Fact Sheet

For issuance of Underground Injection Control Permit Number NE0212241 to Nebraska Public Power District, to operate a Class I Non-Hazardous Waste Injection Well. This permit issuance does not involve discharges to the land surface or surface waters of the State of Nebraska.

Issuing Office: Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy (NDEE)

245 Fallbrook Blvd.

P.O. Box 98922

Lincoln, Nebraska 68509

Applicant: Nebraska Public Power District

1414 15th St.

PO Box 499

Columbus, NE 68602-0499

1. Nebraska Public Power District operates a drinking water treatment facility (SIC #4941), whose specific operations involve treating groundwater to be used for drinking water in the City of McCook, NE.
2. Nebraska Public Power District Class I Non-Hazardous Waste Injection Well will be located in the NW¼ and NW¼ of Section 29, Township 13 North, Range 33 West, Lincoln County, Nebraska.
3. As described in the application, Nebraska Public Power District drinking water treatment facility utilizes an Ion Exchange and pH Modification treatment system in order to remove arsenic, uranium, and nitrate from groundwater.
4. The following is a table containing the composition of the injection stream as reported by the applicant.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Parameters** | **Units** | **Discharge Limits** | **Wastewater** |
| **Calcium** | mg/l | Report | 19.00 |
| **Chloride** | mg/l | 52,000 | 13,032.00 |
| **Sulfate** | mg/l | 20,000 | 2,414.00 |
| **Sodium** | mg/l | 42,000 | 13,160.00 |
| **Bicarbonate** | mg/l | 22,000 | 52.00 |
| **Nitrate** | mg/l | 1,500 | 128.59 |
| **pH** | S.U. | 5.0 – 9.5(a) | 8.57 |
| **Radium** | pCl/l | 5,000 | 0.30 |
| **Uranium** | mg/l | 25 | 0.5980 |
| **Arsenic** | mg/l | 5 | 0.2011 |
| **Barium** | mg/l | 100 | 0.0529 |
| **Cadmium** | mg/l | 1 | 0.0016 |
| **Chromium** | mg/l | 5 | 0.0027 |
| **Lead** | mg/l | 5 | 1.4450 |
| **Mercury** | mg/l | 0.2 | N.D. |
| **Selenium** | mg/l | 1 | 0.2006 |
| **Silver** | mg/l | 5 | 0.0010 |
| 1. pH analysis shall occur within 15 minutes of sample collection.   Abbreviations: mg/l – milligrams per liter S.U. – standard units pCl/l – picocuries per liter  N.D. – Non-detect | | | |

1. On the basis of preliminary staff review, the NDEE has made a tentative determination to reissue permit number NE0212241.
2. The following is a brief explanation of the statutory and regulatory provisions on which the proposed permit issuance is based.
   1. Permit Application for a Class I Non-Hazardous Waste Injection Well and $25,000.00 filing fee, received by NDEE on March 9, 2018.
   2. Email from Amanda Jones, NDEE, to the City of McCook submitting a draft permit, dated April 5, 2018.
   3. Emergency Permit for a Class I Non-Hazardous Waste Injection Well, NE0210560.
   4. Emergency Fact Sheet for a Class I Non-Hazardous Waste Injection Well, NE0210560.
   5. Nebraska Environmental Protection Act and related laws.
   6. NDEQ Title 122 - Rules and Regulations for Underground Injection and Mineral Production Wells.
   7. 40 CFR Parts 144-147, Underground Injection Control Program, State UIC Program Requirements, UIC program: Criteria and Standards, State Underground Injection Control Programs.
3. The following is an explanation of the calculations and derivations of the specific Operational Parameters and Limitations set forth in the draft permit, and the reasons why they are applicable to the injection proposal:
   1. Reason for the Permit: The draft permit has been prepared in accordance with specific regulations contained within Nebraska Title 122 – Rules and Regulations for Underground Injection and Mineral Production Wells.
   2. Water Quality Considerations: The proposed injection activity will not, by definition, emplace treated water into subsurface aquifers, which are considered to be Underground Sources of Drinking Water (USDW) under State and Federal regulations. Drinking Water Quality effluent limitations, therefore, do not apply to the proposed discharge.
   3. Draft Permit Effluent Limitations and Considerations: The draft permit establishes Operational Parameters and Limitations for treated water discharged to the injection well system. Treatment processes include arsenic, nitrate, and uranium removal by Ion Exchange and pH modification. The draft permit utilizes effluent parameters and limitations to characterize the water discharged to the injection well.
      1. Injection Pressure, Injection Volume, Injection Rate, and Minimum Allowable Operating Annulus Pressure

The draft permit requires continuous recording devices or gauges to be utilized to measure injection pressure, volume and rates, as well as the Minimum Allowable Operating Annulus Pressure of the injection well system. These operational limitations are based on the knowledge of the construction of the well and the injection aquifer.

* + 1. pH and Temperature

The draft permit establishes a pH range for the effluent limitation of 5.0-9.5. This limitation is based on the knowledge of the treatment process. Temperature will be used in conjunction with the annulus pressure to ensure proper fluid levels in the annulus between the injection tubing and the long string casing.

* + 1. Calcium, Sodium, Nitrate, Bicarbonate, Sulfate, and Chloride

There are no limitations for calcium in the draft permit. The draft permit establishes limitations for sodium, nitrate, bicarbonate, sulfate, and chloride. The limitations are to establish the character of the wastewater discharged to the injection well.

* + 1. Arsenic, Barium, Cadmium, Chromium, Lead, Mercury, Selenium, and Silver

The draft permit establishes limitations for arsenic, barium, cadmium, chromium, lead, mercury, selenium, and silver. These limitations are based on Title 128, Rules and Regulations Governing Hazardous Waste Management in Nebraska, Chapter 3.

1. Variances

The applicant has not requested any variance or alternatives to any required standards or operational parameters.

1. Written Comments

Copies of public information pertaining to this issue (Permit Issuance) are available for review and copying at the Department’s office, 245 Fallbrook Blvd., Lincoln, Nebraska 68509 between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., weekdays.

The public may comment upon or object to the proposed draft permit, in writing, prior to June 5, 2018. All substantive comments and/or objections shall be considered prior to making the final decision regarding this surety release. Any interested person may request a public hearing, if no hearing has already been scheduled. A request for a public hearing shall be in writing and shall state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised at the hearing.

All comments may be sent to Sue Dempsey, Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy, 245 Fallbrook Blvd., P.O. Box 98922, Lincoln, Nebraska 68509. Further requests for information should be sent to Amanda Osborn, Department of Environment and Energy, 245 Fallbrook Blvd., P.O. Box 98922, Lincoln, Nebraska 68509, (402) 471-4290.