designation	Violation Status
0403003370	United 8014	Active
0402979056	Lost Hills Two T-353	Resolved

According to CalGEM records, one of the violations has been resolved. As of the date of this Order, CalGEM does not have any records from Operator demonstrating that the remaining violation has been remediated.

**Civil Penalty/Remedial Work**

**A. Civil Penalty**

Based on the foregoing Alleged Acts and Omissions and pursuant to PRC section 3236.5, by this Order the Supervisor imposes on Operator an administrative civil penalty totaling thirty-eight thousand eighty dollars (\$38,080.00) for the 54 violations.

Violation Description	Number of Violations	Associated Civil Penalty per Violation	Civil Penalty Totals
Failure to Keep Well Cellar Drained (Regulations, § 1777, subd. (c)(3).) 0403003370	1	\$300	\$300
Failure to Keep Well Cellar Drained (Regulations, § 1777, subd. (c)(3).) 0402979056	1	\$280	\$280
Failure to Maintain Production Facilities in Good Condition and in a Manner to Prevent Leakage or Corrosion; Leaking Wellheads (Regulations, § 1777, subd. (a).) 0403050825 / 0403001378	2	\$500	\$1,000
Failure to Maintain Production Facilities in Good Condition and in a Manner to Prevent Leakage or Corrosion; Leaking Wellheads (Regulations, § 1777, subd. (a).) 0403044661 / 0403067296 / 0403063381 0403063377 / 0402945986 / 0403051180 0403033275 / 0403005685 / 0403064927	9	\$600	\$5,400
Failure to Maintain Production Facilities in Good Condition and in a Manner to	6	\$650	\$3,900

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Prevent Leakage or Corrosion; Leaking Wellheads (Regulations, § 1777, subd. (a).) 0403051939 / 0403018560 / 0402986865 0403066137 / 0403063192 / 0403053907			
Failure to Maintain Production Facilities in Good Condition and in a Manner to Prevent Leakage or Corrosion; Leaking Wellheads (Regulations, § 1777, subd. (a).) 0403038640 / 0403005646 / 0403051785 0403043074 / 0403006243 / 0403018559 0403003306 / 0403057082 / 0403060573 0403053910 / 0403033717 / 0403058716 0403003368 / 0403067342 / 0403052714 0402961932	16	\$700	\$11,200
Failure to Maintain Production Facilities in Good Condition and in a Manner to Prevent Leakage or Corrosion; Leaking Wellheads (Regulations, § 1777, subd. (a).) 0403002093 / 0403053915 0403053906 / 0403053912 0403063672	5	\$750	\$3,750
Failure to Maintain Production Facilities in Good Condition and in a Manner to Prevent Leakage or Corrosion; Leaking Wellheads (Regulations, § 1777, subd. (a).) 0403024258 / 0402929602	2	\$800	\$1,600
Failure to Maintain Production Facilities in Good Condition and in a Manner to Prevent Leakage or Corrosion; Leaking Wellheads (Regulations, § 1777, subd. (a).) 0403065934 / 0403024313 / 0403046452 0403053992 / 0403053905 / 0403003370 0403068248 / 0403066181	8	\$850	\$6,800
Failure to Maintain Production Facilities in Good Condition and in a Manner to Prevent Leakage or Corrosion; Leaking Wellheads (Regulations, § 1777, subd. (a).) 0403060560 / 0403029181 / 0403008100	3	\$950	\$2,850

Failure to Maintain Production Facilities in Good Condition and in a Manner to Prevent Leakage or Corrosion; Leaking Wellheads (Regulations, § 1777, subd. (a).) 0403065707	1	\$1,000	\$1,000
		<b>Total Civil Penalty:</b>	\$38,080.00

For purposes of this Order, the Supervisor considered relevant circumstances when establishing the amount of the administrative civil penalty, including characterizing the violations as “minor” (as defined in PRC section 3236.5, subdivision (b)), and evaluating the eight factors identified in PRC section 3236.5, subdivision (a).

**B. Remedial Work**

Pursuant to PRC sections 3224 and 3226, the Supervisor hereby orders Operator to complete remedial work to come into compliance with Regulations section 1777, as outlined below in Operator’s Required Actions.

**III. Operator’s Required Actions**

For the reasons stated herein, pursuant to PRC sections 3013, 3106, 3224, 3225, 3226, 3236.5, and 3270, and Regulations section 1777, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that within 30 days, Operator:

- 1) Pay an administrative civil penalty of thirty-eight thousand eighty dollars (\$38,080.00); and

To remit payment of the civil penalty online, please visit <https://www.govone.com/PAYCAL/Home/SelectAgency> and select “California Department of Conservation Geologic Energy Management Division,” then follow the instructions on the screen. When filling out the “order number” field, please type the order number followed by the letter “O.”

To remit payment of the civil penalty by mail, please send a check payable to “Department of Conservation” to the following address:

Department of Conservation  
 CalGEM, Attn: Operational Management Unit  
 715 P Street, MS 1803  
 Sacramento, California 95814

Please include the Operator name, Order number, and phrase "Oil and Gas Environmental Remediation Account" on the check itself.

2) In accordance with PRC section 3224 and Regulations section 1777 Operator is required to:

a. Repair the wellheads at the following Wells in a manner to prevent leakage or corrosion:

API	Well Designation
0403052714	Unspecified 564D5-35
0403003368	United 8012
0403003370	United 8014
0403046452	Dow Chanslor F-5
0403053915	T.O.L. 4587
0403053906	T.O.L. 4536
0403053910	T.O.L. 4562
0403066181	Unspecified 931RR-33
0403060573	SEBU T 3298B-12
0403065934	Lost Hills One 7140A-4
0403002093	Marina 3576-3
0403065707	Young Estate S 3574-11

b. Drain the well cellar at the following Well:

API	Well Designation
0403003370	United 8014



1 any person who violates, fails, neglects, or refuses to comply with any of the provisions of the  
2 oil and gas conservation laws commencing at PRC section 3000. PRC sections 3236.2 and  
3 3236.3 authorize the Supervisor to seek for civil penalties and injunctive relief for failure to  
4 comply with an order or for violations of any provision in Chapter 1 of Division 3 of the PRC or  
5 any regulation that implements those statutes. PRC section 3236.5 authorizes the Supervisor to  
6 impose a civil penalty on a person who violates any provision in Chapter 1 of Division 3 of the  
7 PRC or any regulation that implements those statutes, and the Supervisor may in the future  
8 impose further civil penalties based on the facts and omissions underlying this order. PRC  
9 section 3237 authorizes the Supervisor to order the plugging and abandonment of a well or  
10 the decommissioning of a production facility if an operator has failed to comply with an order  
11 of the Supervisor within the time provided by the order or has failed to challenge the order on  
12 a timely basis. PRC section 3359 makes it a misdemeanor to fail or neglect to comply with an  
13 order of the Supervisor. Each day's further failure, refusal, or neglect is a separate and distinct  
14 offense. (PRC, § 3359.) By issuance of this Order, the Supervisor does not waive the right to take  
15 further enforcement actions.

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DATED: 3/30/2026

Doug Ito  
Doug Ito, State Oil and Gas  
Supervisor