



ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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Illinois EPA#: 0650155010

UIC Log#: UIC-146

Notice #: UIC-02-14

First Notice Date: October 9, 2014

PUBLIC NOTICE of DRAFT UNDERGROUND INJECTION PERMIT Underground Injection Wells at White Oak Mine #1, McLeansboro, IL

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency has prepared a draft Underground Injection Control (UIC) well permit for White Oak Resources, LLC for two wastewater injection wells at their new mine, White Oak Mine #1, located 6.6 miles northeast of McLeansboro on Illinois Rte. 142. If issued, the permit will allow the applicant to construct the UIC wells and, eventually, dispose of groundwater infiltrating the mine by injecting it deep underground via the wells. This groundwater, high in chloride and dissolved solids, would violate state water quality standards if released to surface waters. Once the well construction/completion information is approved, the applicant will be authorized to inject this recovered groundwater between 8,000 and 10,000 feet underground into limestone and sandstone formations. These geological formations are overlain by a thick confining layer of shale bedrock, minimizing the potential for the injected groundwater to migrate upward.

Those interested may review the UIC permit application materials and the draft UIC permit at:
McCoy Memorial Library, West Side Square, McLeansboro

Please submit written comments on the draft UIC permit to the Agency contact listed below postmarked by midnight **November 10, 2014**. In response to public requests or at the discretion of Illinois EPA, a public hearing can be held to clarify one or more issues concerning the draft permit. A request for a public hearing must be made in writing to the Agency contact below and must state the nature of the issue(s) to be raised at the hearing. Public notice will be issued at least 45 days before any hearing.

The Administrative Record for this draft permit (application, permit and all data submitted to the Agency) is available for inspection by appointment only at IEPA's Springfield office, please contact:

Mara McGinnis (#5)

Phone: 217/524-3288

Illinois EPA

TDD: 217-782-9143

1021 North Grand Avenue East, P. O. Box 19276

Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276

All comments submitted will become part of the Administrative Record and will be evaluated before making the final permit decision. The Agency will respond to comments on the draft permit decision and indicate whether additional documents have been included in the Administrative Record. Anyone who submits written comments will be notified of the final permit decision and the permit decision appeal process.

The Safe Drinking Water Act of 1976 established the federal UIC program in order to protect groundwater resources. UIC program requirements were designed to prevent contamination of underground sources of drinking water. The Illinois EPA is authorized to administer certain aspects of the UIC program in Illinois. Illinois' UIC regulations may be found at 35 IAC 702, 704, 705 and 730.