

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Program Report for the February 27, 2015 TRAB Meeting

Low-level radioactive waste disposal: TCEQ issued Amendment No. 27 to RML RO4100 on December 4 as a minor amendment, having received no public comments. The amendment, which was agency initiated, included the Federal Waste Facility as a location authorized for temporary waste storage, if approved on a case-by-case basis. The amendment would also authorize overnight storage of certain radioactive materials in the decontamination building, if approved on a case-by-case basis. TCEQ issued Amendment No. 28 on January 27 as an administrative amendment. The amendment clarified notification requirements for RAMQC and certain authorizations for treatment; modified the monthly site receipt and disposal activities report requirements, radiation worker classroom training requirements, and required radiation safety meeting frequency; and made revisions to the waste acceptance criteria.

Uranium Mining:

A major amendment application for license area expansion from Signal Equities on their Brown Project and a new license application from UEC for their Burke Hollow project are both still under technical review.

TCEQ continues to work towards obtaining partial release from the NRC for a portion of the former licensed area of the abandoned IEC Lamprecht/Zamzow site. Work continues on the Completion Review Report which must be submitted to the NRC for their concurrence in a partial release of these areas for unrestricted use. TCEQ is reviewing submissions received between October 3 and November 14 from the request for proposals (RFP) for the project work.

By-product material disposal: TCEQ issued Amendment No. 9 to RML RO5807 on January 27 as an administrative amendment. Amendment No. 9 modified the frequency of holding tank inspections and unannounced audits of alpha survey locations. Operation of the byproduct waste disposal facility otherwise continues under its current license. By license condition, the byproduct disposal operation is limited to receiving

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only the Fernald byproduct waste. Staff members continue to review WCS's environmental monitoring reports and related data.

Underground Injection Control: TCEQ continues to process two applications for new Class III UIC area permits for in situ uranium mining and one application for expansion of the permit area of an existing in situ uranium mining site. One of the new applications (UEC Burke Hollow site) is for an unmined site in Bee County; TCEQ is conducting the technical review of the Burke Hollow base area permit application. The other new application (Signal Equities Brown site) is for a previously-mined site (USX Boots-Brown) in Live Oak County; TCEQ expects the Brown base area permit to be signed by February 26, 2015. The application for expansion (STMV Palangana site) is in Duval County; TCEQ issued the amended mine area permit and the new production area authorization for Palangana on November 18, 2014 and awaits EPA's approval of the aquifer exemption associated with the new production area.

Rulemaking projects:

On November 19, TCEQ Commissioners approved final adoption of the rulemaking project to implement House Bill 1079 (83rd Regular), regarding issuance of Class III Underground Injection Control area permits. Commissioners also proposed rulemaking on November 19 to implement Senate Bill 349 (83rd Regular), regarding the Environmental Radiation and Perpetual Care Account. TCEQ held a public hearing on January 13 and received seven comments during the public comment period that ran from December 5 through January 20. Adoption of the rulemaking project may occur at the April 29 agenda. On February 4, TCEQ Commissioners approved final adoption of the rulemaking project to reduce the maximum disposal rate that a licensee may charge generators for disposal of Class A Shielded low-level radioactive waste from \$250 to \$180 per cubic foot.