LINDBERG GEOLOGIC CONSULTING David N. Lindberg, CEG Post Office Box 306 Cutten California 95534 (707) 442-6000

October 17, 2022

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Project No: 0449.00

Mr. Kevin Borque Post Office Box 610 Fortuna, California 95540

Subject: Hydrologic Isolation of Well WCR2017-004824 from Surface Waters French Road, Bear Buttes, Miranda APN: 214-234-006

To Whom It May Concern:

As requested, Lindberg Geologic Consulting has assessed an existing permitted well on the abovereferenced parcel to estimate its potential for hydrologic connectivity with any adjacent wetlands and or surface waters, and if pumping well -004824 might affect nearby surface waters. The nearest tributaries in the vicinity of this well are Coon Creek, Butte Creek, and Leggett Creek(Figure 1).

A California-Certified Engineering Geologist visited this site on June 3, 2022, to observe the subject well and local site conditions. Based on our research, observations, and our professional experience, it is our opinion the subject well has a low likelihood of being hydrologically connected to nearby surface waters in any manner that could affect adjacent springs, wetlands and or surface waters in the vicinity. We define the "vicinity" as the area within a 1,000-foot radius of the subject well, an area of approximately 72 acres. We understand that the proposed use of this well is to irrigate cannabis. We are not aware of the volume of water to be extracted or what the pumping schedule might be but expect that that information is provided elsewhere in the application.

Based on Humboldt County's WebGIS and the Assessor's Parcel Map (Figure 2), parcel 214-234-006 (Figure 2) encompasses approximately 120 acres. Our GPS located the subject well at latitude 40.18647° north, and longitude 123.82525° west (±9'). This well is in Section 22, T3S, R3E, and is 180 feet deep with the wellhead at an elevation of approximately 1,980 feet (Figure 1).

The Humboldt County WebGIS shows three tributaries within one mile of the well site. Coon Creek is more than 1,350 feet to the northeast, Butte Creek is more than 2,700 feet to the west-northwest, and Leggett Creek is more than 2,100 feet to the southwest of the well. As stated, based on interpolation from the USGS "Miranda, Calif." (1970), topographic quadrangle map (Figure 1), and the Humboldt County WebGIS, the well site elevation is 1,980 feet. The elevation of the nearest watercourse, Coon Creek, located 1,350 feet to the northeast of the well site, is 1,600 feet. The elevation of Butte Creek 2,700 feet to the west, is approximately 1,360 feet. The elevation of Leggett Creek, more than 2,100 feet to the southwest, is 2,010 feet. The well bottom elevation of the well is approximately 1,800 feet, making the nearest watercourse, Coon Creek, 200 feet lower than the total depth of the site well.

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Well location is shown approximately on the attached figures, and was drilled by Fisch Drilling, of Hydesville, in September 2017, under Humboldt County well permit #15/16-0857. Fisch Drilling is a licensed well-drilling contractor (C-57 #683865). Fisch Drilling submitted their well completion report (DWR 188) on October 24, 2017 (attached). The driller estimated a yield of 15 gpm on September 25, 2017, based on a 4-hour air lift pump test. Total drawdown during the pump test was reported to be 122 feet, indicating the well was pumped "dry" during the test.

Total drilled depth is 180 feet and borehole diameter is 10-inches from grade to 180-feet. From the surface to 40 feet, a 6-inch diameter blank (unslotted) low carbon steel casing was installed. From 40- to 160-feet, 6-inch diameter low carbon steel, slotted (0.05-inch milled slots) well screen, was installed. From 160- to 180-feet 6-inch blank low carbon steel casing was installed. Per County requirements, a bentonite surface sanitary seal was installed from the surface to 20 feet. Below the bentonite seal, the annulus was backfilled with 3/8-inch pea gravel to total depth. The well is cased and sealed through any potential shallow subsurface aquifers in the uppermost 20 feet as required by county regulation. Depth to first water was reported at 65 feet below the ground surface (bgs), and depth to static water in the completed developed well was reported to be 58 feet bgs when the driller conducted the pump test on September 25, 2017, so the aquifer is slightly artesian.

There are no springs mapped on the USGS topographic map within 4,500 feet of this well. The nearest mapped spring is approximately 4,650 feet east in Section 23 at an elevation of 1,560 feet, in the Hooker Creek headwaters. The next closest spring is more than 5,400 feet southwest at an elevation of 1,400 feet, near the center of Section 27 (Figures 1 and 2). There are no springs mapped within two miles of this well that are higher in elevation than the bottom of the well at 1,800 feet. There is also a small (~0.3 ac.) pond less than 150 feet to the northwest of the site well. This pond appears to only contain water in the 2019 Google Earth satellite imagery (Figure 3).

This parcel is located within California's Coast Range Geomorphic Province, in the Central Belt of the Franciscan Complex (McLaughlin et at., 2000), a seismically active region in which large earthquakes are expected to occur during the economic life span (70 years) of any developments on the subject property. Geologic mapping by McLaughlin, shows that the site is underlain by mélange (cm2) of the Central Belt of the Franciscan Complex, as shown in Figure 4.

According to the NRCS Web Soil Survey, the near-surface soils consist of gravelly loam to a depth of 8-inches, very gravelly loam to 37-inches, and extremely gravelly sandy loam to 79-inches. Soils are interpreted to be uniformly distributed across that portion of the subject parcel underlain by the Central Belt mélange.

Materials reported on the geologic log of the driller's well completion report (attached) include 5feet of "top soil" above 39-feet (5-feet to 44-feet) of "brown fractured sandstone". From 44-feet to 61-feet, "shale" was logged followed by 103-feet (61- to 164-feet) of "hard serpintine sandstone mix". This is the unit where first water was reported by the driller at 65 feet bgs. In the lowermost 16-feet of the well bore, "soft shale" was logged.

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We interpret the upper shale section of the profile in this well, from 44- to 61-feet, to be an aquitard, a material of low permeability and transmissivity. The hard serpentinite-sandstone material below 61 feet is, we expect, fractured and permeable, and is the water producing aquifer material encountered in this well. From 61 feet to 164 feet, we interpret the serpentinite-sandstone unit to be the primary aquifer. Unfractured sandstone typically has higher transmissivity and permeability than shale, and if fractured as hypothesized, then the material would be an even more productive aquifer. At the location of the subject well, the elevation of the first water-bearing aquifer unit is thus approximately 1,915 feet, based the driller's report.

Below the surface, the earth materials encountered in the boring are mélange of the Central Belt Franciscan Complex, as mapped by McLaughlin et al., (2000). Sheared, fractured, and folded metasedimentary rock materials can have highly variable hydraulic conductivity, but can also, under favorable conditions, constitute significant aquifers. We interpret the sequence described by the driller, as lithologies within the central belt mélange (cm1) of the Franciscan Complex. The serpentinite-sandstone section of this profile apparently has favorable hydraulic conductivity, making it, in our interpretation, the primary water bearing unit in this well.

A geologic cross section of the area after McLaughlin et al., (2000) shows the structural and stratigraphic relationships between the regional geologic units (Figure 5). The central belt mélange is shown dipping east and bounded by thrust fault plane contacts. On-site, no dip of the rock units could be observed because they are mantled with soil and colluvium and obscured by vegetation. We interpret the faults in the subsurface to be hydrologic boundaries of reduced permeability (due to grinding and shearing along the fault planes), effectively separating subunits of the Franciscan from each other hydrologically, and limiting groundwater flow between the fault-bound units.

Based on observations, review of pertinent and available information, and our experience, it is our professional opinion that this well has a low potential of having any direct or significant connection to proximal surface waters. First water was encountered at 65 feet, after which the static water level rose to 58 feet bgs. The well is sealed through the upper 20 feet of any potential unconfined, near-surface aquifers with which it might communicate hydraulically through the borehole.

When considered with the stratigraphy, and the underlying geologic structure, plus the distances (horizontal and vertically) from the nearest surface waters, and the depth of the producing zone of this well (~61 to 164 feet), as well as the position of the well relative to the nearest surface waters in the vicinity, we conclude that the depth of the surface seal, combined with the 17 feet of shale, are sufficient to preclude the potential for significant hydraulic connectivity with perennial surface waters, of which there are none closer than 3,800 feet in Coon Creek at an elevation of 920 feet. Thus, the water source from which this well draws appears to be a confined, slightly artesian, subsurface aquifer not demonstrably connected to any nearby surface waters or unconfined, near-surface aquifer(s). This well appears, in our professional opinion, to be hydraulically isolated from nearby wells, surface waters, springs and wetlands.

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According to the driller, the estimated the yield of this well was 15 gallons per minute (gpm) on September 25, 2017. Total drawdown was reported to be 122 feet bgs after Fisch Drilling's four-hour air-lift pump test. The well was pumped dry during the pump test. At 15 gpm, this well would potentially produce 21,600 gallons per day. As noted on the well completion report, this capacity may not be representative of this well's long-term yield. Additional drawdown and recovery testing would be necessary to estimate a sustainable long-term yield of the site well.

This subject well does not appear to be hydrologically connected to, or capable of influencing surface water flows in Coon Creek, Butte Creek, or Leggett Creek. Nor does this well appear to be hydrologically connected to any or ephemeral wetlands. Given the horizontal distances involved, and the elevation differences between the water-producing zone in the subject well, and the surface waters of the nearest watercourses, springs, and ponds, the potential for significant hydrologic connectivity between surface waters and groundwater in the serpentinite-sandstone aquifer appears unlikely. Further, given the apparently limiting condition of the low-transmissivity shale unit above and below the water-bearing serpentinite-sandstone unit, and the artesian pressure in the aquifer, they are unlikely to have significantly hydraulically connection to shallow unconfined aquifers.

As mentioned, on the Miranda USGS topographic quadrangle map, there are no springs mapped in the Section 22. There is a spring in the adjacent Section 23, more than 4,600 feet east of the site well at elevation below 1,560 feet. The second-nearest spring is mapped in Section 27, more than a mile south-southwest of the subject well, at an estimated elevation of 1,400 feet. There are no other significant (mapped) springs or wetlands in the vicinity of this subject well.

We researched the DWR (California Department of Water Resources) database to find other permitted wells within 1,000 feet of the subject well. Based on the information available at the present time, there is one well which meet this criterion. Well number WCR2016-002767 in Section 22, is also on APN 214-234-006 (Figure 3); the driller's report is attached. Well -002767 is more than 1,200 feet north of the subject well at an elevation of 2,020 feet. Well -002767 is downslope and down gradient to the north of the subject well and encountered somewhat different stratigraphy. Well -002767 is a 5.563-inch, 6 gpm well, 250 feet in depth. It is screened from 40 to 250 feet and encountered first water at 21.8 feet. Static water level was 21.8 feet bgs on March 30, 2016. Both the subject well (WCR2016-004824), and well -002767, the nearest well to the subject well, are under the same ownership and control.

As groundwater mimics topography and responds to the force of gravity, in general any near surface unconfined aquifers will flow down slope in a direction subparallel to topography. Based on topography, well -002767 appears to be situated downgradient of the subject well. Groundwater flow in the deeper confined subsurface aquifers in the mélange is likely complex. The ground surface slopes to the northeast; thus the near surface unconfined aquifer flows to the northeast, toward the headwaters of Coon Creek. At the time of our visit the subject well had a pump installed.

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In our professional opinion, it appears that the aquifer tapped by the subject well is recharged by water infiltrating through the soil and bedrock from upslope source areas southwest of the well site. Ephemeral streams in the vicinity of the well also contribute recharge when they flow during runoff generating storm events.

The United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA), Natural Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS), online Web Soil Survey, shows the subject well within soils of the Canoecreek-Coyoterock-Sproulish complex, on slopes of 15 to 50 percent, (#5508, Figure 7), which the NRCS describes as a well-drained soil. The Web Soil Survey's unit description is attached to this report. Mean annual precipitation is listed by the NRCS as 49 to 100 inches per year. Capacity of the most limiting soil layer to transmit water (Ksat) is described as moderately high to high (0.60 to 2.00 in/hr) with a depth to the water table of greater than 80 inches.

If during the wet season, only ten percent of the "low end" precipitation estimation of 49 inches is absorbed by the soils/bedrock and does not flow across the ground surface and into local watercourses (or be lost to evapotranspiration), then approximately 49 acre-feet, or more than 15.9 million gallons of water per year (MGPY), may be expected to recharge the local aquifers beneath this 120-acre subject property. Given the same amount of precipitation (49") and the same 10 percent partitioned to recharge, then within a 1,000-foot radius of the subject well, recharge can be estimated. Recharge within the 72 acres enclosed by a circle having a 1,000-foot radius, would be more than 28 acre-feet, and more than 9.3 MGPY. Our estimates are conservative; United States Geological Survey (USGS) researchers estimate that in northwest California, approximately 33 percent of precipitation goes to recharge (Flint, et al., 2103).

On March 28, 2022, Governor Newsom issued an executive order (N-7-22) relating to the ongoing drought in California. In executive order N-7-22, the governor outlined measures the state will undertake to avoid and ameliorate the negative impacts of the current drought. Among these measures, it was ordered that counties, cities, and other public agencies have been prohibited from approving permits for new groundwater wells (or alteration of existing wells) in basins "subject to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and classified as medium- or high-priority without first obtaining written verification from a Groundwater Sustainability Agency managing the basin or area of the basin where the well is proposed". This well on French Road, near Bear Buttes and Miranda, is not within a basin subject to the Act, and there has been no Groundwater Sustainability Agency established with authority over the area where this permitted well is sited.

The Governor's order states that counties, cities, and other public agencies are prohibited from issuing permits for new groundwater wells (or alteration of existing wells) "without first determining that extraction of groundwater from the proposed well is (1) not likely to interfere with the production and functioning of existing nearby wells, and (2) not likely to cause subsidence that would adversely impact or damage nearby infrastructure". Note that the conditions in the Order, are not applicable to "wells that provide less than two acre-feet per year (650,000+ gallons)

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of groundwater for individual domestic users, or that will exclusively provide groundwater to public water supply systems."

Based on our observations, research, and experience, it is our professional opinion that well WCR2017-004824, on APN 214-234-006, located on French Road, has a low likelihood of being hydrologically connected to nearby surface waters or neighboring wells in any manner that might significantly have a negative impact or effect on proximal wetlands, wells, and or surface waters.

Please contact us if you have questions or concerns regarding our findings and conclusions.

Sincerely,

David N. Lindberg, CEG Lindberg Geologic Consulting

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Attachments:

- Figure 1: Topographic Well Location Map
- Figure 2: Humboldt County Assessor's Parcel Map
- Figure 3: Satellite Image of Well location
- Figure 4: Geologic Map
- Figure 4a: Geologic Map Explanation
- Figure 5: Generalized Geologic Cross Section
- Figure 6: Hydrogeologic Cross Section
- Figure 7: USDA-NRCS Soils Map

State of California Well Completion Report:

WCR2017-004824, APN: 214-234-006 (Subject Well) WCR2016-002767, APN: 214-234-006 (>1,200 feet to north)

<u>Web Soil Survey, NRCS Map Unit Description</u>: Canoecreek-Coyoterock-Sproulish complex, #5508, 15 to 50 percent slopes.

Reference Cited:

Flint et al.: Fine-scale hydrologic modeling for regional landscape applications: the California Basin Characterization Model development and performance. Ecological Process, 2013, 2:25. (doi:10.1186/2192-1709-2-25)







Lindberg Geologic Consulting	Engineering-Geologic Well Connectivity Assessment Report	Figure 3
Post Office Box 306	Bear Buttes, Miranda, California, DWR2017-004824	October 17, 2022
Cutten, CA 95534	APN 214-234-006, Mr. Kevin Borque, Client	Project 0449.00
(707) 442-6000	Satellite Image of Well Location (locations approximate)	1" ≈ 300'







Modified from: USGS-NRCS Web Soil Survey, October 17, 2022 $N\approx \Omega$

State of California Well Completion Report Form DWR 188 Complete 11/9/2017 WCR2017-004824

Owner's Well Num	ber 2	Date Work Began	09/19/2017	Date Work End	ded 09/25/2017
Local Permit Agen	cy Humboldt County Department of Healt	th & Human Services	- Land Use Program	m	
Secondary Permit	Agency	Permit Number	15/16-0857	Permit [Date 07/21/2016
Well Owner	(must remain confidential pur	suant to Water	Code 13752)	Planned L	Jse and Activity
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Location Accurac	y Location Determina	tion Method	Ε	Elevation Determination M	ethod
	Borehole Information		Water Lo	evel and Yield of (Completed Well
Orientation Ver	tical Sne	cify	Depth to first water	65 (F	eet below surface)
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	down-hole hammer	'	Water Level	58 (Feet) Date	e Measured 09/25/2017
	······································		Estimated Yield*	15 (GPM) Tes	t Type Air Lift
Total Depth of Bo	ring 180 Feet		Test Length	4 (Hours) Tota	al Drawdown 122 (feet)
Total Depth of Co	mpleted Well 180 Feet		*May not be represe	entative of a well's long ter	rm yield.
		Geologic Log -	Free Form		
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1	160	180	Blani	k	Low Carbon Steel	Grade: A	STM A53 0.18		188 6								
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Borehole Specifications Depth from Surface Feet to Feet Borehole Diameter (inches) 0 180 10						t, the undersig Name	ned, certify t Person, F 50 JOHN Add	irm SON	Certific Is report Is corr or Corporation N ROAD	plete and acc FISCH lion	Stateme surate to the best DRILLING HYDESVILL City	nt t of my l E	knowledge CA State	e and belie 95 Z	if 547 (îp		
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20	250	Filter F	ack	Other G	ravel Pack			3/8	3 in		Pea Gravel						
Depth from Surface Feet to Feet Borehole Diameter (inches) 0 250 10)	I, the undersig Name – 31	I, the undersigned, certify that this report is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief Name FISCH DRILLING Person, Firm or Corporation 3150 JOHNSON ROAD HYDESVILLE CA 95547										
							Signed	Addres electronic s C-57 License	is ignature re d Water Well C	ceived Contractor	City State 04/01/2016 6i Date Signed C-57 Lic			Zip 383865 cense Number			
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Humboldt County, South Part, California

5508—Canoecreek-Coyoterock-Sproulish complex, 15 to 50 percent slopes

Map Unit Setting

National map unit symbol: 2qds2 Elevation: 200 to 2,790 feet Mean annual precipitation: 49 to 100 inches Mean annual air temperature: 48 to 57 degrees F Frost-free period: 240 to 300 days Farmland classification: Not prime farmland

Map Unit Composition

Canoecreek and similar soils: 35 percent Sproulish and similar soils: 25 percent Coyoterock and similar soils: 25 percent Minor components: 15 percent Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.

Description of Canoecreek

Setting

Landform: Ridges, mountain slopes

Landform position (two-dimensional): Summit, shoulder, backslope Landform position (three-dimensional): Mountaintop, mountainflank Down-slope shape: Convex

Across-slope shape: Linear

Parent material: Colluvium derived from sandstone and/or mudstone and/or residuum weathered from mudstone and/or sandstone

Typical profile

Oi - 0 to 1 inches: slightly decomposed plant material

A1 - 1 to 4 inches: gravelly loam

A2 - 4 to 8 inches: gravelly loam

Bt1 - 8 to 16 inches: very gravelly loam

Bt2 - 16 to 37 inches: very gravelly loam

C - 37 to 79 inches: extremely gravelly sandy loam

Properties and qualities

Slope: 15 to 50 percent

Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches

Drainage class: Well drained

Runoff class: High

Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water

(Ksat): Moderately high to high (0.60 to 2.00 in/hr)

Depth to water table: More than 80 inches

Frequency of flooding: None

Frequency of ponding: None

JSD/

Maximum salinity: Nonsaline to very slightly saline (0.0 to 2.0 mmhos/cm)

Available water supply, 0 to 60 inches: Moderate (about 6.1 inches)

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): None specified Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 6e Hydrologic Soil Group: B Ecological site: F004BJ102CA - Dry, steep mountain slopes Hydric soil rating: No

Description of Sproulish

Setting

Landform: Ridges, mountain slopes Landform position (two-dimensional): Summit, shoulder, backslope

Landform position (three-dimensional): Mountaintop, mountainflank Down-slope shape: Convex, linear

Across-slope shape: Linear

Parent material: Colluvium derived from mudstone and/or sandstone and/or residuum weathered from mudstone and/or sandstone

Typical profile

Oi - 0 to 1 inches: slightly decomposed plant material

A - 1 to 5 inches: loam

Bt1 - 5 to 15 inches: loam

Bt2 - 15 to 33 inches: loam

Bt3 - 33 to 40 inches: loam

BCt - 40 to 71 inches: very paragravelly clay loam

Properties and qualities

Slope: 15 to 50 percent

Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches

Drainage class: Well drained

Runoff class: High

Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water

(Ksat): Moderately high to high (0.20 to 2.00 in/hr)

Depth to water table: More than 80 inches

Frequency of flooding: None

Frequency of ponding: None

Maximum salinity: Nonsaline to very slightly saline (0.0 to 2.0 mmhos/cm)

Available water supply, 0 to 60 inches: High (about 10.2 inches)

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): None specified Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 6e Hydrologic Soil Group: B Ecological site: F004BJ102CA - Dry, steep mountain slopes Hydric soil rating: No

USDA

Kingrange

Percent of map unit: 5 percent Landform: Mountain slopes Landform position (two-dimensional): Shoulder Landform position (three-dimensional): Mountainflank Down-slope shape: Convex Across-slope shape: Convex Hydric soil rating: No

Rock outcrop

Percent of map unit: 3 percent Landform: Mountain slopes Landform position (two-dimensional): Backslope Landform position (three-dimensional): Center third of mountainflank Down-slope shape: Convex Across-slope shape: Convex Hydric soil rating: No

Data Source Information

Soil Survey Area: Humboldt County, South Part, California Survey Area Data: Version 12, Sep 2, 2022

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