

Tammy Johnson

From: PUBCOMMENT-OCC
Sent: Thursday, April 17, 2025 10:50 AM
To: PUBCOMMENT-RAD; PUBCOMMENT-ELD; PUBCOMMENT-OCC2; PUBCOMMENT-OPIC
Subject: FW: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075
Attachments: RFRHR.pdf

RFR
H

From: mshelton@goliadcogcd.org <mshelton@goliadcogcd.org>
Sent: Thursday, April 17, 2025 9:43 AM
To: PUBCOMMENT-OCC <PUBCOMMENT-OCC@tceq.texas.gov>
Subject: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075

REGULATED ENTY NAME GOLIAD PROJECT

RN NUMBER: RN105304802

PERMIT NUMBER: UR03075

DOCKET NUMBER:

COUNTY: GOLIAD

PRINCIPAL NAME: URANIUM ENERGY CORP

CN NUMBER: CN603228461

NAME: Michelle Shelton

EMAIL: mshelton@goliadcogcd.org

COMPANY: Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District

ADDRESS: 118 S. Market, P. O. Box 562
Goliad, TX 77963

PHONE: 3616451716

FAX:

COMMENTS: Please refer to attached letter to include appendices from the Board of Directors of Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District regarding request for reconsideration.



GOLIAD COUNTY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

118 S. Market St., P.O. Box 562, Goliad, Texas 77963-0562

Telephone: (361) 645-1716

website: www.goliadcogcd.org | email: gcgcd@goliadgcd.org

Board of Directors:

President – Wilfred Korth

Vice-President – Terrell Graham

Secretary – Colt Williams

Directors – Art Dohmann, Barbara Smith, Reagan Sahadi, Tate Bammert

April 17, 2025

Laurie Gharis, Chief Clerk

TCEQ, MC-105

Post Office Box 13087

Austin, Texas 78711-3087

RE: GCGCD's Request for Reconsideration and Request for Contested Case Hearing, Renewal of Permit U03075, Uranium Energy Corp.

Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District (GCGCD) respectfully requests that the Executive Director (ED) reconsider its final decision on permit U03075 based in part on its response to comments. Some of the responses to comments are either due to the ED not understanding some of GCGCD's comments, or the ED failing to address some of GCGCD's comments. This is in addition to, rather than replacing, GCGCD's previous request for reconsideration.

GCGCD also wishes to reiterate our request for a contested case hearing. The number of faults in the mining area remains incorrect at 2 faults in the renewal application. In effect, this incorrect number of faults in the mining area skewed the entire proceedings from the original contested case hearing on this permit to commissioners' issuance of findings of facts and conclusions of law. The renewal application did not correct the number of faults in the mining area. GCGCD did not contest the number of faults in the contested case hearing for U03075 because Uranium Energy Corp (UEC) did not reveal the existence of seismic line surveys and did not produce any data from seismic line surveys. GCGCD is an affected party since it is a local government entity created by the legislature to protect the groundwater in Goliad County. Our point of contact is Michelle Shelton, our general manager. She can be reached by phone at 361-645-1716 or by email at gcgcd@goliadcogcd.org.

In addition to the above and issues and concerns previously raised, GCGCD adds to it reasons for requesting a reconsideration of the final decision of the ED below. GCGCD also adds to its reasons for requesting a contested case hearing below.

ED's RESPONSE TO COMMENT #2

In addition to the 2 faults noted, all parties are now aware that additional faults traverse the proposed Mine Permit Area. TCEQ, however, continues to acknowledge only what is called the northwest and southeast faults. *(Please refer to V-20 revised 5/15/21 in the waste disposal well renewal application for*

WDW-423 and WDW-424.) The map shows 5 faults traversing the facilities boundary and additional faults outside of the facilities boundary. Did the Executive Director adequately review all of these faults?

Data UEC and the TCEQ have had access to clearly shows that there are more than 2 faults in the mining area. Attached as Appendix A through D is data from the seismic line survey that the TCEQ produced during the contested case hearing for permits WDW 423 and WDW 424. It is unknown to us who made the hand markings on these figures. Appendix A shows several faults. At least some of them are in the mining area. Appendix A is at the top of the injection interval. Appendices B, C and D are seismic cross sections along the seismic lines shown in Appendix A. It shows that the faults lean and are not in the same location at or near the surface as they are at the top of the injection interval as depicted in Appendix A. With all of this said it should be easy to determine that more than 2 faults in the mining area. Using the dates and the professional stamping on Appendix A, the TCEQ had or should have had access to this information since 2009. The ED seems to agree that all faults in the mining area must be depicted in the application and renewal application. In its Response No. 2 the ED quotes, "(COL 265) Section 331.122(2)(A) requires a map showing 'faults, if known or suspected. Only information of public record is required to be on this map....'" Clearly more than 2 of the faults depicted in Appendix A are known or expected within the mining area using the seismic line data alone. Information obtained from the TCEQ is generally within the public record. The preliminary decision on permit UR03075 should be reconsidered based upon the incompleteness of the application regarding faulting in the mining area. GCGCD did not become aware that there were more than two faults in the mining area until after the renewal application for WDW-423 and WDW-424 had been submitted. If the ED's final decision is not reconsidered for the reasons stated above. GCGCD requests that this issue be referred for a contested case hearing regarding the true number of faults in the mining area, their proper characterization and their potential impacts. This issue could not have been adjudicated at the original contested case hearing because UEC did not disclose the existence of more than two faults.

Even though the commissioners' findings of fact and conclusions law for permit U03075 related to only to 2 faults it should not be hard to extend them to faults that UEC clearly knew about, and the commissioners may not have known about. The intent of the findings of fact and conclusions of law seems clear. For any fault in or near a production area authorization the transmissivity of faults in each production area would need to be known. Here we are only dealing with PAA-1 so far. Referring to Appendix A and B, what is labeled Fault "A" leans northwest and would be above WDW 424 on or near the surface and outside PAA-1. What is labeled as Fault "T" is in PAA-1 near the surface. What is labeled Fault "J" may also be in PAA-1 and is surely within the mining area. Referring to Appendix C, what is labeled as Fault "H" also appears to be in PAA-1. It is surely within the mining area. At a minimum the final decision should be reconsidered for the reasons stated above. The application returned to UEC to ensure all faults are faults in the mining area are depicted. If the final decision is not reconsidered for the reasons stated above, the correct number of faults, location and characterization of all faults should be referred as an issue for a contested case hearing.

The Response to Comments does not address characterizing geology and hydrology, rate of groundwater flow (other than what UEC has in the application), and assessing seismicity. Even though the Class III wells in this instance are shallower than the Class I wells. The overall geology and hydrology do not change due to the type of application. GCGCD made these comments because there was uncertainty regarding site specific geologic and hydrologic data during the contested case hearing for WDW-423&424. In addition, the high number of Technical Notices of Deficiency (TNOD) weighs towards uncertainty. Groundwater flow was a major concern of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency prior to issuance of the aquifer exemption. As stated in our comments our expert has calculated groundwater flow at 40 feet per year. More that 4 times what UEC states groundwater flow is. If groundwater flow is in fact 6.7 feet per year as UEC states in their renewal application, one is left to wonder how there is sufficient groundwater

in the area to sustain mining and restoration. If the final decision is not reconsidered for the reasons stated above. This issue should be referred as an issue for a contested case hearing.

ED's RESPONSE TO COMMENT #3

The overall geology and hydrology do not change due to the type of application. Even though the Class III wells in this instance are shallower than the Class I wells. The geology from the surface to the bottom of the Gulf Coast aquifer where mining is proposed to take place does not change. Based on this uncertainty in geology and hydrology the preliminary decision should be reconsidered. If the final decision is not reconsidered for the reasons stated above. This issue should be referred for a contested case hearing. It goes without saying that the lack of clarity and certainty in hydrology that still exists today could not have been adjudicated at the original contested case hearing.

ED's RESPONSE TO COMMENT #5

This response completely misses GCGCD's comment. GCGCD is well aware that no mining has taken place. Prior to taking the baseline data UEC and its predecessors drilled hundreds of boreholes exploring for uranium. In many instances these boreholes weren't plugged or plugged properly and allowed excessive amounts of oxygen into the aquifer. The combination of drilling boreholes and leaving them open disturbed the natural baseline. GCGCD has continued to monitor the water quality around the proposed mining site. Our data which was provided to the TCEQ shows that the water quality near the site has improved since the exploration stopped. Our position is that the baseline isn't a true baseline. It is a baseline that was disturbed by uranium exploration activities. If the final decision is not reconsidered for the reasons stated above. This issue should be referred for a contested case hearing. This issue could not have been adjudicated at the original contested case hearing because GCGCD did not have this data at the time.

ED's RESPONSE TO COMMENT #6

There are 20 artificial penetrations inside of the facilities boundary. These 20 artificial penetrations are oil and gas exploration wells, some of which were producers and some were dry holes. Table VIII-2 in the renewal application for WDW-423 & 424 provides detailed information on these artificial penetrations. Of particular concern inside the facilities boundary are penetrations 71, 80, 91, 107, 108, 109, 118, and 119. Included in this group of penetrations are 5 listed as dry holes, some of which are shown to have only surface casing installed. It has been recorded that fresh water is present down to 1750 feet. In these 5 dry holes, the deepest surface casing installation is recorded as 531 feet. The open penetration is deeper, creating the potential for contamination of the lower segment of fresh water. There are other wells that are cased below the fresh water but the penetration was deeper than the casing depth. This creates a soft material penetration potential through what is presented to be a confining clay layer. If the final decision is not reconsidered for the reasons stated above. This issue should be referred for a contested case hearing.

ED's RESPONSE TO COMMENT #7

The ED states, "UEC has only applied for one Production Area Authorization (PAA), UR03075PAA1. If UEC submits an application for a PAA for a production area in closer proximity to the Northwest Fault, further testing and characterization of the fault will be required." This statement, COL 267 and COL 268 are easily understood to mean that any production area in proximity to a fault requires further testing of the fault. The TCEQ is operating under the mistaken impression that there were only 2 faults in the mining area with no faults in or near UR03075PAA1. What is labeled fault "T" in Appendix A transects the area of UR03075PAA1. What is labeled faults "J" and "H" in Appendix A are either in or in close proximity to UR03075PAA1. The ED should reconsider its final decision and direct UEC to fully test and characterize faults in and near UR03075PAA1 in accordance with FOFs and COLs. If the ED does

not reconsider the final decision the issue of whether proper testing and characterization of faults in or near UR03075PAA1 has been done. This issue should be referred to a contested case hearing. This issue was not adjudicated during the original contested case hearing because UEC did not provide the commissioners with seismic line data it clearly had. In fact, UEC contested its own pump testing results.

ED's RESPONSE TO COMMENT #9

GCGCD raised this issue in comment #4 of its letter dated April 11, 2023. In addressing water quality of the 20 baseline wells with the 47 perimeter wells, the Executive Director did not acknowledge the approximately 700 exploration boreholes that were drilled in the vicinity of the 20 baseline wells. The 700 exploration boreholes, as noted by Dr. Abitz, can stir up the aquifer and activate the radionuclides. If water quality samples were taken at the 20 baseline locations prior to drilling of the numerous boreholes, water quality may have been much better. Water quality may have been at the level that an Aquifer Exemption could not be granted. The Executive Director made the observation that the groundwater quality data from the 20 baseline wells was remarkably similar to the data from the 47 wells for all constituents with the exception of uranium and radium-226. It has been 17 years since these 20 baseline wells have been tested. During these 17 years, GCGCD has repeatedly tested the water quality of several wells from the group of 47 wells. Water quality in these wells has improved significantly. If the final decision is not reconsidered for the reasons stated above. This issue should be referred for a contested case hearing. This issue could not have been adjudicated at the previous contested case hearing because the data did not exist.

ED's RESPONSE TO COMMENT #10

GCGCD is totally befuddled and confused by the ED's response that UR03075PAA1 the production area authorization does not need to be renewed. As GCGCD has repeatedly pointed out, the application is incorrect regarding there being only 2 faults in the mining area. It is clear in the FOFs and COLs for the original permit that only 2 faults were being considered. The FOFs and COLs made clear that for a production area in or near a fault further testing would be warranted. It appears now that even given the clear evidence that faults exist in and near UR03075PAA1 that the TCEQ is ready to renew the mining permit without renewal of the production area authorization. To begin mining without any further study of fault transmissivity, etc. despite clear FOFs and COLs otherwise.

Our interpretation of UR03075PAA1 the production area authorization, is that it, like the mining permit UR03075 requires that renewal every 10 years. UR03075PAA1 clear states, "This authorization will be in effect for ten years from the date of approval of the area permit ..." *See Appendix E*. Adding the rest of the sentence makes it more certain that UR03075PAA1 was intended to be renewed every 10 years at a maximum just like U03075. The rest of the sentence is, "or until revocation of the area permit, or amendment of the authorization." This is usually interpreted to mean whichever comes first. Even if this isn't the TCEQ's interpretation, the major amendment to UR03075 changes things. It amends control parameters and restoration tables included in UR03075PAA1. There cannot be any doubt that the ED's position that UR03075PAA1 does not require renewal is incorrect. GCGCD request that the final decision be reconsidered for the reasons stated above and to allow certainty and clarity to be added to the issues raised above. If the final decision is not reconsidered, GCGCD requests this issue be referred for a contest case hearing.

ED's RESPONSE TO COMMENT #11

The ED's Response to Comments misstates the issue and addresses the equivalency of TDS with conductivity. GCGCD does not dispute that TDS and conductivity are related or equivalent. The major amendment is in part to replace TDS with total alkalinity. The TCEQ previously characterized the major amendment, "... permit amendment to revise the permit range table values and to revise the excursion

monitoring parameters to add total alkalinity, sulfate, and uranium and remove total dissolved solids.” See Appendix F. Further confusing the matter, the draft permit has not been revised to include the major amendment. TDS is still listed as a control parameter. The range tables and excursion monitoring parameters have not changed. The ED’s response to comments makes all of this very unclear and uncertain. The ED seems to minimize this issue. At the same time this was part of a major amendment rather than a minor amendment. If the preliminary decision is not reconsidered at a minimum to clarify the major amendment and hold a full public meeting, this issue should be referred for a contested case hearing. Since this issue is the result of a major amendment to the renewal application, this issue could not have been adjudicated during the original contested case hearing.

ED’s RESPONSE TO COMMENT #12

The ED’s Comment No. 12 misstates GCCGD’s concerns about UEC being a good candidate for self-reporting. GCCGD stated UEC’s excessive number of TNODs on what should be a simple renewal application and misstating the correct number of faults within the mining area did not make UEC a good candidate for self-reporting. The ED did not respond to these comments.

The ED states, “First, all analytical data submitted to the TCEQ by a regulated entity must be certified as true and correct; falsification of any data constitutes fraud and may subject the permittee to enforcement or criminal prosecution.” The same can be said for the original application and renewal application for UR03075. UEC has known since at least 2009 that there are more than 2 faults in the mining area, yet UEC has freely and falsely certified that there are only 2 faults in the mining area. The ED reconsider its final decision that UEC is a good candidate for self-reporting and whether or not UEC committed fraud in certifying its original application and renewal application regarding the correct characterization and number of faults in the mining area. If reconsideration is not granted, this issue should be referred for a contested case hearing.

ED’s RESPONSE TO COMMENT #17

TCEQ makes the statement that GCCGD in its Management Plan has allocated 800 acre-feet per year of groundwater usage for uranium mining purposes. TCEQ further states that UEC projects that its use will be one-fourth of that amount. At the time the Management Plan was being prepared, there were four uranium exploration sites in Goliad County being actively evaluated. GCCGD appropriately identified the future potential of groundwater use as $4 \times 200 = 800$ acre-feet per year. GCCGD does an exemplary job of groundwater management in Goliad County. GCCGD's motto is "may we be responsible stewards of our natural resources". TCEQ has published misleading information. TCEQ should concentrate on accomplishing its own MISSION statement. The above discussion relates to Texas Water Development Board models that are widely recognized as inaccurate. These models say nothing about the amount of groundwater available and whether it is fresh or brackish. Modeled Available Groundwater (MAG) is simply the amount of groundwater pumping needed to meet some hypothetical Desired Future Condition. MAG says nothing about whether the amount of fresh groundwater actually present. Nor whether it is fresh or brackish.

To be clear this issue is simply about adequate fresh groundwater supply for the area adjacent to UEC’s proposed mine. The ED takes the position, “The applicable statutes and rules for the application and issuance of a Class III injection well area permit for in situ uranium mining do not regulate the volume of fresh water used by a permittee to conduct mining operations.” Whether the TCEQ is aware or not the volume of water utilized for uranium mining is exempt for regulation of groundwater conservation districts. This being the case the TCEQ is permitting the use of groundwater when they issue a uranium mining permit whether or not they choose to see it this way. UEC data in the renewal application weighs against there being a sufficient groundwater supply in the area. In their renewal application UEC states that the

hydraulic gradient is 5.5 ft/mile. The groundwater flow is 6.7 feet per year. This is not evidence of a sufficient groundwater supply. If the final decision is not reconsidered for the reason stated above. The issue of adequate fresh groundwater for renewal of this permit should be referred as an issue for a contested case hearing. This issue was not fully litigated in the original contested case hearing. Since the contested case hearing population in this area has continued to grow. GCGCD data and other data not available at the time of the original contested case hearing show this to be one of the highest areas of groundwater level decline in the county. This is without any groundwater being used for mining and reclamation.

ED's RESPONSE TO COMMENT #19

Under (FOF138), the Executive Director did not respond to the public concern about how activities will be adequately protective of livestock and wildlife. Contamination of commercial products is a major health issue and can shut down the agricultural industry in the area.

ED's RESPONSE TO COMMENT #24

Although uranium may be a scarce and valuable resource (FOF 64), GCGCD represents to the ED and commissioners that the overwhelming majority of Goliad County residents are more concerned about clean drinking water than uranium. This statement could probably be made for a lot of Texas currently under persistent drought conditions. That clean groundwater is to be protected above oil and gas, and uranium mining interests. Likely only those very few landowners who are leasing mineral rights would say differently.

In the ED's response to comment #24 it states that (COL 245) TCEQ rules require TCEQ to implement Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code in a manner consistent with the policy of this state to: maintain the quality of fresh water in the state to the extent consistent with the public health and welfare and the operation of existing industries, taking into consideration the economic development of the state, PREVENT UNDERGROUND INJECTION that "MAY" pollute fresh water; and require the use of all reasonable methods to implement this policy.

For the ED to state that "TODAY" the use and installation of the proposed injection wells "is in the public interest" is ludicrous and falls short of the TCEQ Requirement. Every Texan knows TODAY that the item serving the greatest public interest and causing the greatest concerns is "fresh water and its supply to Texans across all regions." Governor Abbott, our Texas Ag Commissioner, the Texas Legislation, all Texas Groundwater Conservation Districts, communities of all sizes, and ag producers are all focused on ensuring a "fresh water supply" for Texas. Goliad County may be a rural county with a small population BUT we are adjacent to counties that are growing in water needs and spilling their growing population across our boundary. The GCGCD is focused on preserving the quality of every drop of available fresh water in our aquifers.

No in-situ mining operation in the US has been able to return the aquifer they mined out of, back to its baseline level, and ALL have polluted the aquifers they are in. So, if TCEQ is "REQUIRED TO PREVENT UNDERGROUND INJECTION THAT MAY POLLUTE FRESH WATER", not "WILL CONTAMINATE", how can the ED recommend issuance of this permit and again say it's in the public interest?

There are too many variables in the proposed UEC in-situ mining area in Goliad County for UEC, the participating landowners, or TCEQ to scientifically guarantee that only the aquifer segment in the mining zone will be impacted by the mining operations. The potential issuance of this injection well permit shows a complete disregard for the real public interest and regulations TCEQ is charged to enforce, and a regulatory imbalance favoring industrial economic development over the needs of rural communities.

In 2001, by a yes vote of 67 percent for and 33 percent opposed, the enabling act for Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District was approved by the voting residents of Goliad County, Texas. Under Section 4. FINDING OF BENEFIT, the enabling act states "All of the land and other property included within the boundaries of the district will be benefited by the works and projects that are to be accomplished by the district under powers conferred by Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution. The district is created to serve a public use and benefit.

The voters of Goliad County approved the formation of GCGCD along with an ad valorem tax to fund its operation. The mission statement of GCGCD is to protect the Gulf Coast Aquifer from contamination and depletion. Groundwater is the lifeblood for Goliad County residents and their primary agricultural industry. There are approximately 5,500 domestic and livestock water supply wells in Goliad County. There is no other drinking water supply in the county.

There is no issue of the beneficial use of uranium in the world economy, however, for a majority of the residents of Goliad County, mining of uranium from the Gulf Coast Aquifer near Ander is not in the public interest of Goliad County residents. That is why the County Commissioners and GCGCD have spent over \$1,000,000 in the last 18 years paying legal fees, doing geological studies, and testing the water quality of numerous wells, some repeatedly. In the world economy, \$1,000,000 is like a drop in the bucket. For Goliad County residents, it is a huge drain of much needed finances. Residents however continue to support the effort to protect their groundwater.

This is not an issue of satisfying the statutes, statements of assurances that have no liability, or even a hope that nothing goes wrong. The significance and importance of protecting the groundwater in the area around the Ander in-situ mining project is repeatedly downplayed. Yes, it is not a major city, but it is a thriving Christian community. There are at least 39 residences in the immediate area and many more moving outwards. These residences do not have the finances to protect their families, animals, and property values. That is why the County Commissioners and GCGCD are doing what they are. Regardless of the commodity, protection of the groundwater will be a high priority. Going forward, there will be a continued significant cost of monitoring and testing of groundwater supplies.

ISSUES NOT ADDRESSED IN THE ED's RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

Arsenic mobilization is a major concern for GCGCD and adjacent landowners. This issue was not addressed in the response to comments. Arsenic levels are already high in the area. As we stated in our comments simply injecting oxic water into an aquifer for aquifer storage and recovery can mobilize arsenic. In this case the mining process will entail much more than simply injecting oxic water into the aquifer. Acids will probably be used to develop wells. Lixiviants will be used to mobilize uranium from the underground formations. Unfortunately, along with mobilizing uranium from formations, arsenic will also be mobilized and spread throughout the groundwater in the area. If the final decision is not reconsidered, this issue should be referred for a contested case hearing. This issue was not adjudicated during the original contested case hearing.

The ED did not address the issue of the public meeting being held just days before a major amendment. A major amendment according to UEC's supplemental application was requested by the TCEQ. It is GCGCD's position that this was in fact a fifth TNOD. A public meeting held prior to a major amendment denies the required public participation and comments on the major amendment. With this said, the TCEQ should hold a full public meeting with all the issues present as requested by many, including our State Representative.

CONCLUSION

GCGCD and the citizens of Goliad County which we represent remain concerned that the TCEQ has not done and complete and thorough review of this application. The number of faults in the application remains incorrect. Review of artificial penetrations is cursory at best. The draft permit has not been changed to reflect the major amendment. It is unclear what should be reviewed. The public meeting held before the major amendment lacks transparency and clarity. For these reasons and the reasons described above and previously GCGCD request that the final decision be reconsidered. If the final decision is not reconsidered, GCGCD request a contested case hearing for the reasons above and provided previously.

Sincerely,

X	X
Wilfred Korth President	Terrell Graham Vice President
X	X
Colt Williams Secretary	Art Dohmann Director
X	X
Barbara Smith Director	Reagan Sahadi Director
X	
Tate Bammert Director	

cc: Senator Lois Kolkhorst
311 East Constitution Street, Suite 120
Victoria, Texas 77901
kim.moore@senate.texas.gov

Representative AJ Louderback
Room E1.418
Austin, Texas 78768
teri.murray@house.texas.gov

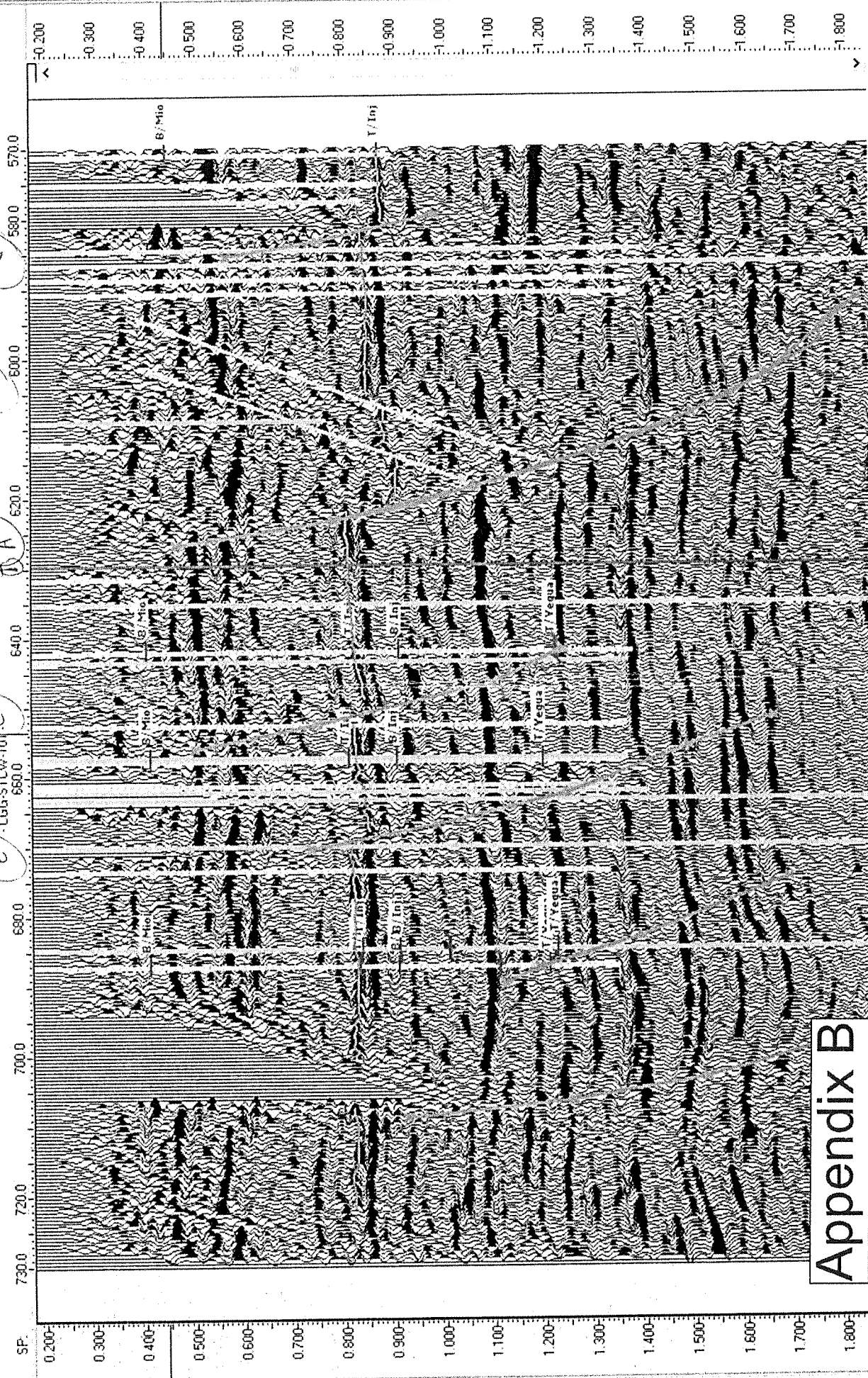
Congressman Michael Cloud
120 South Main Street, Suite 310
Victoria, Texas 77901
Christian.Palacios@mail.house.gov

11

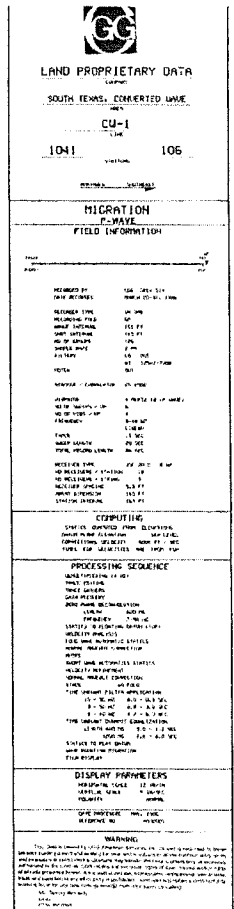
151

[illegible]

42123-12359, 211438



Appendix B





**Texas Commission on
Environmental Quality**
Austin, Texas

PRODUCTION AREA AUTHORIZATION PAA1
under Area Permit No. UR03075
Goliad Project In Situ Uranium Mine

AUTHORIZATION to operate Class III
underground injection wells for in situ
recovery of uranium and aquifer restoration

I. Name of Permittee:

- A. Name: Uranium Energy Corp
- B. Address: 100 East Kleberg, Suite 310
Kingsville, Texas 78363

II. Name of Mine: Goliad Project In Situ Uranium Mine

III. Standard Provisions:

A. Mine Plan

1. Permit Area and Production Area Maps (Attachments 1A and 1B)

Attachment 1A shows the general location of PAA1 within the Goliad Project mine permit and lease areas. Attachment 1B provides a more detailed map of PAA1 bounded by the monitor well ring and with locations of baseline/monitoring wells indicated.

2. Estimated Schedule of Mining and Aquifer Restoration (Attachment 2)

An update of the estimated schedule of the sequence and timing for mining and aquifer restoration shall be provided with each annual report prepared and submitted pursuant to 30 TAC §305.155 and the area permit UR03075 Provision V.A.2.

CONTINUED on Pages 2 through 12

The permittee is authorized to conduct injection activity in accordance with limitations, requirements, and other conditions set forth herein. This authorization is granted subject to the provisions of Area Permit No. UR03075. This authorization will be in effect for ten years from the date of approval of the area permit, or until revocation of the area permit, or amendment of the authorization. If this authorization is appealed and the permittee does not commence any action authorized by this authorization during judicial review, the term will not begin until judicial review is concluded.

ISSUED DATE: APR 29 2011

Bryan W. Shaw
For The Commission

Appendix E

B. Monitor Well and Baseline Wells

1. Monitor Well and Baseline Well Locations (Attachment 1B)
2. Designated Monitor Well and Baseline Well Table (Attachment 3)

Routine water quality sampling according to 30 TAC §331.105 and the area permit UR03075 Provision V.G. is required for all designated monitor wells and baseline wells.

C. Baseline Water Quality Table (Attachments 4A-4B)

D. Control Parameter Upper Limits Table (Attachment 5)

If the results of routine sample analysis from a designated monitor well show that the value of any control parameter is equal to or above the values listed in Attachment 5, the operator shall follow all procedures for verification, notification, and remediation according to 30 TAC §§331.105 - 331.106 and the area permit UR03075 Provisions V.E. and V.G.2.

E. Restoration Table (Attachment 6)

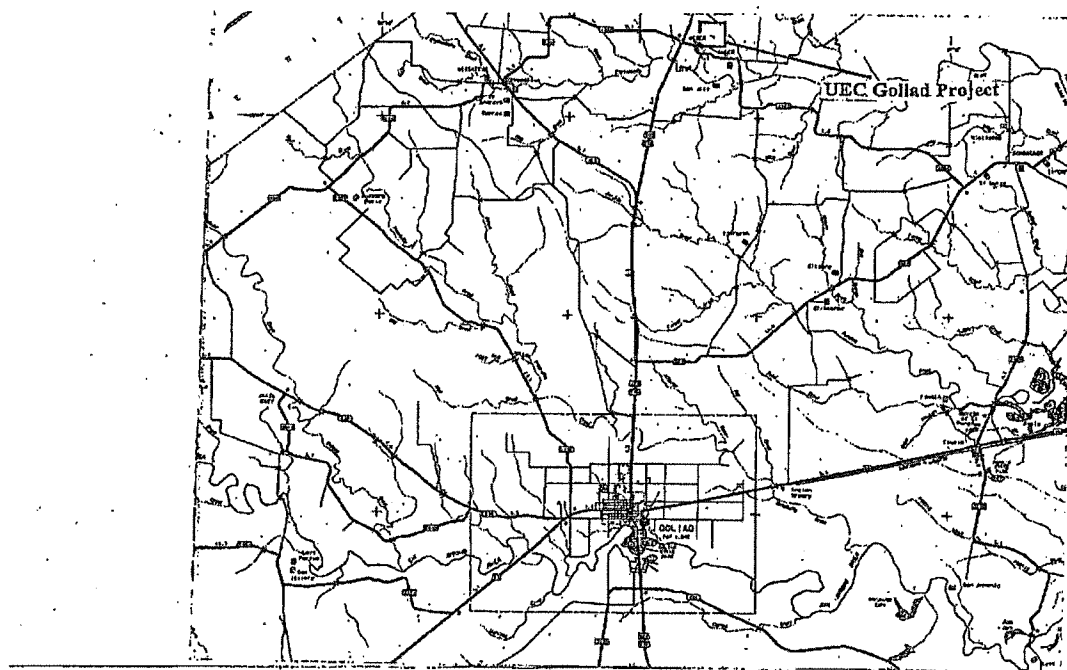
As required by 30 TAC §331.107(b) when mining of the production area is completed, the permittee shall notify the Region 14 – Corpus Christi Office and the executive director. After such notification, the permittee shall proceed with reestablishing groundwater quality in the affected permit or production areas in accordance with the requirements of 30 TAC §331.107(a) or obtain an amendment to the Restoration Table according to 30 TAC §331.107(g).

IV. Financial Assurance:

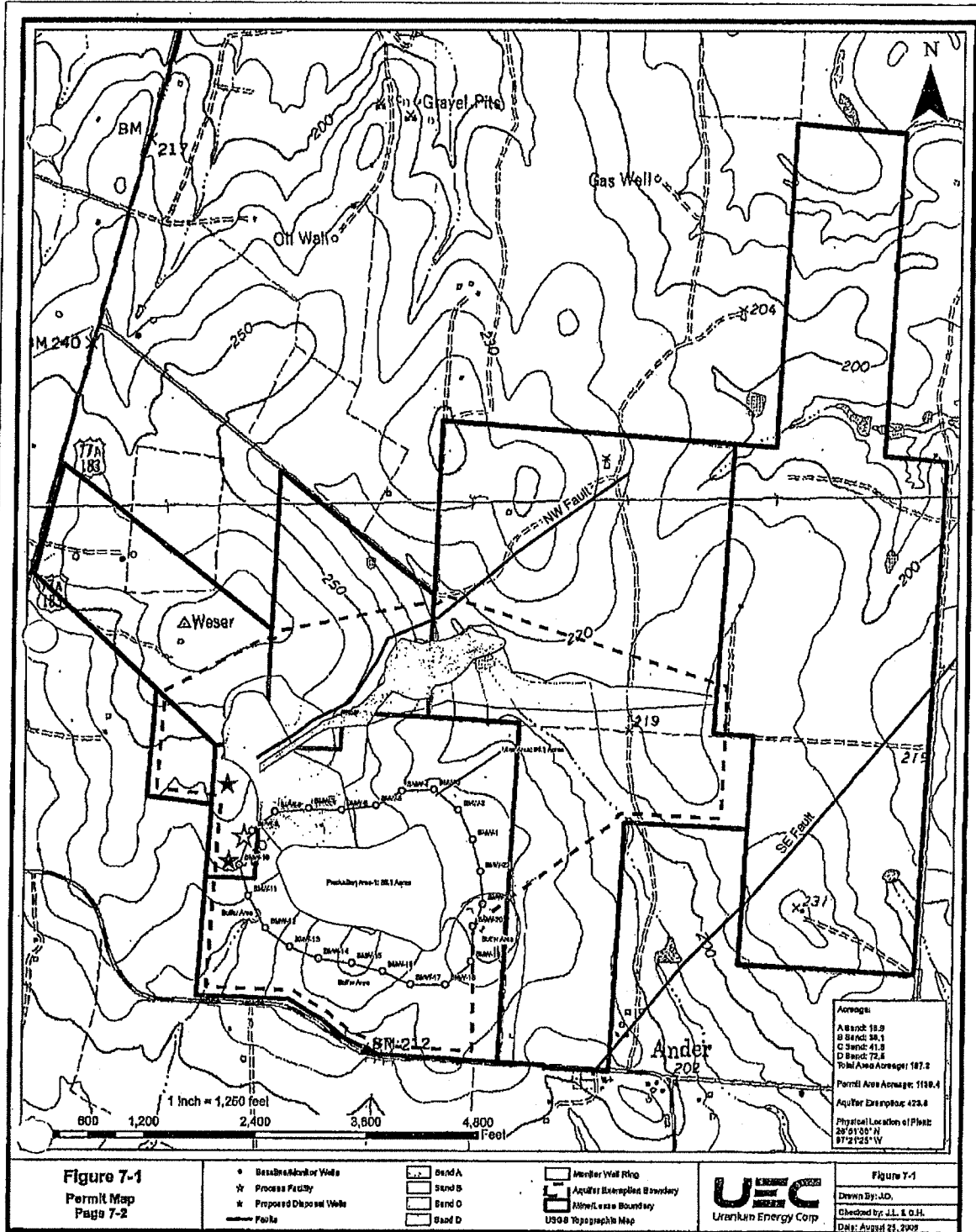
- A. Aquifer Restoration. The cost estimate for financial assurance for aquifer restoration of the production area is \$1,934,742 (2009 dollars). The permittee must review and update the cost estimate as provided in 30 TAC §331.143. The permittee shall establish and maintain, in accordance with the permittee's radioactive materials license authorizing source material recovery, financial assurance that includes sufficient funds in an amount that is no less than the current cost estimate to carry out aquifer restoration of Production Area 1 as required in 30 TAC §336.1125.
- B. Plugging and Abandonment of Wells. The cost estimate for financial assurance for plugging and abandonment of injection wells, production wells, monitor wells, and baseline wells for the production area is \$173,519 (2009) dollars. The permittee must review and update the cost estimate as provided in 30 TAC §331.143. The permittee shall secure and maintain financial assurance for plugging and abandonment in the amount of the plugging and abandonment cost estimate as required under TCEQ Permit No. UR03075, 30 TAC §§331.142-144, and Subchapter Q of 30 TAC Chapter 37. The financial assurance shall be provided to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Attention: Financial Assurance Unit, Mail Code 184, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-13087 (mailing address) or 12100

Park 35 Circle, Building A, Austin, TX 78753 (delivery by courier) at least 60 days prior to the commencement of drilling operations. For converted wells and other previously constructed wells, financial assurance must be provided at least 30 days prior to Production Area Authorization issuance and be in effect upon permit issuance.

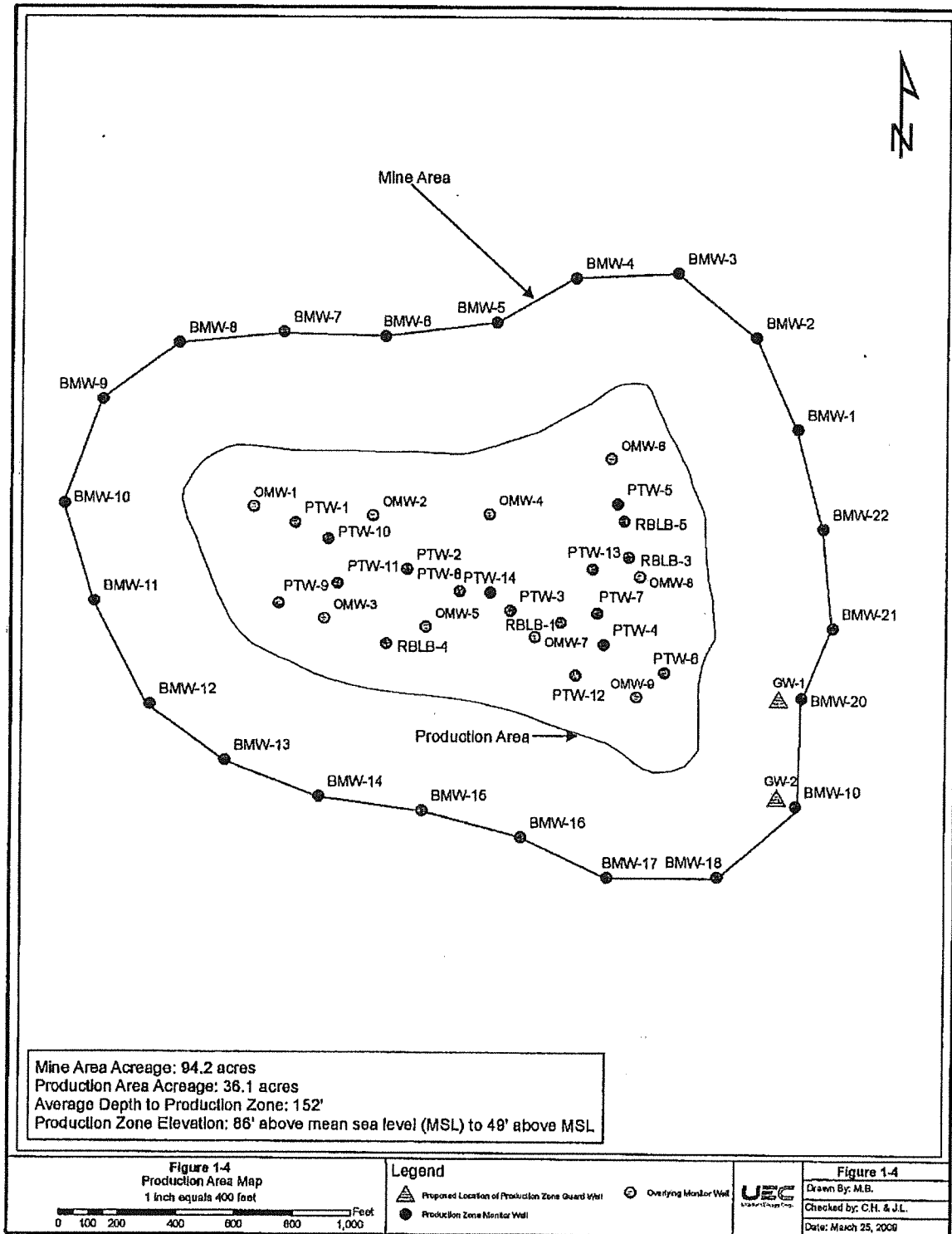
**ATTACHMENT 1A
PERMIT AREA
MAP**



ATTACHMENT 1B
 PRODUCTION AREA MAP (Map 1)



ATTACHMENT 1B
 PRODUCTION AREA MAP (Map 2)



ATTACHMENT 2

ESTIMATED SCHEDULE OF MINING AND AQUIFER RESTORATION		
PA1	Production	4 th Qtr 2010 through 3 rd Qtr 2011
	Aquifer Restoration	4 th Qtr 2011 through 4 th Qtr 2012
PA2	Production	Middle of 3 rd Qtr 2011 through middle 3 rd Qtr 2012
	Aquifer Restoration	Middle 3 rd Qtr 2012 through 1 st Qtr 2014
PA3	Production	2 nd Qtr 2012 through middle 3 rd Qtr 2013
	Aquifer Restoration	4 th Qtr 2013 through middle 1 st Qtr 2016
PA4	Production	Middle 3 rd 2013 through middle 1 st Qtr 2015
	Aquifer Restoration	Middle 1 st Qtr 2015 through 3 rd Qtr 2017

PA = Production Area

This Mine Plan represents an estimate for the timing for the event listed. The timing of these events is dependent on many factors beyond the control of the permittee including the following:

- 1) timing of the approval of the permits required to mine the various ore bodies;
- 2) the ore bodies response to the lixiviant used for recovery;
- 3) the ultimate economic recovery of uranium from each ore body;
- 4) the sequence of mining the various ore bodies; and
- 5) the response of each ore body to the restoration techniques employed.

**ATTACHMENT 3
DESIGNATED MONITOR WELL AND BASELINE WELL TABLE**

Monitor Wells					Production Area Baseline Wells (production zone)
Production Zone (monitor well ring)	Non-Production Zone				
	Sand A 1 st Overlying Aquifer	[name] Sand 2 nd Overlying Aquifer	[name] Sand 3 rd Overlying Aquifer	[name] Sand 4 th Overlying Aquifer	
BMW-1	OMW-1	NA	NA	NA	PTW-1
BMW-2	OMW-2				PTW-2
BMW-3	OMW-3				PTW-3
BMW-4	OMW-4				PTW-4
BMW-5	OMW-5				PTW-5
BMW-6	OMW-6				PTW-6
BMW-7	OMW-7				PTW-7
BMW-8	OMW-8				PTW-8
BMW-9	OMW-9				PTW-9
BMW-10					PTW-10
BMW-11					PTW-11
BMW-12					PTW-12
BMW-13					PTW-13
BMW-14					PTW-14
BMW-15					RBLB-1
BMW-16					RBLB-3
BMW-17					RBLB-4
BMW-18					RBLB-5
BMW-19					
BMW-20					
BMW-21					
BMW-22					
GW-1					
GW-2					

**ATTACHMENT 4A
BASELINE WATER QUALITY TABLE
GOLIAD PROJECT SAND B PRODUCTION ZONE**

PRODUCTION ZONE									WELL ID BY AREA*	
Parameter	Units	Mine Area**			Production Area				Production Zone	
		Low	Ave.	High	Low	Ave.	High		Mine	Prod.
1	Calcium	mg/l	82	97	110	81	96	110	BMW-1	PTW-1
2	Magnesium	mg/l	14.5	17.7	21.2	10.9	17.8	20.3	BMW-2	PTW-2
3	Sodium	mg/l	83	102	120	82	97	117	BMW-3	PTW-3
4	Potassium	mg/l	2.92	4.31	7.81	2.5	6.4	16.5	BMW-4	PTW-4
5	Carbonate	mg/l	0	0	0	0	0	3	BMW-5	PTW-5
6	Bicarbonate	mg/l	268	311	350	251	308	368	BMW-6	PTW-6
7	Sulfate	mg/l	0	50	89	1.5	43.2	82	BMW-7	PTW-7
8	Chloride	mg/l	147	164	185	150	164	180	BMW-8	PTW-8
9	Fluoride	mg/l	<0.5	0.57	0.71	<0.50	0.58	0.80	BMW-9	PTW-9
10	Nitrate-N	mg/l	<0.01	#	0.05	<0.01	0.14	1.73	BMW-10	PTW-10
11	Silica	mg/l	12.3	26.2	34.9	<0.05	29.8	37.5	BMW-11	PTW-11
12	pH	std. units	6.97	7.40	8.18	7.18	7.48	7.96	BMW-12	PTW-12
13	TDS	mg/l	260	595	810	390	586	698	BMW-13	PTW-13
14	Conductivity	µmho/cm	953	1082	1140	950	1084	1190	BMW-14	PTW-14
15	Alkalinity	mg/l	224	256	287	206	253	302	BMW-15	RBLB-1
16	Ammonia-N	mg/l	<0.1	0.12	0.34	<0.05	#	0.3	BMW-16	RBLB-3
17	Arsenic	mg/l	<2E-3	0.009	0.069	<0.01	0.011	0.030	BMW-17	RBLB-4
18	Cadmium	mg/l	<1E-3	##	##	<0.001	<0.007	<0.01	BMW-18	RBLB-5
19	Iron	mg/l	<3E-2	0.095	0.776	<0.01	0.067	0.322	BMW-19	
20	Lead	mg/l	<2E-3	##	##	<0.002	#	0.004	BMW-20	
21	Manganese	mg/l	<0.01	0.013	0.050	<0.010	0.027	0.026	BMW-21	
22	Mercury	mg/l	<1E-4	##	##	<0.0001	##	##	BMW-22	
23	Molybdenum	mg/l	<0.01	0.032	0.481	<0.01	0.185	0.136		
24	Selenium	mg/l	<3E-3	6E-3	6E-3	<0.003	+	0.002		
25	Uranium	mg/l	<1E-3	0.009	0.188	<0.003	0.50	0.804		
26	Radium-226	pCi/l	0.1	13.7	48	10.0	385.1	2000.0		

*List the identification numbers of wells used to obtain the high and low values for each parameter

**Monitor Wells

Only one value quantified; different detection limits for each of 3 sampling rounds.

##No quantified values

+Only 4 quantified values; different detection limits for each of 3 sampling rounds

**ATTACHMENT 4B
BASELINE WATER QUALITY TABLE
GOLIAD PROJECT SAND A NONPRODUCTION ZONE**

	Parameter	Units	Non-Production Zone			Well ID for Non-Production Zone
			Low	Ave.	High	
1	Calcium	mg/l	101	181	310	OMW-1
2	Magnesium	mg/l	9.2	21.2	40.5	OMW-2
3	Sodium	mg/l	83	105	133	OMW-3
4	Potassium	mg/l	0	1.7	4.4	OMW-4
5	Carbonate	mg/l	0	0	0	OMW-5
6	Bicarbonate	mg/l	246	315	370	OMW-6
7	Sulfate	mg/l	36	103	181	OMW-7
8	Chloride	mg/l	122	264	648	OMW-8
9	Fluoride	mg/l	0.32	0.46	0.63	OMW-9
10	Nitrate-N	mg/l	1.90	6.16	10.5	
11	Silica	mg/l	16.1	33.8	51.2	
12	pH	std. units	6.70	7.14	7.44	
13	TDS	mg/l	403	923	2350	
14	Conductivity	µmhos	1040	1549	2520	
15	Alkalinity	mg/l	202	258	303	
16	Ammonia-N	mg/l	<0.1	0.13	0.47	
17	Arsenic	mg/l	<0.01	0.013	0.031	
18	Cadmium	mg/l	<1E-3	#	#	# No quantified values.
19	Iron	mg/l	<3E-2	0.085	0.890	
20	Lead	mg/l	<2E-3	##	3E-3	## Only two quantified values; different detection limits for 3 sampling rounds.
21	Manganese	mg/l	<3E-3	0.026	0.09	
22	Mercury	mg/l	<1E-4	#	#	
23	Molybdenum	mg/l	<1E-2	##	0.024	
24	Selenium	mg/l	<3E-3	0.011	0.013	
25	Uranium	mg/l	<3E-3	0.01	0.016	
26	Radium-226	pCi/l	0.2	1.4	6	

**ATTACHMENT 5
 CONTROL PARAMETER UPPER LIMITS TABLE**

Production Zone	
Control Parameter	Sand B
Chloride, mg/l	231
Conductivity, umhos/cm	1,425

Non-Production Zone	
Control Parameter	Sand A 1st Overlying Aquifer
Chloride, mg/l	810
Conductivity, umhos/cm	3,150

**ATTACHMENT 6
RESTORATION TABLE**

<u>Parameter</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Concentration</u>
Calcium	mg/l	96
Magnesium	mg/l	17.8
Sodium	mg/l	97
Potassium	mg/l	6.4
Carbonate	mg/l	0.0
Bicarbonate	mg/l	308
Sulfate	mg/l	43.2
Chloride	mg/l	164
Nitrate-N	mg/l	0.14
Fluoride	mg/l	0.58
Silica	mg/l	29.8
TDS	mg/l	587
Conductivity	µmhos/cm	1084
Alkalinity	mg/l as CaCO ₃	253
pH	Std. Units	7.18 to 7.96
Arsenic	mg/l	0.010
Iron	mg/l	0.68
Manganese	mg/l	0.027
Molybdenum	mg/l	0.185
Selenium	mg/l	0.007
Uranium	mg/l	0.050
Radium ²²⁶	pCi/l	391

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



COMBINED REVISED NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION AND INTENT TO OBTAIN CLASS III INJECTION WELL AREA PERMIT RENEWAL AND AMENDMENT AND NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION FOR CLASS III INJECTION WELL AREA PERMIT RENEWAL AND AMENDMENT

PERMIT NO. UR03075

APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION. Uranium Energy Corp., 500 North Shoreline Boulevard, Suite 800N, Corpus Christi, Texas 78401, an in-situ uranium mining business, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for permit renewal to authorize recovery of uranium and restoration of the aquifer bearing the uranium and permit amendment to revise the permit range table values and to revise the excursion monitoring parameters to add total alkalinity, sulfate, and uranium and remove total dissolved solids. The facility is located at 14689 North United States Highway 183, Yorktown, Texas 78164 in Goliad County, Texas. TCEQ received the application on December 22, 2020. The following link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and is not part of the application or notice:

<https://tceq.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=db5bac44afbc468bbddd360f8168250f&marker=-97.356944%2C28.865555&level=12>. For exact location, refer to application.

The TCEQ Executive Director has completed the technical review of the application and prepared a draft permit. The draft permit, if approved, would establish the conditions under which the facility must operate. The Executive Director has made a preliminary decision that this permit, if issued, meets all statutory and regulatory requirements. The application, Executive Director's preliminary decision, and draft permit are available for viewing and copying at Goliad Public Library, 320 South Commercial, Goliad, Texas 77963.

PUBLIC COMMENT / PUBLIC MEETING. The TCEQ held a public meeting at 7:00 PM on August 5, 2024 at Goliad Memorial Auditorium. You may submit additional public comments or request another public meeting about this application. The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or to ask questions about the application. TCEQ holds a public meeting if the Executive Director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.

OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING. After the deadline for submitting public comments, the Executive Director will consider all timely comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. **Unless the application is directly referred for a contested case hearing, the response to comments, and**

Appendix F

the Executive Director's decision on the application, will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments and to those persons who are on the mailing list for this application. If comments are received, the mailing will also provide instructions for requesting reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision and for requesting a contested case hearing. A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in state district court.

TO REQUEST A CONTESTED CASE HEARING, YOU MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN YOUR REQUEST: your name, address, phone number; applicant's name and permit number; the location and distance of your property/activities relative to the facility; a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the facility in a way not common to the general public; a list of all disputed issues of fact that you submit during the comment period and, the statement "[I/we] request a contested case hearing." If the request for contested case hearing is filed on behalf of a group or association, the request must designate the group's representative for receiving future correspondence; identify by name and physical address an individual member of the group who would be adversely affected by the facility or activity; provide the information discussed above regarding the affected member's location and distance from the facility or activity; explain how and why the member would be affected; and explain how the interests the group seeks to protect are relevant to the group's purpose.

Following the close of all applicable comment and request periods, the Executive Director will forward the application and any requests for reconsideration or for a contested case hearing to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting. The Commission may only grant a request for a contested case hearing on issues the requestor submitted in their timely comments that were not subsequently withdrawn.

The Commission will only grant a contested case hearing on disputed issues of fact or mixed questions of fact and law that are relevant and material to the Commission's decision on the application. Further, the Commission will only grant a hearing on issues that were raised in timely filed comments that were not subsequently withdrawn.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ACTION. The Executive Director may issue final approval of the application unless a timely contested case hearing request or request for reconsideration is filed. If a timely hearing request or request for reconsideration is filed, the Executive Director will not issue final approval of the permit and will forward the application and request to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting.

MAILING LIST. If you submit public comments, a request for a contested case hearing or a reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision, you will be added to the mailing list for this application to receive future public notices mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk. In addition, you may request to be placed on: (1) the permanent mailing list for a specific applicant name and permit number; and/or (2) the mailing list for a specific county. To be placed on the permanent and/or the county mailing list, clearly specify which list(s) and send your request to TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below.

INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE. For details about the status of the application, visit the Commissioners' Integrated Database at www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/cid. Once you have access to the CID using the above link, enter the permit number for this application, which is provided at the top of this notice.

AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION. All public comments and requests must be submitted within 30 days from the date of newspaper publication of this notice either electronically at www.tceq.texas.gov/agency/decisions/cc/comments.html, or in writing to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. Please be aware that any contact information you provide, including your name, phone number, email address and physical address will become part of the agency's public record. For more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the TCEQ Public Education Program, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040 or visit their website at www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/pep. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

Further information may also be obtained from Uranium Energy Corp. at the address stated above or by calling Craig Wall at 361-888-8235.

Issued: October 17, 2024

Ellie Guerra

From: PUBCOMMENT-OCC
Sent: Wednesday, December 4, 2024 2:08 PM
To: PUBCOMMENT-RMD; PUBCOMMENT-ELD; PUBCOMMENT-OCC2; PUBCOMMENT-OPIC
Cc: Laurie Gharis; Deornette Monteleone
Subject: FW: Comm Mail
Attachments: doc04049420241204133803.pdf; doc04049620241204133922.pdf; doc03328720241204155630.pdf

PM, H, and RFR for all 3 attached letters.

From: Laurie Gharis <Laurie.Gharis@tceq.texas.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 4, 2024 1:58 PM
To: PUBCOMMENT-OCC <PUBCOMMENT-OCC@tceq.texas.gov>
Cc: Deornette Monteleone <Deornette.Monteleone@tceq.texas.gov>
Subject: Comm Mail

Good afternoon,

These 3 letters are COMM mail directed to OCC and the Commissioners and will go with the Commissioners Correspondence, but they are associated with UR03075, so will need to be coded and input into CID.

Sincerely,

Laurie

Laurie Gharis
Office of the Chief Clerk
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Office Phone: 512-239-1835
Cell Phone: 737-263-9116

How is our customer service? Fill out our online customer satisfaction survey at:
www.tceq.texas.gov/customersurvey



GOLIAD COUNTY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

118 S. Market St., P.O. Box 562, Goliad, Texas 77963-0562

Telephone: (361) 645-1716

website: www.goliadcogcd.org | email: gcgcd@goliadgcd.org

Board of Directors:

President – Wilfred Korth

Vice-President – Terrell Graham

Secretary – Colt Williams

Directors – Art Dohmann, Barbara Smith, Reagan Sahadi, Tate Bamnert

November 21, 2024

Office of the Chief Clerk, MC105

TCEQ

12100 Park 35 Circle, Building F

Austin, Texas 78753

TEXAS
COMMISSION
ON ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY
2024 DEC -4 PM 1:34
CHIEF CLERKS OFFICE

Request for a Public Meeting

Due to the major amendment after the public meeting was held. Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District (GCGCD) urges that an additional Public Meeting be held. Changing control parameters will have consequences that should have been available for discussion at the Public Meeting that was held on August 5, 2024.

Request for Reconsideration

GCGCD is concerned that this application has not received the critical review by the TCEQ that it should have. The TCEQ issued a third Technical Notice of Deficiency (TNOD) when this is not normal practice. Normal practice would have been to reject the renewal application rather than issue a third TNOD. The TCEQ then issued a fourth TNOD well beyond normal practice. A permit renewal should have been a simple matter for a company with the technical expertise necessary to safely mine uranium. It should not have required four TNODs. Arguably there was a fifth unofficial TNOD as discussed further below. For these reasons and as outlined in its comments GCGCD Requests Reconsideration of the preliminary decision.

Request for a Contested Case Hearing

GCGCD renews its request for a Contested Case Hearing on this application for permit renewal and major amendment for the reasons given in their public comments.

Public Comments

GCGCD wishes to add to our previous comments regarding the renewal application for Class III injection well permit number UR03075 (the "Mining Permit"). GCGCD adopts its previous comments herein for all purposes.

The TCEQ permitting process is reliant on the self-reporting process. For the self-reporting process to function properly, the permittee must exhibit expertise, integrity and reliability. GCGCD feels that Uranium Energy Corp. (UEC) has not exhibited that it has the proper level of expertise, integrity, or reliability for renewal of its uranium mining permit. We are extremely concerned that UEC's uranium mining activities will lead to groundwater contamination. All the

May we be responsible stewards of our natural resources

properties surrounding UEC mine are reliant on shallow groundwater for their drinking water. The following is a partial list of the reasons GCGCD feels that UEC does not have the proper level of expertise, integrity and reliability to mine shallow uranium safely within shallow groundwater zones used for drinking water. A small error could have a large impact.

A. Public Comment Summary

1. Faulting. The application continues to contain well known incorrect information regarding faulting in the Area of Review (AOR). As far as we can tell the application continues to depict only 2 faults when both the UEC and TCEQ have long known there are at least 11 faults in the AOR.
2. Oil and Gas Wells. We have identified at least 2 oil & gas wells where the plugging is questionable.
3. Technical Notices of Deficiency. There have been at least 4 if not 5 Technical Notices of Deficiency (TNOD) on the subject renewal application. The number of NOD's demonstrates a lack of technical expertise, integrity and reliability on the part of UEC.
4. Major Amendment. UEC submitted a major amendment after the public meeting was held. The major amendment should have been part of the public meeting process. Major amendment replacing Total Dissolved Solids with alkalinity as a control parameter will not lead to the best restoration process. But a cheaper one for UEC.
5. Groundwater Supply. This area of Goliad County is already short of groundwater supplies. Mining itself would use up short supplies of groundwater in the area. Restoration of groundwater after mining would critically impair already short groundwater supplies in the area.
6. Hydrologic Properties. Hydrologic properties used in the application appear to be incorrect in at least some instances.
7. Public Need and Necessity. Public need and necessity are critical elements of this type of mining permit.
8. Production Area Authorization. Fault Transmissivity has not been determined.
9. Arsenic Mobilization. We remain concerned about mining causing arsenic mobilization. The area of the mine and surrounding areas are known to contain moderate to high levels of arsenic.
10. Responsibility and Accountability. The TCEQ is not living up to its mission statement.

B. Public Comment Detail

1. Faulting

The original Mining Permit issuance was based upon erroneous key findings of fact in TCEQ's order dated March 7, 2011. This had a domino effect on other findings of fact and conclusions of law. Some of the findings of fact are excerpted from the final order below. Finding of fact 97 indicates there are two faults in the mining area. Finding of fact 101 indicates that the Mine Application accurately and adequately describes all faults in the Mining Permit Area. These findings of facts were taken almost verbatim from UEC's proposed order to the TCEQ in a letter from their attorney to TCEQ commissioners dated January 11, 2011.

97. Two faults exist within the proposed Mine Permit Area: the Northwest Fault and the Southeast Fault.
98. The Northwest Fault is the larger of the two and runs along the northwest portion of the proposed Mine Permit Area, near the perimeter of proposed production areas A and C and very near the perimeter of proposed production area D.
99. Further characterization of the Northwest Fault is not required for the Mine Permit. Where applicable, future PAA applications will include the results of hydrologic testing and an interpretation of those results with respect to any faults to determine the hydrologic connection both across the fault and vertically along the fault.
100. The Southeast Fault transects only a small part of the southeast corner of the proposed Mine Permit Area and touches none of the proposed production areas.
101. The Mine Application accurately and adequately describes all faults in the proposed Mine Permit Area.
102. The Mine Application meets all applicable criteria of 30 TAC § 331.122, related to required consideration by the Commission prior to issuing a Class III Injection Well Area Permit. The findings set forth in Section V.D above are incorporated by reference herein.

The renewal application continues the falsehood that there are only two faults in the mining area. And that UEC has identified and described all the faults in the mining area.

TCEQ staff reviewing the mining permit renewal is the same staff that reviewed the waste disposal well renewal where we first became aware that there were at least 11 faults in the AOR. The TCEQ understands that there are more than two faults in the mining area. As far as we can tell the faulting in the mining permit has not been updated in the mining permit renewal application.

At least 5 of the 11 identified faults in the AOR extend into Underground Source Drinking Water (USDW). At least two faults extend into the Goliad Formation. Other faults may extend into shallower depths. Either data on faults is missing or unclear at shallow depths.

In TNOD #4 the TCEQ asked whether UEC had done any testing to determine if the faults were transmissive. UEC replied that it did not have testing to determine the transmissivity of faults in the mining area. It can only be guessed that UEC intends to determine if the faults are transmissive once mining begins, once mining fluids are detected offsite. It is irresponsible of the TCEQ to renew this mining permit without any clear understanding of the transmissivity of the faults. This is especially so given the high degree of faulting within the AOR.

This incorrect identification and description of faulting in the mining area and the lack of data on the transmissivity of the faults is not indicative of the expertise, integrity and reliability necessary for a uranium mining operation in shallow sands where area drinking water is obtained. This lack of expertise, integrity and reliability does not work well with the TCEQ self-reporting process.

We agree with and adopt as our own the comments made by H.C. Clark November 1, 2024.

2. Oil & Gas Wells

One of our concerns is that mining fluid could travel down an improperly plugged well bore then through an intersecting fault over long distances. Contamination could also occur the other way around. Mining fluid could be forced down or along a fault and upward towards the surface through an improperly plugged oil and gas well bore. This area has a long history of oil and gas production. Even when records exist, they aren't conclusive. Due to early oil and gas production in the area, there is at least some likelihood that there are oil and gas wells in the area for which records do not exist or have not been discovered.

3. Technical Notices of Deficiency

At this point there have been at least 4 TNODs issued by the TCEQ. In TNOD #3 the TCEQ noted, "Please be aware that the current practice of this section is not to issue a third technical notice of deficiency." The current practice is to issue a rejection letter rather than issue a 3rd TNOD. Yet on October 24, 2023, the TCEQ issued TNOD #4. A permittee with the requisite levels of expertise, integrity and reliability should not need four TNODs for a renewal application.

By letter dated August 14, 2024, UEC filed a document titled UR03075 10-Year Renewal Application - Supplemental Package. UEC noted, "A supplemental package has been prepared **at the request of the TCEQ for the renewal application of UR03075.**" Bold text added. Making it clear that the TCEQ requested these changes. A document can be titled almost anything. This appears to be the response to some type of verbal communication between the TCEQ and UEC. In effect this is a 5th TNOD. This is not indicative of the expertise, integrity and reliability needed for TCEQ's self-reporting process.

Due to the number of attempts by UEC to get a renewal application right, it is valid concern whether UEC has the technical expertise to safely operate a uranium mine near shallow drinking water wells.

4. Major Amendment

Part of the Supplemental Package is a Major Amendment. UEC wants to change Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) to total alkalinity as a control parameter. TDS is a more standard and suitable measurement of water quality than total alkalinity. The only reason we can determine that UEC wants to change the control parameter from TDS to total alkalinity is that restoration will be cheaper for them. It will not produce better water quality for the surrounding groundwater users.

This major amendment was not submitted until a few days after a public meeting was held. The public meeting should have been rescheduled until after the major amendment. Again, this is a matter of expertise, integrity and reliability. The impact and results of changing the control parameter from TDS to total alkalinity should have been part of the discussion at the public meeting. At this late date changing the control parameter should not be part of this permit renewal. UEC's request to change the control parameter should be denied.

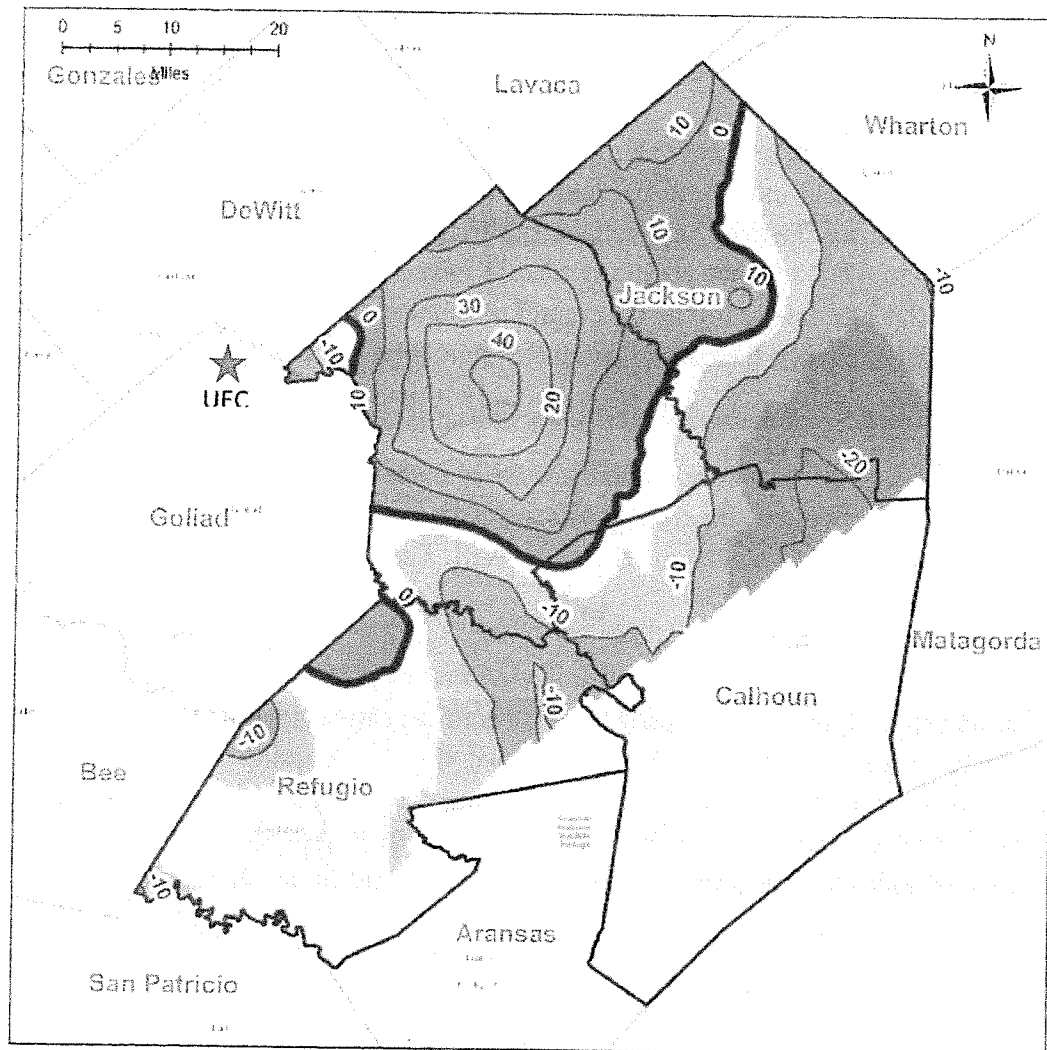
5. Groundwater Supply

There are at least 30 domestic households in the immediate area of UEC's proposed uranium mine, plus a 200-300 participant church. There are an estimated 400 head of cattle in the immediate area. The church is indicating a need to drill a new well. Their existing well which is completed in the A sand is going dry.

In general, we are seeing a significant groundwater elevation decline in the Ander area. Our own measurements and modeling indicate there is significant water level decline in Goliad County but the Ander area specifically. We are concerned that first mining and then restoration of the groundwater will consume a large amount of groundwater. This may cause more wells in the area to go dry and the pumps in the wells placed deeper at significant cost to the well owners. This is if new deeper wells aren't required at an even greater expense to the well owners. These costs figure into the public need and necessity discussion below.

The following figure is taken from a report commissioned by the Victoria, Calhoun, Jackson and Refugio County groundwater conservation districts. GCGCD did not participate in this study/report in any way.¹ In the below, at the junction of Goliad, Victoria and Dewitt Counties, near UEC's proposed uranium mine, a 15 feet or greater drop in groundwater levels is shown from 2000 to 2022. (Note: The approximate location of UEC's proposed mine has been added to the figure below.) This is independent confirmation of our measurements and modeling. It would be irresponsible of the TCEQ to issue a mining permit that would cause the use of hundreds of acre-feet of groundwater per year for mining and subsequent restoration of groundwater in the mining area with already impaired groundwater resources.

¹ Young, S.C., 2023. Memorandum to Tim Andrus titled: Application of Geostatistical Techniques to Interpret Measured 2022 Water Levels, dated December 18, 2023. See <https://www.vcgcd.org/files/94d102033/VCGCD+-+Intera+Report+Water+Level+Analysis+for+CY2022+-+20231218.pdf>



Change in Water Level (ft): Evangeline 2000-2022

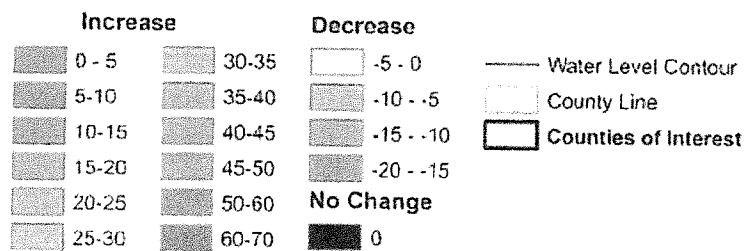


Figure7 Contours of the change in water levels in the Evangeline Aquifer from 2000 to 2022.

6. Hydrologic Properties

UEC's application states that the hydraulic gradient is approximately 5.5 feet per mile, with a corresponding groundwater flow of 6.7 feet per year. Our experts calculated the groundwater flow at the site at 40 feet per year. A significant difference. One part of the equation for groundwater flow is the hydraulic gradient. Available data shows that the hydraulic gradient at and near the site is closer to 10 feet per mile at the time the application was submitted.

Groundwater flow was one of the concerns raised by the EPA before granting an aquifer exemption. The EPA felt that groundwater flow modeling needed to be done.

Our concerns regarding UEC using the incorrect hydrologic properties are well founded. Based on the contested case for UEC's waste disposal wells the ALJs found that UEC had not used the correct hydrologic properties. The TCEQ should scrutinize all of UEC's selected hydrologic properties including, but not limited to porosity, hydraulic conductivity and hydraulic gradient.

7. Public Need and Necessity

After listening to the discussion at the public meeting, the Goliad County Commissioners passed a resolution opposing the renewal of the mining permit which is part of the public comments for this permit. Broadly paraphrasing the resolution, the commissioners court did not find any public need or necessity for renewal of this uranium mining permit. The already impaired groundwater supply in the area discussed above brings into focus the public need and necessity of this uranium mine. Although public need and necessity can be defined broadly. We are asking the TCEQ to focus narrowly on the public need and necessity of Goliad County including the impaired groundwater resources. We are sure that if the TCEQ does so. The Goliad County public need and necessity militates against the renewal of this permit.

8. Production Area Authorization

GCGCD has been unable to find a copy of a renewal application for the production area authorization. Since a renewal application was not timely submitted. UEC's production area authorization has expired.

An issue during the contested case hearing for the mining permit was whether the faults were horizontally or vertically transmissive. In the final order the mining permit was granted due to the first production area authorization not being near the Northwest fault. But before any production area authorization was granted near the Northwest fault testing would need to be done to determine transmissivity in accordance with the final order.

The production area authorization has expired, and 11 faults have been identified in the AOR. The Northwest fault is intersected or transected by other faults that may be near or in the original production area authorization. It would be irresponsible of the TCEQ to issue this mining permit renewal without determining the transmissivity of the faults in the mining area with this many faults transecting the mining area.

9. Arsenic Mobilization.

Since the proposal of this mine, we have remained concerned about the mining causing arsenic mobilization. Wells we have been monitoring around this site show concentrations of arsenic near EPA limits for public water supplies. According to TCEQ guidance document AS-218 regarding Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR). Simply injecting oxic water into aquifer can mobilize arsenic.

The lixiviant injected for mining uranium will intentionally mobilize uranium. It will mobilize the arsenic present along with the uranium. The guidance document states, “Additionally, once mobilized, arsenic and other naturally occurring contaminants are challenging and costly to remediate, which can result in project abandonment. Water quality degradation accounts for approximately 21% of abandoned ASR wells nationally. Arsenic mobilization was reported for at least 11% of inactive wells in the United States, rendering it the most reported water quality contaminant during ASR.” With this much focus on arsenic mobilization during ASR. It is a valid concern that should be focused on by a uranium mining permit.

10. Responsibility and Accountability

The mission statement for the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) states that it “strives to protect our state’s public health and natural resources consistent with sustainable economic development. Our goal is in clean air, clean water, and the safe management of water”.

The mission statement for GCGCD is to develop rules to provide for the protection and conservation of groundwater and to prevent waste of Groundwater from the Gulf Coast Aquifer to the extent of which the District has jurisdiction.

The District is committed to manage and protect the groundwater resources within its jurisdiction and to work with others to ensure a sustainable, adequate, high quality and cost-effective supply of water, now and in the future. The District will strive to develop, promote, and implement water conservation and management strategies to protect water resources for the benefit of the citizens, economy, and environment of the District. The preservation of this most valuable resource can be achieved in a prudent and cost-effective manner through conservation, education, management, and cooperation.

Drinking water quality groundwater is the life blood for Goliad County. Without this drinking water supply, the Goliad County agricultural economy would not be sustainable. TCEQ and GCGCD have the responsibility to honestly and diligently achieve their mission for Goliad County.

The original application included water test data that was to be used in the restoration activity after mining of the uranium. These baseline wells were drilled and water data taken in the 2007 period simultaneous to approximately 700 exploration boreholes being drilled in the same vicinity into the same drinking water bearing sands. Seventeen years later, UEC has presented the same data to be used in the renewal application. Is this an honest and valid consideration to represent that water quality in a disturbed drinking water sand is the same quality as drinking water samples taken from a settled water sand that exists today and existed prior to exploration?

Disregarding for a moment that at least eleven (11) faults have been identified in the production area, the UR03075 permit/renewal states that the production area is in "a graben" between two (2) faults, northwest and southeast, and that the area is a recharge area for the Gulf Coast Aquifer. With recharge occurring, groundwater must exit the "graben" area. Are the two (2) noted faults transmissive? In what direction is the groundwater discharging? GCGCD has repeatedly tested water quality in six (6) domestic wells outside of the production boundary. These wells are on all sides and varying distances from the production boundary. The test results are recorded on the GCGCD website under two reports which are the "Town Hall Mtg.pdf" and Dr. Abitz Ltr. to TCEQ". There are two very significant conditions recorded by the test results.

1. Radon levels, which is a gas emitted when uranium is disturbed and activated have varied significantly. From 2006-2012, high radon readings were observed in all six (6) wells. By 2023, the radon level in all six (6) wells dropped to its lowest level in the 2006-2023 test period.
2. All six (6) wells tested achieved drinking water standards for radionuclides and arsenic. These components are what can cause health issues, primarily cancer. Activating these components are contrary to protecting public health and contrary to the Mission Statements of TCEQ and GCGCD.

It is irrational to accept data extracted seventeen (17) years ago under questionable conditions as being accurate and useable today. New water quality sampling under supervised procedures needs to be done to protect the drinking water supplies for numerous rural residences in the area. It also brings into question if the water quality is of unusable quality to meet the requirement for granting an "Aquifer Exemption".

GCGCD requests an opportunity to work with TCEQ staff, management and commissioners to better evaluate and understand the potential of in situ uranium mining in the Ander area of Goliad County.

The Ander area, as most of Goliad County, is a rural ranching community with varying sizes of homesteads and numerous private water wells providing drinking water for residents and livestock.

GCGCD has spent much time and resources in the Ander area and contends that TCEQ needs to become familiar with the area in order to make responsible decisions to fulfill their missions and to protect the people living in the Ander area. When reviewing an application, TCEQ representatives need site information to be able to make responsible decisions.

GCGCD and TCEQ share responsibility to protect the people living in the area. These residents are not in a retirement mode or financially able to relocate. The local economic sustainability must be protected.

The Governor, the Texas Ag Commissioner, and our State Legislature all recognize we have a Statewide Water Supply issues CRITICAL to the future of Texas, and are working on how to resolve that ongoing issue. TCEQ is the lead agency responsible for protection of groundwater, yet permits industrial practices they know can have a major impact on groundwater contamination.

TCEQ representatives need to visit individual water well locations, review water quality data and validate if the water is good quality drinking water or condemned.

TCEQ representatives need to understand that if drinking water is not available, many residents will be adversely affected and property values will significantly decline.

TCEQ representatives need to acknowledge their responsibility and accountability and provide adequate protection.

TCEQ should not simply stand behind an office generated statement that a permit application meets all state and federal legal and technical requirements without a site validation of facts.

Conclusion

GCGCD is concerned that the TCEQ is not reviewing this application with the criticality necessary to ensure safe groundwater supplies for Goliad County. At this point it appears that the TCEQ has all but rewritten the renewal application for UEC through more than what is normal and customary for TNODs for a mining application. Much less what should be a simple renewal application. We urge that the TCEQ reject this renewal application before real damage can be done.

Sincerely,

<signed>

Wilfred Korth, President

Colt Williams, Secretary

Art Dohmann, Director

Tate Bammert, Director

Terrell Graham, Vice President

Barbara Smith, Director

Reagan Sahadi, Director

cc: Texas Senator Lois Kolkurst
Post Office Box 12068, Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711
District Address:
5606 North Navarro #300M
Victoria, Texas 77904

Representative A.J. Loudereback
District 30, Room 1N.9
Austin, Texas 78768-2910
District Address:
Post Office Box 1792
Victoria, Texas 77902

Catarina Gonzales, TCEQ Commissioner
Office of the Chief Clerk, MC100
TCEQ
12100 Park 35 Circle, Building F
Austin, Texas 78753

Jon Niermann, TCEQ Chairman
Office of the Chief Clerk, MC100
TCEQ
12100 Park 35 Circle, Building F
Austin, Texas 78753

Bobby Janecka, TCEQ Commissioner
Office of the Chief Clerk, MC100
TCEQ
12100 Park 35 Circle, Building F
Austin, Texas 78753

file

Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District
Post Office Box 562
Goliad, Texas 77963

Retail



78753

U.S. POSTAGE PAID
FCM LETTER
GOLIAD, TX 77963
NOV 26, 2024

\$1.01

R2304M112323-05

RDC 99

RECEIVED

DEC 02 2024

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Commissioner's Office

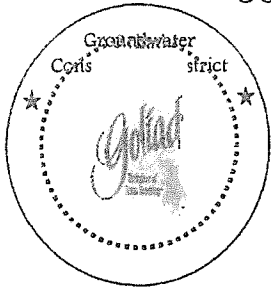
EDITHA SYRÉN, TCEQ Chairman
Office of the Chief Clerk, MC100
12100 Park 35 Circle, Building F
Austin, Texas 78753

RECEIVED

DEC 02 2024

TEQ MAIL CENTER
DA

TXN: 11/26/24
NO: 11/26/24
SYX: 11/26/24
TXN: 11/26/24
NO: 11/26/24
SYX: 11/26/24



GOLIAD COUNTY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

118 S. Market St., P.O. Box 562, Goliad, Texas 77963-0562

Telephone: (361) 645-1716

website: www.goliadcgcd.org | email: gcgcd@goliadcgcd.org

Board of Directors:

President -- Wilfred Korth

Vice-President -- Terrell Graham

Secretary -- Colt Williams

Directors -- Art Dobmann, Barbara Smith, Reagan Sahadi, Tate Bannert

November 21, 2024

Office of the Chief Clerk, MC105
TCEQ
12100 Park 35 Circle, Building F
Austin, Texas 78753

Request for a Public Meeting

Due to the major amendment after the public meeting was held. Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District (GCGCD) urges that an additional Public Meeting be held. Changing control parameters will have consequences that should have been available for discussion at the Public Meeting that was held on August 5, 2024.

Request for Reconsideration

GCGCD is concerned that this application has not received the critical review by the TCEQ that it should have. The TCEQ issued a third Technical Notice of Deficiency (TNOD) when this is not normal practice. Normal practice would have been to reject the renewal application rather than issue a third TNOD. The TCEQ then issued a fourth TNOD well beyond normal practice. A permit renewal should have been a simple matter for a company with the technical expertise necessary to safely mine uranium. It should not have required four TNODs. Arguably there was a fifth unofficial TNOD as discussed further below. For these reasons and as outlined in its comments GCGCD Requests Reconsideration of the preliminary decision.

Request for a Contested Case Hearing

GCGCD renews its request for a Contested Case Hearing on this application for permit renewal and major amendment for the reasons given in their public comments.

Public Comments

GCGCD wishes to add to our previous comments regarding the renewal application for Class III injection well permit number UR03075 (the "Mining Permit"). GCGCD adopts its previous comments herein for all purposes.

The TCEQ permitting process is reliant on the self-reporting process. For the self-reporting process to function properly, the permittee must exhibit expertise, integrity and reliability. GCGCD feels that Uranium Energy Corp. (UEC) has not exhibited that it has the proper level of expertise, integrity, or reliability for renewal of its uranium mining permit. We are extremely concerned that UEC's uranium mining activities will lead to groundwater contamination. All the

TEXAS
COMMISSION
ON ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY
2024 DEC -4 PM 1:53
CHIEF CLERKS OFFICE

Very much responsible stewards of our natural resources

properties surrounding UEC mine are reliant on shallow groundwater for their drinking water. The following is a partial list of the reasons GCGCD feels that UEC does not have the proper level of expertise, integrity and reliability to mine shallow uranium safely within shallow groundwater zones used for drinking water. A small error could have a large impact.

A. Public Comment Summary

1. Faulting. The application continues to contain well known incorrect information regarding faulting in the Area of Review (AOR). As far as we can tell the application continues to depict only 2 faults when both the UEC and TCEQ have long known there are at least 11 faults in the AOR.
2. Oil and Gas Wells. We have identified at least 2 oil & gas wells where the plugging is questionable.
3. Technical Notices of Deficiency. There have been at least 4 if not 5 Technical Notices of Deficiency (TNOD) on the subject renewal application. The number of NOD's demonstrates a lack of technical expertise, integrity and reliability on the part of UEC.
4. Major Amendment. UEC submitted a major amendment after the public meeting was held. The major amendment should have been part of the public meeting process. Major amendment replacing Total Dissolved Solids with alkalinity as a control parameter will not lead to the best restoration process. But a cheaper one for UEC.
5. Groundwater Supply. This area of Goliad County is already short of groundwater supplies. Mining itself would use up short supplies of groundwater in the area. Restoration of groundwater after mining would critically impair already short groundwater supplies in the area.
6. Hydrologic Properties. Hydrologic properties used in the application appear to be incorrect in at least some instances.
7. Public Need and Necessity. Public need and necessity are critical elements of this type of mining permit.
8. Production Area Authorization. Fault Transmissivity has not been determined.
9. Arsenic Mobilization. We remain concerned about mining causing arsenic mobilization. The area of the mine and surrounding areas are known to contain moderate to high levels of arsenic.
10. Responsibility and Accountability. The TCEQ is not living up to its mission statement.

B. Public Comment Detail

1. Faulting

The original Mining Permit issuance was based upon erroneous key findings of fact in TCEQ's order dated March 7, 2011. This had a domino effect on other findings of fact and conclusions of law. Some of the findings of fact are excerpted from the final order below. Finding of fact 97 indicates there are two faults in the mining area. Finding of fact 101 indicates that the Mine Application accurately and adequately describes all faults in the Mining Permit Area. These findings of facts were taken almost verbatim from UEC's proposed order to the TCEQ in a letter from their attorney to TCEQ commissioners dated January 11, 2011.

97. Two faults exist within the proposed Mine Permit Area: the Northwest Fault and the Southeast Fault.
98. The Northwest Fault is the larger of the two and runs along the northwest portion of the proposed Mine Permit Area, near the perimeter of proposed production areas A and C and very near the perimeter of proposed production area D.
99. Further characterization of the Northwest Fault is not required for the Mine Permit. Where applicable, future PAA applications will include the results of hydrologic testing and an interpretation of those results with respect to any faults to determine the hydrologic connection both across the fault and vertically along the fault.
100. The Southeast Fault transects only a small part of the southeast corner of the proposed Mine Permit Area and touches none of the proposed production areas.
101. The Mine Application accurately and adequately describes all faults in the proposed Mine Permit Area.
102. The Mine Application meets all applicable criteria of 30 TAC § 331.122, related to required consideration by the Commission prior to issuing a Class III Injection Well Area Permit. The findings set forth in Section V.D above are incorporated by reference herein.

The renewal application continues the falsehood that there are only two faults in the mining area. And that UEC has identified and described all the faults in the mining area.

TCEQ staff reviewing the mining permit renewal is the same staff that reviewed the waste disposal well renewal where we first became aware that there were at least 11 faults in the AOR. The TCEQ understands that there are more than two faults in the mining area. As far as we can tell the faulting in the mining permit has not been updated in the mining permit renewal application.

At least 5 of the 11 identified faults in the AOR extend into Underground Source Drinking Water (USDW). At least two faults extend into the Goliad Formation. Other faults may extend into shallower depths. Either data on faults is missing or unclear at shallow depths.

In TNOD #4 the TCEQ asked whether UEC had done any testing to determine if the faults were transmissive. UEC replied that it did not have testing to determine the transmissivity of faults in the mining area. It can only be guessed that UEC intends to determine if the faults are transmissive once mining begins, once mining fluids are detected offsite. It is irresponsible of the TCEQ to renew this mining permit without any clear understanding of the transmissivity of the faults. This is especially so given the high degree of faulting within the AOR.

This incorrect identification and description of faulting in the mining area and the lack of data on the transmissivity of the faults is not indicative of the expertise, integrity and reliability necessary for a uranium mining operation in shallow sands where area drinking water is obtained. This lack of expertise, integrity and reliability does not work well with the TCEQ self-reporting process.

We agree with and adopt as our own the comments made by H.C. Clark November 1, 2024.

2. Oil & Gas Wells

One of our concerns is that mining fluid could travel down an improperly plugged well bore then through an intersecting fault over long distances. Contamination could also occur the other way around. Mining fluid could be forced down or along a fault and upward towards the surface through an improperly plugged oil and gas well bore. This area has a long history of oil and gas production. Even when records exist, they aren't conclusive. Due to early oil and gas production in the area, there is at least some likelihood that there are oil and gas wells in the area for which records do not exist or have not been discovered.

3. Technical Notices of Deficiency

At this point there have been at least 4 TNODs issued by the TCEQ. In TNOD #3 the TCEQ noted. "Please be aware that the current practice of this section is not to issue a third technical notice of deficiency." The current practice is to issue a rejection letter rather than issue a 3rd TNOD. Yet on October 24, 2023, the TCEQ issued TNOD #4. A permittee with the requisite levels of expertise, integrity and reliability should not need four TNODs for a renewal application.

By letter dated August 14, 2024, UEC filed a document titled UR03075 10-Year Renewal Application - Supplemental Package. UEC noted, "A supplemental package has been prepared **at the request of the TCEQ for the renewal application of UR03075.**" Bold text added. Making it clear that the TCEQ requested these changes. A document can be titled almost anything. This appears to be the response to some type of verbal communication between the TCEQ and UEC. In effect this is a 5th TNOD. This is not indicative of the expertise, integrity and reliability needed for TCEQ's self-reporting process.

Due to the number of attempts by UEC to get a renewal application right, it is valid concern whether UEC has the technical expertise to safely operate a uranium mine near shallow drinking water wells.

4. Major Amendment

Part of the Supplemental Package is a Major Amendment. UEC wants to change Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) to total alkalinity as a control parameter. TDS is a more standard and suitable measurement of water quality than total alkalinity. The only reason we can determine that UEC wants to change the control parameter from TDS to total alkalinity is that restoration will be cheaper for them. It will not produce better water quality for the surrounding groundwater users.

This major amendment was not submitted until a few days after a public meeting was held. The public meeting should have been rescheduled until after the major amendment. Again, this is a matter of expertise, integrity and reliability. The impact and results of changing the control parameter from TDS to total alkalinity should have been part of the discussion at the public meeting. At this late date changing the control parameter should not be part of this permit renewal. UEC's request to change the control parameter should be denied.

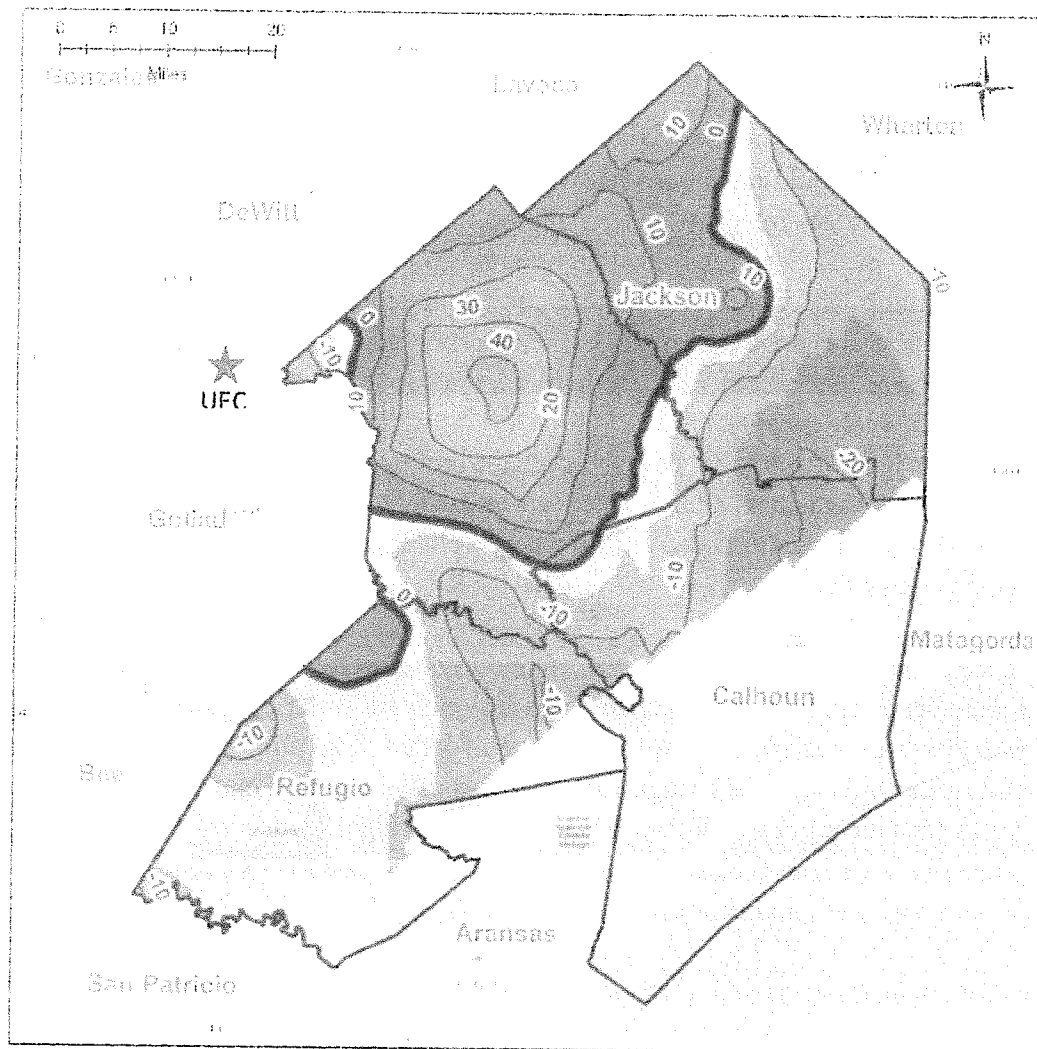
5. Groundwater Supply

There are at least 30 domestic households in the immediate area of UEC's proposed uranium mine, plus a 200-300 participant church. There are an estimated 400 head of cattle in the immediate area. The church is indicating a need to drill a new well. Their existing well which is completed in the A sand is going dry.

In general, we are seeing a significant groundwater elevation decline in the Ander area. Our own measurements and modeling indicate there is significant water level decline in Goliad County but the Ander area specifically. We are concerned that first mining and then restoration of the groundwater will consume a large amount of groundwater. This may cause more wells in the area to go dry and the pumps in the wells placed deeper at significant cost to the well owners. This is if new deeper wells aren't required at an even greater expense to the well owners. These costs figure into the public need and necessity discussion below.

The following figure is taken from a report commissioned by the Victoria, Calhoun, Jackson and Refugio County groundwater conservation districts. GCGCD did not participate in this study/report in any way.¹ In the below, at the junction of Goliad, Victoria and Dewitt Counties, near UEC's proposed uranium mine, a 15 feet or greater drop in groundwater levels is shown from 2000 to 2022. (Note: The approximate location of UEC's proposed mine has been added to the figure below.) This is independent confirmation of our measurements and modeling. It would be irresponsible of the TCEQ to issue a mining permit that would cause the use of hundreds of acre-feet of groundwater per year for mining and subsequent restoration of groundwater in the mining area with already impaired groundwater resources.

¹ Young, S.C., 2023. Memorandum to Tim Andruss Titled: Application of Geostatistical Techniques to Interpret Measured 2022 Water Levels, dated December 18, 2023. See <https://www.vcgcd.org/files/94d102033/VCGCD+-+Intera+Report+Water+Level+Analysis+for+CY2022+--+20231218.pdf>



Change in Water Level (ft): Evangeline 2000-2022

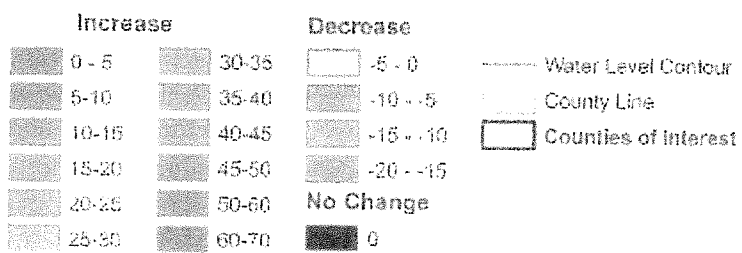


Figure7 Contours of the change in water levels in the Evangeline Aquifer from 2000 to 2022.

6. Hydrologic Properties

UEC's application states that the hydraulic gradient is approximately 5.5 feet per mile, with a corresponding groundwater flow of 6.7 feet per year. Our experts calculated the groundwater flow at the site at 40 feet per year. A significant difference. One part of the equation for groundwater flow is the hydraulic gradient. Available data shows that the hydraulic gradient at and near the site is closer to 10 feet per mile at the time the application was submitted.

Groundwater flow was one of the concerns raised by the EPA before granting an aquifer exemption. The EPA felt that groundwater flow modeling needed to be done.

Our concerns regarding UEC using the incorrect hydrologic properties are well founded. Based on the contested case for UEC's waste disposal wells the ALJs found that UEC had not used the correct hydrologic properties. The TCEQ should scrutinize all of UEC's selected hydrologic properties including, but not limited to porosity, hydraulic conductivity and hydraulic gradient.

7. Public Need and Necessity

After listening to the discussion at the public meeting, the Goliad County Commissioners passed a resolution opposing the renewal of the mining permit which is part of the public comments for this permit. Broadly paraphrasing the resolution, the commissioners court did not find any public need or necessity for renewal of this uranium mining permit. The already impaired groundwater supply in the area discussed above brings into focus the public need and necessity of this uranium mine. Although public need and necessity can be defined broadly. We are asking the TCEQ to focus narrowly on the public need and necessity of Goliad County including the impaired groundwater resources. We are sure that if the TCEQ does so. The Goliad County public need and necessity militates against the renewal of this permit.

8. Production Area Authorization

GCGCD has been unable to find a copy of a renewal application for the production area authorization. Since a renewal application was not timely submitted. UEC's production area authorization has expired.

An issue during the contested case hearing for the mining permit was whether the faults were horizontally or vertically transmissive. In the final order the mining permit was granted due to the first production area authorization not being near the Northwest fault. But before any production area authorization was granted near the Northwest fault testing would need to be done to determine transmissivity in accordance with the final order.

The production area authorization has expired, and 11 faults have been identified in the AOR. The Northwest fault is intersected or transected by other faults that may be near or in the original production area authorization. It would be irresponsible of the TCEQ to issue this mining permit renewal without determining the transmissivity of the faults in the mining area with this many faults transecting the mining area.

9. Arsenic Mobilization.

Since the proposal of this mine, we have remained concerned about the mining causing arsenic mobilization. Wells we have been monitoring around this site show concentrations of arsenic near EPA limits for public water supplies. According to TCEQ guidance document AS-218 regarding Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR). Simply injecting oxic water into aquifer can mobilize arsenic.

The lixiviant injected for mining uranium will intentionally mobilize uranium. It will mobilize the arsenic present along with the uranium. The guidance document states, "Additionally, once mobilized, arsenic and other naturally occurring contaminants are challenging and costly to remediate, which can result in project abandonment. Water quality degradation accounts for approximately 21% of abandoned ASR wells nationally. Arsenic mobilization was reported for at least 11% of inactive wells in the United States, rendering it the most reported water quality contaminant during ASR." With this much focus on arsenic mobilization during ASR. It is a valid concern that should be focused on by a uranium mining permit.

10. Responsibility and Accountability

The mission statement for the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) states that it "strives to protect our state's public health and natural resources consistent with sustainable economic development. Our goal is in clean air, clean water, and the safe management of water".

The mission statement for GCGCD is to develop rules to provide for the protection and conservation of groundwater and to prevent waste of Groundwater from the Gulf Coast Aquifer to the extent of which the District has jurisdiction.

The District is committed to manage and protect the groundwater resources within its jurisdiction and to work with others to ensure a sustainable, adequate, high quality and cost-effective supply of water, now and in the future. The District will strive to develop, promote, and implement water conservation and management strategies to protect water resources for the benefit of the citizens, economy, and environment of the District. The preservation of this most valuable resource can be achieved in a prudent and cost-effective manner through conservation, education, management, and cooperation.

Drinking water quality groundwater is the life blood for Goliad County. Without this drinking water supply, the Goliad County agricultural economy would not be sustainable. TCEQ and GCGCD have the responsibility to honestly and diligently achieve their mission for Goliad County.

The original application included water test data that was to be used in the restoration activity after mining of the uranium. These baseline wells were drilled and water data taken in the 2007 period simultaneous to approximately 700 exploration boreholes being drilled in the same vicinity into the same drinking water bearing sands. Seventeen years later, UEC has presented the same data to be used in the renewal application. Is this an honest and valid consideration to represent that water quality in a disturbed drinking water sand is the same quality as drinking water samples taken from a settled water sand that exists today and existed prior to exploration?

Disregarding for a moment that at least eleven (11) faults have been identified in the production area, the UR03075 permit/renewal states that the production area is in "a graben" between two (2) faults, northwest and southeast, and that the area is a recharge area for the Gulf Coast Aquifer. With recharge occurring, groundwater must exit the "graben" area. Are the two (2) noted faults transmissive? In what direction is the groundwater discharging? GCGCD has repeatedly tested water quality in six (6) domestic wells outside of the production boundary. These wells are on all sides and varying distances from the production boundary. The test results are recorded on the GCGCD website under two reports which are the "Town Hall Mtg.pdf" and Dr. Abitz Ltr. to TCEQ". There are two very significant conditions recorded by the test results.

1. Radon levels, which is a gas emitted when uranium is disturbed and activated have varied significantly. From 2006-2012, high radon readings were observed in all six (6) wells. By 2023, the radon level in all six (6) wells dropped to its lowest level in the 2006-2023 test period.
2. All six (6) wells tested achieved drinking water standards for radionuclides and arsenic. These components are what can cause health issues, primarily cancer. Activating these components are contrary to protecting public health and contrary to the Mission Statements of TCEQ and GCGCD.

It is irrational to accept data extracted seventeen (17) years ago under questionable conditions as being accurate and useable today. New water quality sampling under supervised procedures needs to be done to protect the drinking water supplies for numerous rural residences in the area. It also brings into question if the water quality is of unusable quality to meet the requirement for granting an "Aquifer Exemption".

GCGCD requests an opportunity to work with TCEQ staff, management and commissioners to better evaluate and understand the potential of in situ uranium mining in the Ander area of Goliad County.

The Ander area, as most of Goliad County, is a rural ranching community with varying sizes of homesteads and numerous private water wells providing drinking water for residents and livestock.

GCGCD has spent much time and resources in the Ander area and contends that TCEQ needs to become familiar with the area in order to make responsible decisions to fulfill their missions and to protect the people living in the Ander area. When reviewing an application, TCEQ representatives need site information to be able to make responsible decisions.

GCGCD and TCEQ share responsibility to protect the people living in the area. These residents are not in a retirement mode or financially able to relocate. The local economic sustainability must be protected.

The Governor, the Texas Ag Commissioner, and our State Legislature all recognize we have a Statewide Water Supply issues CRITICAL to the future of Texas, and are working on how to resolve that ongoing issue. TCEQ is the lead agency responsible for protection of groundwater, yet permits industrial practices they know can have a major impact on groundwater contamination.

TCEQ representatives need to visit individual water well locations, review water quality data and validate if the water is good quality drinking water or condemned.

TCEQ representatives need to understand that if drinking water is not available, many residents will be adversely affected and property values will significantly decline.

TCEQ representatives need to acknowledge their responsibility and accountability and provide adequate protection.

TCEQ should not simply stand behind an office generated statement that a permit application meets all state and federal legal and technical requirements without a site validation of facts.

Conclusion

GCGCD is concerned that the TCEQ is not reviewing this application with the criticality necessary to ensure safe groundwater supplies for Goliad County. At this point it appears that the TCEQ has all but rewritten the renewal application for UEC through more than what is normal and customary for TNODs for a mining application. Much less what should be a simple renewal application. We urge that the TCEQ reject this renewal application before real damage can be done.

Sincerely,

<signed>

Wilfred Korth, President

Colt Williams, Secretary

Art Dohmann, Director

Tate Bammert, Director

Terrell Graham, Vice President

Barbara Smith, Director

Reagan Sahadi, Director

cc: Texas Senator Lois Kolkurst
Post Office Box 12068, Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711
District Address:
5606 North Navarro #300M
Victoria, Texas 77904

Representative A.J. Loudereback
District 30, Room 1N.9
Austin, Texas 78768-2910
District Address:
Post Office Box 1792
Victoria, Texas 77902

Catarina Gonzales, TCEQ Commissioner
Office of the Chief Clerk, MC100
TCEQ
12100 Park 35 Circle, Building F
Austin, Texas 78753

Jon Niermann, TCEQ Chairman
Office of the Chief Clerk, MC100
TCEQ
12100 Park 35 Circle, Building F
Austin, Texas 78753

Bobby Janecka, TCEQ Commissioner
Office of the Chief Clerk, MC100
TCEQ
12100 Park 35 Circle, Building F
Austin, Texas 78753

file

Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District
Post Office Box 562
Goliad, Texas 77963

Retail



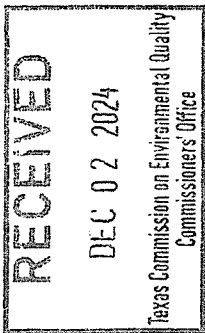
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
FCM LETTER
GOLIAD, TX 77963
NOV 26, 2024

78753

\$1.01

RDC 99

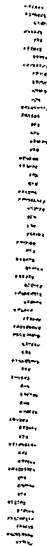
R2304M112323-05



Catarina Gonzales, TCEQ Commissioner
Office of the Chief Clerk, MC100
TCEQ

12100 Park 35 Circle, Building F
Austin, Texas 78753

78753-190200



CHIEF CLERKS OFFICE

2024 DEC -4 PM 1:34

TEXAS
COMMISSION
ON ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY



GOLIAD COUNTY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

118 S. Market St., P.O. Box 562, Goliad, Texas 77963-0562

Telephone: (361) 645-1716

website: www.goliadcogcd.org | email: gcgcd@goliadcogcd.org

Board of Directors:

President – Wilfred Korth

Vice-President – Terrell Graham

Secretary – Colt Williams

Directors – Art Dohmann, Barbara Smith, Reagan Sahadi, Tate Bammert

CHIEF CLERKS OFFICE

2024 DEC -4 PM 1:34

TEXAS
COMMISSION
ON ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY

November 21, 2024

Office of the Chief Clerk, MC105

TCEQ

12100 Park 35 Circle, Building F

Austin, Texas 78753

Request for a Public Meeting

Due to the major amendment after the public meeting was held. Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District (GCGCD) urges that an additional Public Meeting be held. Changing control parameters will have consequences that should have been available for discussion at the Public Meeting that was held on August 5, 2024.

Request for Reconsideration

GCGCD is concerned that this application has not received the critical review by the TCEQ that it should have. The TCEQ issued a third Technical Notice of Deficiency (TNOD) when this is not normal practice. Normal practice would have been to reject the renewal application rather than issue a third TNOD. The TCEQ then issued a fourth TNOD well beyond normal practice. A permit renewal should have been a simple matter for a company with the technical expertise necessary to safely mine uranium. It should not have required four TNODs. Arguably there was a fifth unofficial TNOD as discussed further below. For these reasons and as outlined in its comments GCGCD Requests Reconsideration of the preliminary decision.

Request for a Contested Case Hearing

GCGCD renews its request for a Contested Case Hearing on this application for permit renewal and major amendment for the reasons given in their public comments.

Public Comments

GCGCD wishes to add to our previous comments regarding the renewal application for Class III injection well permit number UR03075 (the "Mining Permit"). GCGCD adopts its previous comments herein for all purposes.

The TCEQ permitting process is reliant on the self-reporting process. For the self-reporting process to function properly, the permittee must exhibit expertise, integrity and reliability. GCGCD feels that Uranium Energy Corp. (UEC) has not exhibited that it has the proper level of expertise, integrity, or reliability for renewal of its uranium mining permit. We are extremely concerned that UEC's uranium mining activities will lead to groundwater contamination. All the

May we be responsible stewards of our natural resources

properties surrounding UEC mine are reliant on shallow groundwater for their drinking water. The following is a partial list of the reasons GCGCD feels that UEC does not have the proper level of expertise, integrity and reliability to mine shallow uranium safely within shallow groundwater zones used for drinking water. A small error could have a large impact.

A. Public Comment Summary

1. Faulting. The application continues to contain well known incorrect information regarding faulting in the Area of Review (AOR). As far as we can tell the application continues to depict only 2 faults when both the UEC and TCEQ have long known there are at least 11 faults in the AOR.
2. Oil and Gas Wells. We have identified at least 2 oil & gas wells where the plugging is questionable.
3. Technical Notices of Deficiency. There have been at least 4 if not 5 Technical Notices of Deficiency (TNOD) on the subject renewal application. The number of NOD's demonstrates a lack of technical expertise, integrity and reliability on the part of UEC.
4. Major Amendment. UEC submitted a major amendment after the public meeting was held. The major amendment should have been part of the public meeting process. Major amendment replacing Total Dissolved Solids with alkalinity as a control parameter will not lead to the best restoration process. But a cheaper one for UEC.
5. Groundwater Supply. This area of Goliad County is already short of groundwater supplies. Mining itself would use up short supplies of groundwater in the area. Restoration of groundwater after mining would critically impair already short groundwater supplies in the area.
6. Hydrologic Properties. Hydrologic properties used in the application appear to be incorrect in at least some instances.
7. Public Need and Necessity. Public need and necessity are critical elements of this type of mining permit.
8. Production Area Authorization. Fault Transmissivity has not been determined.
9. Arsenic Mobilization. We remain concerned about mining causing arsenic mobilization. The area of the mine and surrounding areas are known to contain moderate to high levels of arsenic.
10. Responsibility and Accountability. The TCEQ is not living up to its mission statement.

B. Public Comment Detail

1. Faulting

The original Mining Permit issuance was based upon erroneous key findings of fact in TCEQ's order dated March 7, 2011. This had a domino effect on other findings of fact and conclusions of law. Some of the findings of fact are excerpted from the final order below. Finding of fact 97 indicates there are two faults in the mining area. Finding of fact 101 indicates that the Mine Application accurately and adequately describes all faults in the Mining Permit Area. These findings of facts were taken almost verbatim from UEC's proposed order to the TCEQ in a letter from their attorney to TCEQ commissioners dated January 11, 2011.

97. Two faults exist within the proposed Mine Permit Area; the Northwest Fault and the Southeast Fault.
98. The Northwest Fault is the larger of the two and runs along the northwest portion of the proposed Mine Permit Area, near the perimeter of proposed production areas A and C and very near the perimeter of proposed production area D.
99. Further characterization of the Northwest Fault is not required for the Mine Permit. Where applicable, future PAA applications will include the results of hydrologic testing and an interpretation of those results with respect to any faults to determine the hydrologic connection both across the fault and vertically along the fault.
100. The Southeast Fault transects only a small part of the southeast corner of the proposed Mine Permit Area and touches none of the proposed production areas.
101. The Mine Application accurately and adequately describes all faults in the proposed Mine Permit Area.
102. The Mine Application meets all applicable criteria of 30 TAC § 331.122, related to required consideration by the Commission prior to issuing a Class III Injection Well Area Permit. The findings set forth in Section V.D above are incorporated by reference herein.

The renewal application continues the falsehood that there are only two faults in the mining area. And that UEC has identified and described all the faults in the mining area.

TCEQ staff reviewing the mining permit renewal is the same staff that reviewed the waste disposal well renewal where we first became aware that there were at least 11 faults in the AOR. The TCEQ understands that there are more than two faults in the mining area. As far as we can tell the faulting in the mining permit has not been updated in the mining permit renewal application.

At least 5 of the 11 identified faults in the AOR extend into Underground Source Drinking Water (USDW). At least two faults extend into the Goliad Formation. Other faults may extend into shallower depths. Either data on faults is missing or unclear at shallow depths.

In TNOD #4 the TCEQ asked whether UEC had done any testing to determine if the faults were transmissive. UEC replied that it did not have testing to determine the transmissivity of faults in the mining area. It can only be guessed that UEC intends to determine if the faults are transmissive once mining begins, once mining fluids are detected offsite. It is irresponsible of the TCEQ to renew this mining permit without any clear understanding of the transmissivity of the faults. This is especially so given the high degree of faulting within the AOR.

This incorrect identification and description of faulting in the mining area and the lack of data on the transmissivity of the faults is not indicative of the expertise, integrity and reliability necessary for a uranium mining operation in shallow sands where area drinking water is obtained. This lack of expertise, integrity and reliability does not work well with the TCEQ self-reporting process.

We agree with and adopt as our own the comments made by H.C. Clark November 1, 2024.

2. Oil & Gas Wells

One of our concerns is that mining fluid could travel down an improperly plugged well bore then through an intersecting fault over long distances. Contamination could also occur the other way around. Mining fluid could be forced down or along a fault and upward towards the surface through an improperly plugged oil and gas well bore. This area has a long history of oil and gas production. Even when records exist, they aren't conclusive. Due to early oil and gas production in the area, there is at least some likelihood that there are oil and gas wells in the area for which records do not exist or have not been discovered.

3. Technical Notices of Deficiency

At this point there have been at least 4 TNODs issued by the TCEQ. In TNOD #3 the TCEQ noted, "Please be aware that the current practice of this section is not to issue a third technical notice of deficiency." The current practice is to issue a rejection letter rather than issue a 3rd TNOD. Yet on October 24, 2023, the TCEQ issued TNOD #4. A permittee with the requisite levels of expertise, integrity and reliability should not need four TNODs for a renewal application.

By letter dated August 14, 2024, UEC filed a document titled UR03075 10-Year Renewal Application - Supplemental Package. UEC noted, "A supplemental package has been prepared at **the request of the TCEQ for the renewal application of UR03075.**" Bold text added. Making it clear that the TCEQ requested these changes. A document can be titled almost anything. This appears to be the response to some type of verbal communication between the TCEQ and UEC. In effect this is a 5th TNOD. This is not indicative of the expertise, integrity and reliability needed for TCEQ's self-reporting process.

Due to the number of attempts by UEC to get a renewal application right, it is valid concern whether UEC has the technical expertise to safely operate a uranium mine near shallow drinking water wells.

4. Major Amendment

Part of the Supplemental Package is a Major Amendment. UEC wants to change Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) to total alkalinity as a control parameter. TDS is a more standard and suitable measurement of water quality than total alkalinity. The only reason we can determine that UEC wants to change the control parameter from TDS to total alkalinity is that restoration will be cheaper for them. It will not produce better water quality for the surrounding groundwater users.

This major amendment was not submitted until a few days after a public meeting was held. The public meeting should have been rescheduled until after the major amendment. Again, this is a matter of expertise, integrity and reliability. The impact and results of changing the control parameter from TDS to total alkalinity should have been part of the discussion at the public meeting. At this late date changing the control parameter should not be part of this permit renewal. UEC's request to change the control parameter should be denied.

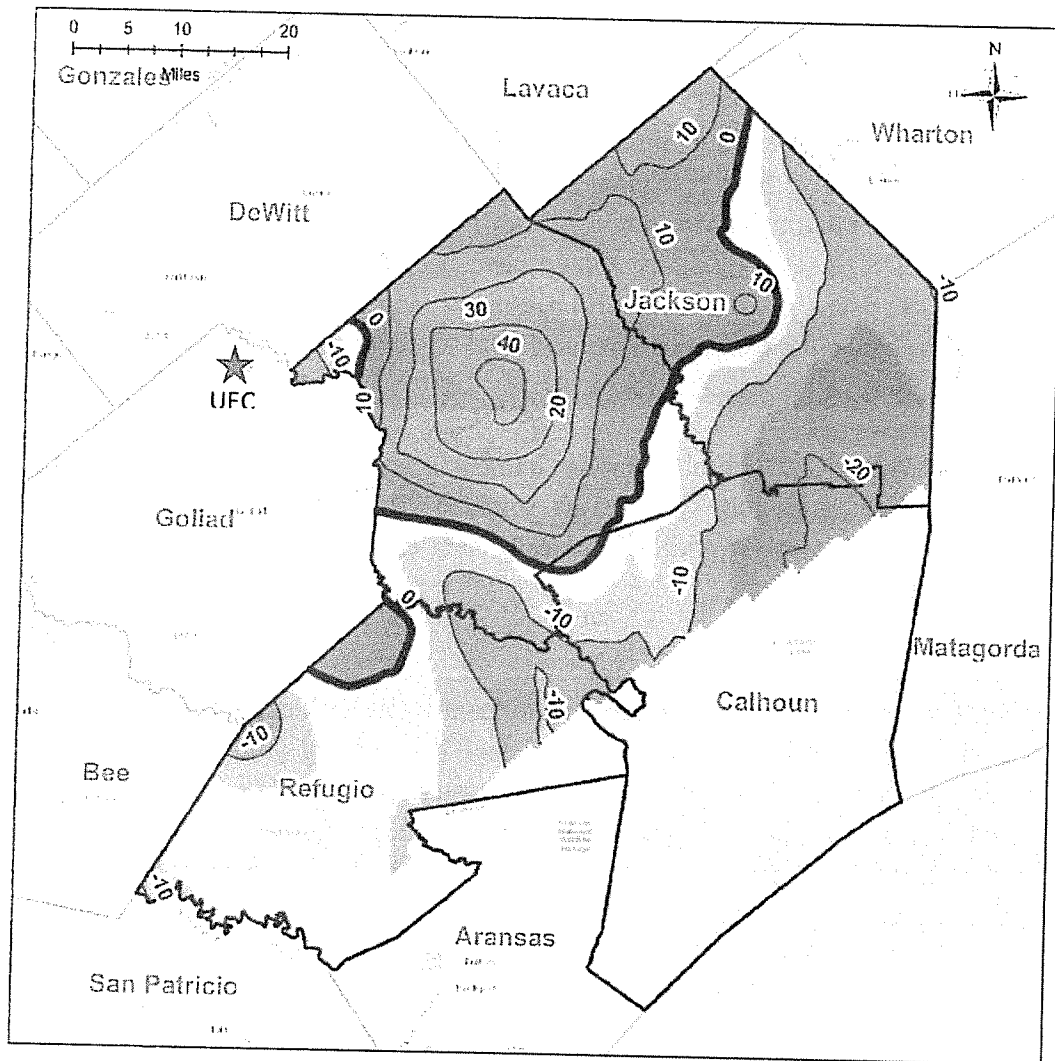
5. Groundwater Supply

There are at least 30 domestic households in the immediate area of UEC's proposed uranium mine, plus a 200-300 participant church. There are an estimated 400 head of cattle in the immediate area. The church is indicating a need to drill a new well. Their existing well which is completed in the A sand is going dry.

In general, we are seeing a significant groundwater elevation decline in the Ander area. Our own measurements and modeling indicate there is significant water level decline in Goliad County but the Ander area specifically. We are concerned that first mining and then restoration of the groundwater will consume a large amount of groundwater. This may cause more wells in the area to go dry and the pumps in the wells placed deeper at significant cost to the well owners. This is if new deeper wells aren't required at an even greater expense to the well owners. These costs figure into the public need and necessity discussion below.

The following figure is taken from a report commissioned by the Victoria, Calhoun, Jackson and Refugio County groundwater conservation districts. GCGCD did not participate in this study/report in any way.¹ In the below, at the junction of Goliad, Victoria and Dewitt Counties, near UEC's proposed uranium mine, a 15 feet or greater drop in groundwater levels is shown from 2000 to 2022. (Note: The approximate location of UEC's proposed mine has been added to the figure below.) This is independent confirmation of our measurements and modeling. It would be irresponsible of the TCEQ to issue a mining permit that would cause the use of hundreds of acre-feet of groundwater per year for mining and subsequent restoration of groundwater in the mining area with already impaired groundwater resources.

¹ Young, S.C., 2023. Memorandum to Tim Andruss Titled: Application of Geostatistical Techniques to Interpret Measured 2022 Water Levels, dated December 18, 2023. See <https://www.vcgcd.org/files/94d102033/VCGCD+-+Intera+Report+Water+Level+Analysis+for+CY2022+-+20231218.pdf>



Change in Water Level (ft): Evangeline 2000-2022

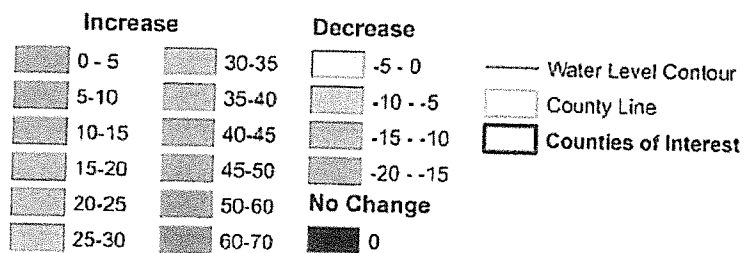


Figure7 Contours of the change in water levels in the Evangeline Aquifer from 2000 to 2022.

6. Hydrologic Properties

UEC's application states that the hydraulic gradient is approximately 5.5 feet per mile, with a corresponding groundwater flow of 6.7 feet per year. Our experts calculated the groundwater flow at the site at 40 feet per year. A significant difference. One part of the equation for groundwater flow is the hydraulic gradient. Available data shows that the hydraulic gradient at and near the site is closer to 10 feet per mile at the time the application was submitted.

Groundwater flow was one of the concerns raised by the EPA before granting an aquifer exemption. The EPA felt that groundwater flow modeling needed to be done.

Our concerns regarding UEC using the incorrect hydrologic properties are well founded. Based on the contested case for UEC's waste disposal wells the ALJs found that UEC had not used the correct hydrologic properties. The TCEQ should scrutinize all of UEC's selected hydrologic properties including, but not limited to porosity, hydraulic conductivity and hydraulic gradient.

7. Public Need and Necessity

After listening to the discussion at the public meeting, the Goliad County Commissioners passed a resolution opposing the renewal of the mining permit which is part of the public comments for this permit. Broadly paraphrasing the resolution, the commissioners court did not find any public need or necessity for renewal of this uranium mining permit. The already impaired groundwater supply in the area discussed above brings into focus the public need and necessity of this uranium mine. Although public need and necessity can be defined broadly. We are asking the TCEQ to focus narrowly on the public need and necessity of Goliad County including the impaired groundwater resources. We are sure that if the TCEQ does so. The Goliad County public need and necessity militates against the renewal of this permit.

8. Production Area Authorization

GCGCD has been unable to find a copy of a renewal application for the production area authorization. Since a renewal application was not timely submitted. UEC's production area authorization has expired.

An issue during the contested case hearing for the mining permit was whether the faults were horizontally or vertically transmissive. In the final order the mining permit was granted due to the first production area authorization not being near the Northwest fault. But before any production area authorization was granted near the Northwest fault testing would need to be done to determine transmissivity in accordance with the final order.

The production area authorization has expired, and 11 faults have been identified in the AOR. The Northwest fault is intersected or transected by other faults that may be near or in the original production area authorization. It would be irresponsible of the TCEQ to issue this mining permit renewal without determining the transmissivity of the faults in the mining area with this many faults transecting the mining area.

9. Arsenic Mobilization.

Since the proposal of this mine, we have remained concerned about the mining causing arsenic mobilization. Wells we have been monitoring around this site show concentrations of arsenic near EPA limits for public water supplies. According to TCEQ guidance document AS-218 regarding Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR). Simply injecting oxic water into aquifer can mobilize arsenic.

The lixiviant injected for mining uranium will intentionally mobilize uranium. It will mobilize the arsenic present along with the uranium. The guidance document states, "Additionally, once mobilized, arsenic and other naturally occurring contaminants are challenging and costly to remediate, which can result in project abandonment. Water quality degradation accounts for approximately 21% of abandoned ASR wells nationally. Arsenic mobilization was reported for at least 11% of inactive wells in the United States, rendering it the most reported water quality contaminant during ASR." With this much focus on arsenic mobilization during ASR. It is a valid concern that should be focused on by a uranium mining permit.

10. Responsibility and Accountability

The mission statement for the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) states that it "strives to protect our state's public health and natural resources consistent with sustainable economic development. Our goal is in clean air, clean water, and the safe management of water".

The mission statement for GCGCD is to develop rules to provide for the protection and conservation of groundwater and to prevent waste of Groundwater from the Gulf Coast Aquifer to the extent of which the District has jurisdiction.

The District is committed to manage and protect the groundwater resources within its jurisdiction and to work with others to ensure a sustainable, adequate, high quality and cost-effective supply of water, now and in the future. The District will strive to develop, promote, and implement water conservation and management strategies to protect water resources for the benefit of the citizens, economy, and environment of the District. The preservation of this most valuable resource can be achieved in a prudent and cost-effective manner through conservation, education, management, and cooperation.

Drinking water quality groundwater is the life blood for Goliad County. Without this drinking water supply, the Goliad County agricultural economy would not be sustainable. TCEQ and GCGCD have the responsibility to honestly and diligently achieve their mission for Goliad County.

The original application included water test data that was to be used in the restoration activity after mining of the uranium. These baseline wells were drilled and water data taken in the 2007 period simultaneous to approximately 700 exploration boreholes being drilled in the same vicinity into the same drinking water bearing sands. Seventeen years later, UEC has presented the same data to be used in the renewal application. Is this an honest and valid consideration to represent that water quality in a disturbed drinking water sand is the same quality as drinking water samples taken from a settled water sand that exists today and existed prior to exploration?

Disregarding for a moment that at least eleven (11) faults have been identified in the production area, the UR03075 permit/renewal states that the production area is in "a graben" between two (2) faults, northwest and southeast, and that the area is a recharge area for the Gulf Coast Aquifer. With recharge occurring, groundwater must exit the "graben" area. Are the two (2) noted faults transmissive? In what direction is the groundwater discharging? GCGCD has repeatedly tested water quality in six (6) domestic wells outside of the production boundary. These wells are on all sides and varying distances from the production boundary. The test results are recorded on the GCGCD website under two reports which are the "Town Hall Mtg.pdf" and Dr. Abitz Ltr. to TCEQ". There are two very significant conditions recorded by the test results.

1. Radon levels, which is a gas emitted when uranium is disturbed and activated have varied significantly. From 2006-2012, high radon readings were observed in all six (6) wells. By 2023, the radon level in all six (6) wells dropped to its lowest level in the 2006-2023 test period.
2. All six (6) wells tested achieved drinking water standards for radionuclides and arsenic. These components are what can cause health issues, primarily cancer. Activating these components are contrary to protecting public health and contrary to the Mission Statements of TCEQ and GCGCD.

It is irrational to accept data extracted seventeen (17) years ago under questionable conditions as being accurate and useable today. New water quality sampling under supervised procedures needs to be done to protect the drinking water supplies for numerous rural residences in the area. It also brings into question if the water quality is of unusable quality to meet the requirement for granting an "Aquifer Exemption".

GCGCD requests an opportunity to work with TCEQ staff, management and commissioners to better evaluate and understand the potential of in situ uranium mining in the Ander area of Goliad County.

The Ander area, as most of Goliad County, is a rural ranching community with varying sizes of homesteads and numerous private water wells providing drinking water for residents and livestock.

GCGCD has spent much time and resources in the Ander area and contends that TCEQ needs to become familiar with the area in order to make responsible decisions to fulfill their missions and to protect the people living in the Ander area. When reviewing an application, TCEQ representatives need site information to be able to make responsible decisions.

GCGCD and TCEQ share responsibility to protect the people living in the area. These residents are not in a retirement mode or financially able to relocate. The local economic sustainability must be protected.

The Governor, the Texas Ag Commissioner, and our State Legislature all recognize we have a Statewide Water Supply issues CRITICAL to the future of Texas, and are working on how to resolve that ongoing issue. TCEQ is the lead agency responsible for protection of groundwater, yet permits industrial practices they know can have a major impact on groundwater contamination.

TCEQ representatives need to visit individual water well locations, review water quality data and validate if the water is good quality drinking water or condemned.

TCEQ representatives need to understand that if drinking water is not available, many residents will be adversely affected and property values will significantly decline.

TCEQ representatives need to acknowledge their responsibility and accountability and provide adequate protection.

TCEQ should not simply stand behind an office generated statement that a permit application meets all state and federal legal and technical requirements without a site validation of facts.

Conclusion

GCGCD is concerned that the TCEQ is not reviewing this application with the criticality necessary to ensure safe groundwater supplies for Goliad County. At this point it appears that the TCEQ has all but rewritten the renewal application for UEC through more than what is normal and customary for TNODs for a mining application. Much less what should be a simple renewal application. We urge that the TCEQ reject this renewal application before real damage can be done.

Sincerely,

<signed>

Wilfred Korth, President

Colt Williams, Secretary

Art Dohmann, Director

Tate Bammert, Director

Terrell Graham, Vice President

Barbara Smith, Director

Reagan Sahadi, Director

cc: Texas Senator Lois Kolkurst
Post Office Box 12068, Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711
District Address:
5606 North Navarro #300M
Victoria, Texas 77904

Representative A.J. Loudereback
District 30, Room 1N.9
Austin, Texas 78768-2910
District Address:
Post Office Box 1792
Victoria, Texas 77902

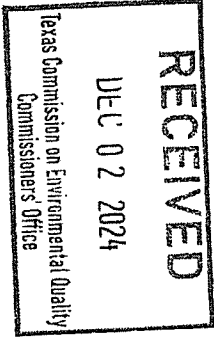
Catarina Gonzales, TCEQ Commissioner
Office of the Chief Clerk, MC100
TCEQ
12100 Park 35 Circle, Building F
Austin, Texas 78753

Jon Niermann, TCEQ Chairman
Office of the Chief Clerk, MC100
TCEQ
12100 Park 35 Circle, Building F
Austin, Texas 78753

Bobby Janecka, TCEQ Commissioner
Office of the Chief Clerk, MC100
TCEQ
12100 Park 35 Circle, Building F
Austin, Texas 78753

file

Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District
Post Office Box 562
Goliad, Texas 77963



COMMISSION
ON ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY

Retail



2024 DEC -4 PM 1:34



U.S. POSTAGE PAID
FCM LETTER
GOLIAD, TX 77963
NOV 26, 2024

\$1.01

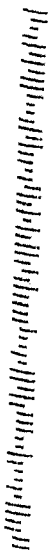
R2304M112323-05

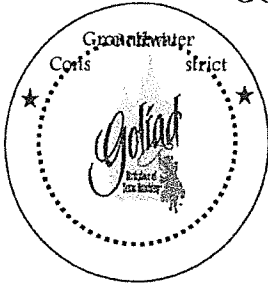
CHIEF CLERKS OFFICE RDC 99

Bobby Janacka, TCEQ Commissioner
Office of the Chief Clerk, MC100
TCEQ
12100 Park 35 Circle, Building F
Austin, Texas 78753

RECEIVED
DEC 02 2024
TCEQ MAIL CENTER
DA

78753-120900





GOLIAD COUNTY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

118 S. Market St., P.O. Box 562, Goliad, Texas 77963-0562

Telephone: (361) 645-1716

website: www.goliadcogcd.org | email: gcgcd@goliadcogcd.org

Board of Directors:

President – Wilfred Korth

Vice-President – Terrell Graham

Secretary – Colt Williams

Directors – Art Dohmann, Barbara Smith, Reagan Sahadi, Tate Bammert

UR03075

November 21, 2024

Reviewed By GCGCD

DEC 03 2024 PM
RFR
H

Office of the Chief Clerk, MC105
TCEQ
12100 Park 35 Circle, Building F
Austin, Texas 78753

CHIEF CLERKS OFFICE

2024 DEC -2 PM 2:44

TEXAS
COMMISSION
ON ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY

Request for a Public Meeting

Due to the major amendment after the public meeting was held. Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District (GCGCD) urges that an additional Public Meeting be held. Changing control parameters will have consequences that should have been available for discussion at the Public Meeting that was held on August 5, 2024.

Request for Reconsideration

GCGCD is concerned that this application has not received the critical review by the TCEQ that it should have. The TCEQ issued a third Technical Notice of Deficiency (TNOD) when this is not normal practice. Normal practice would have been to reject the renewal application rather than issue a third TNOD. The TCEQ then issued a fourth TNOD well beyond normal practice. A permit renewal should have been a simple matter for a company with the technical expertise necessary to safely mine uranium. It should not have required four TNODs. Arguably there was a fifth unofficial TNOD as discussed further below. For these reasons and as outlined in its comments GCGCD Requests Reconsideration of the preliminary decision.

Request for a Contested Case Hearing

GCGCD renews its request for a Contested Case Hearing on this application for permit renewal and major amendment for the reasons given in their public comments.

Public Comments

GCGCD wishes to add to our previous comments regarding the renewal application for Class III injection well permit number UR03075 (the "Mining Permit"). GCGCD adopts its previous comments herein for all purposes.

The TCEQ permitting process is reliant on the self-reporting process. For the self-reporting process to function properly, the permittee must exhibit expertise, integrity and reliability. GCGCD feels that Uranium Energy Corp. (UEC) has not exhibited that it has the proper level of expertise, integrity, or reliability for renewal of its uranium mining permit. We are extremely concerned that UEC's uranium mining activities will lead to groundwater contamination. All the

May we be responsible stewards of our natural resources

properties surrounding UEC mine are reliant on shallow groundwater for their drinking water. The following is a partial list of the reasons GCGCD feels that UEC does not have the proper level of expertise, integrity and reliability to mine shallow uranium safely within shallow groundwater zones used for drinking water. A small error could have a large impact.

A. Public Comment Summary

1. Faulting. The application continues to contain well known incorrect information regarding faulting in the Area of Review (AOR). As far as we can tell the application continues to depict only 2 faults when both the UEC and TCEQ have long known there are at least 11 faults in the AOR.
2. Oil and Gas Wells. We have identified at least 2 oil & gas wells where the plugging is questionable.
3. Technical Notices of Deficiency. There have been at least 4 if not 5 Technical Notices of Deficiency (TNOD) on the subject renewal application. The number of NOD's demonstrates a lack of technical expertise, integrity and reliability on the part of UEC.
4. Major Amendment. UEC submitted a major amendment after the public meeting was held. The major amendment should have been part of the public meeting process. Major amendment replacing Total Dissolved Solids with alkalinity as a control parameter will not lead to the best restoration process. But a cheaper one for UEC.
5. Groundwater Supply. This area of Goliad County is already short of groundwater supplies. Mining itself would use up short supplies of groundwater in the area. Restoration of groundwater after mining would critically impair already short groundwater supplies in the area.
6. Hydrologic Properties. Hydrologic properties used in the application appear to be incorrect in at least some instances.
7. Public Need and Necessity. Public need and necessity are critical elements of this type of mining permit.
8. Production Area Authorization. Fault Transmissivity has not been determined.
9. Arsenic Mobilization. We remain concerned about mining causing arsenic mobilization. The area of the mine and surrounding areas are known to contain moderate to high levels of arsenic.
10. Responsibility and Accountability. The TCEQ is not living up to its mission statement.

B. Public Comment Detail

1. Faulting

The original Mining Permit issuance was based upon erroneous key findings of fact in TCEQ's order dated March 7, 2011. This had a domino effect on other findings of fact and conclusions of law. Some of the findings of fact are excerpted from the final order below. Finding of fact 97 indicates there are two faults in the mining area. Finding of fact 101 indicates that the Mine Application accurately and adequately describes all faults in the Mining Permit Area. These findings of facts were taken almost verbatim from UEC's proposed order to the TCEQ in a letter from their attorney to TCEQ commissioners dated January 11, 2011.

97. Two faults exist within the proposed Mine Permit Area: the Northwest Fault and the Southeast Fault.
98. The Northwest Fault is the larger of the two and runs along the northwest portion of the proposed Mine Permit Area, near the perimeter of proposed production areas A and C and very near the perimeter of proposed production area D.
99. Further characterization of the Northwest Fault is not required for the Mine Permit. Where applicable, future PAA applications will include the results of hydrologic testing and an interpretation of those results with respect to any faults to determine the hydrologic connection both across the fault and vertically along the fault.
100. The Southeast Fault transects only a small part of the southeast corner of the proposed Mine Permit Area and touches none of the proposed production areas.
101. The Mine Application accurately and adequately describes all faults in the proposed Mine Permit Area.
102. The Mine Application meets all applicable criteria of 30 TAC § 331.122, related to required consideration by the Commission prior to issuing a Class III Injection Well Area Permit. The findings set forth in Section V.D above are incorporated by reference herein.

The renewal application continues the falsehood that there are only two faults in the mining area. And that UEC has identified and described all the faults in the mining area.

TCEQ staff reviewing the mining permit renewal is the same staff that reviewed the waste disposal well renewal where we first became aware that there were at least 11 faults in the AOR. The TCEQ understands that there are more than two faults in the mining area. As far as we can tell the faulting in the mining permit has not been updated in the mining permit renewal application.

At least 5 of the 11 identified faults in the AOR extend into Underground Source Drinking Water (USDW). At least two faults extend into the Goliad Formation. Other faults may extend into shallower depths. Either data on faults is missing or unclear at shallow depths.

In TNOD #4 the TCEQ asked whether UEC had done any testing to determine if the faults were transmissive. UEC replied that it did not have testing to determine the transmissivity of faults in the mining area. It can only be guessed that UEC intends to determine if the faults are transmissive once mining begins, once mining fluids are detected offsite. It is irresponsible of the TCEQ to renew this mining permit without any clear understanding of the transmissivity of the faults. This is especially so given the high degree of faulting within the AOR.

This incorrect identification and description of faulting in the mining area and the lack of data on the transmissivity of the faults is not indicative of the expertise, integrity and reliability necessary for a uranium mining operation in shallow sands where area drinking water is obtained. This lack of expertise, integrity and reliability does not work well with the TCEQ self-reporting process.

We agree with and adopt as our own the comments made by H.C. Clark November 1, 2024.

2. Oil & Gas Wells

One of our concerns is that mining fluid could travel down an improperly plugged well bore then through an intersecting fault over long distances. Contamination could also occur the other way around. Mining fluid could be forced down or along a fault and upward towards the surface through an improperly plugged oil and gas well bore. This area has a long history of oil and gas production. Even when records exist, they aren't conclusive. Due to early oil and gas production in the area, there is at least some likelihood that there are oil and gas wells in the area for which records do not exist or have not been discovered.

3. Technical Notices of Deficiency

At this point there have been at least 4 TNODs issued by the TCEQ. In TNOD #3 the TCEQ noted. "Please be aware that the current practice of this section is not to issue a third technical notice of deficiency." The current practice is to issue a rejection letter rather than issue a 3rd TNOD. Yet on October 24, 2023, the TCEQ issued TNOD #4. A permittee with the requisite levels of expertise, integrity and reliability should not need four TNODs for a renewal application.

By letter dated August 14, 2024, UEC filed a document titled UR03075 10-Year Renewal Application - Supplemental Package. UEC noted, "A supplemental package has been prepared **at the request of the TCEQ for the renewal application of UR03075.**" Bold text added. Making it clear that the TCEQ requested these changes. A document can be titled almost anything. This appears to be the response to some type of verbal communication between the TCEQ and UEC. In effect this is a 5th TNOD. This is not indicative of the expertise, integrity and reliability needed for TCEQ's self-reporting process.

Due to the number of attempts by UEC to get a renewal application right, it is valid concern whether UEC has the technical expertise to safely operate a uranium mine near shallow drinking water wells.

4. Major Amendment

Part of the Supplemental Package is a Major Amendment. UEC wants to change Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) to total alkalinity as a control parameter. TDS is a more standard and suitable measurement of water quality than total alkalinity. The only reason we can determine that UEC wants to change the control parameter from TDS to total alkalinity is that restoration will be cheaper for them. It will not produce better water quality for the surrounding groundwater users.

This major amendment was not submitted until a few days after a public meeting was held. The public meeting should have been rescheduled until after the major amendment. Again, this is a matter of expertise, integrity and reliability. The impact and results of changing the control parameter from TDS to total alkalinity should have been part of the discussion at the public meeting. At this late date changing the control parameter should not be part of this permit renewal. UEC's request to change the control parameter should be denied.

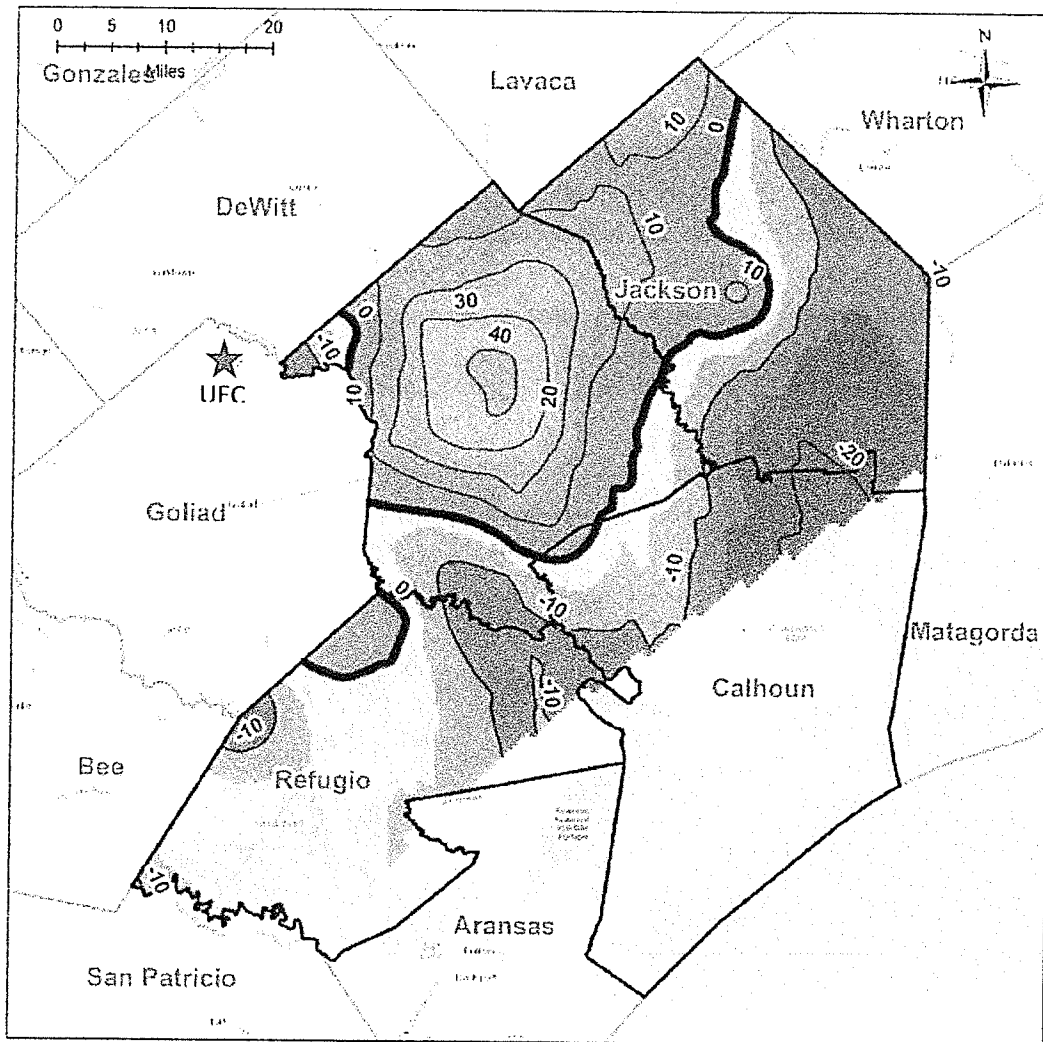
5. Groundwater Supply

There are at least 30 domestic households in the immediate area of UEC's proposed uranium mine, plus a 200-300 participant church. There are an estimated 400 head of cattle in the immediate area. The church is indicating a need to drill a new well. Their existing well which is completed in the A sand is going dry.

In general, we are seeing a significant groundwater elevation decline in the Ander area. Our own measurements and modeling indicate there is significant water level decline in Goliad County but the Ander area specifically. We are concerned that first mining and then restoration of the groundwater will consume a large amount of groundwater. This may cause more wells in the area to go dry and the pumps in the wells placed deeper at significant cost to the well owners. This is if new deeper wells aren't required at an even greater expense to the well owners. These costs figure into the public need and necessity discussion below.

The following figure is taken from a report commissioned by the Victoria, Calhoun, Jackson and Refugio County groundwater conservation districts. GCGCD did not participate in this study/report in any way.¹ In the below, at the junction of Goliad, Victoria and Dewitt Counties, near UEC's proposed uranium mine, a 15 feet or greater drop in groundwater levels is shown from 2000 to 2022. (Note: The approximate location of UEC's proposed mine has been added to the figure below.) This is independent confirmation of our measurements and modeling. It would be irresponsible of the TCEQ to issue a mining permit that would cause the use of hundreds of acre-feet of groundwater per year for mining and subsequent restoration of groundwater in the mining area with already impaired groundwater resources.

¹ Young, S.C., 2023. Memorandum to Tim Andrus titled: Application of Geostatistical Techniques to Interpret Measured 2022 Water Levels, dated December 18, 2023. See <https://www.vcgcd.org/files/94d102033/VCGCD+-+Intera+Report+Water+Level+Analysis+for+CY2022+-+20231218.pdf>



Change in Water Level (ft): Evangeline 2000-2022

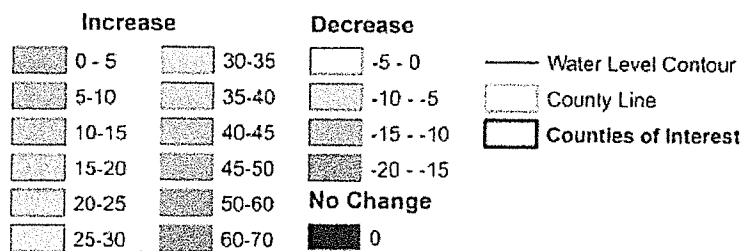


Figure7 Contours of the change in water levels in the Evangeline Aquifer from 2000 to 2022.

6. Hydrologic Properties

UEC's application states that the hydraulic gradient is approximately 5.5 feet per mile, with a corresponding groundwater flow of 6.7 feet per year. Our experts calculated the groundwater flow at the site at 40 feet per year. A significant difference. One part of the equation for groundwater flow is the hydraulic gradient. Available data shows that the hydraulic gradient at and near the site is closer to 10 feet per mile at the time the application was submitted.

Groundwater flow was one of the concerns raised by the EPA before granting an aquifer exemption. The EPA felt that groundwater flow modeling needed to be done.

Our concerns regarding UEC using the incorrect hydrologic properties are well founded. Based on the contested case for UEC's waste disposal wells the ALJs found that UEC had not used the correct hydrologic properties. The TCEQ should scrutinize all of UEC's selected hydrologic properties including, but not limited to porosity, hydraulic conductivity and hydraulic gradient.

7. Public Need and Necessity

After listening to the discussion at the public meeting, the Goliad County Commissioners passed a resolution opposing the renewal of the mining permit which is part of the public comments for this permit. Broadly paraphrasing the resolution, the commissioners court did not find any public need or necessity for renewal of this uranium mining permit. The already impaired groundwater supply in the area discussed above brings into focus the public need and necessity of this uranium mine. Although public need and necessity can be defined broadly. We are asking the TCEQ to focus narrowly on the public need and necessity of Goliad County including the impaired groundwater resources. We are sure that if the TCEQ does so. The Goliad County public need and necessity militates against the renewal of this permit.

8. Production Area Authorization

GCGCD has been unable to find a copy of a renewal application for the production area authorization. Since a renewal application was not timely submitted. UEC's production area authorization has expired.

An issue during the contested case hearing for the mining permit was whether the faults were horizontally or vertically transmissive. In the final order the mining permit was granted due to the first production area authorization not being near the Northwest fault. But before any production area authorization was granted near the Northwest fault testing would need to be done to determine transmissivity in accordance with the final order.

The production area authorization has expired, and 11 faults have been identified in the AOR. The Northwest fault is intersected or transected by other faults that may be near or in the original production area authorization. It would be irresponsible of the TCEQ to issue this mining permit renewal without determining the transmissivity of the faults in the mining area with this many faults transecting the mining area.

9. Arsenic Mobilization.

Since the proposal of this mine, we have remained concerned about the mining causing arsenic mobilization. Wells we have been monitoring around this site show concentrations of arsenic near EPA limits for public water supplies. According to TCEQ guidance document AS-218 regarding Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR). Simply injecting oxic water into aquifer can mobilize arsenic.

The lixiviant injected for mining uranium will intentionally mobilize uranium. It will mobilize the arsenic present along with the uranium. The guidance document states, "Additionally, once mobilized, arsenic and other naturally occurring contaminants are challenging and costly to remediate, which can result in project abandonment. Water quality degradation accounts for approximately 21% of abandoned ASR wells nationally. Arsenic mobilization was reported for at least 11% of inactive wells in the United States, rendering it the most reported water quality contaminant during ASR." With this much focus on arsenic mobilization during ASR. It is a valid concern that should be focused on by a uranium mining permit.

10. Responsibility and Accountability

The mission statement for the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) states that it "strives to protect our state's public health and natural resources consistent with sustainable economic development. Our goal is in clean air, clean water, and the safe management of water".

The mission statement for GCGCD is to develop rules to provide for the protection and conservation of groundwater and to prevent waste of Groundwater from the Gulf Coast Aquifer to the extent of which the District has jurisdiction.

The District is committed to manage and protect the groundwater resources within its jurisdiction and to work with others to ensure a sustainable, adequate, high quality and cost-effective supply of water, now and in the future. The District will strive to develop, promote, and implement water conservation and management strategies to protect water resources for the benefit of the citizens, economy, and environment of the District. The preservation of this most valuable resource can be achieved in a prudent and cost-effective manner through conservation, education, management, and cooperation.

Drinking water quality groundwater is the life blood for Goliad County. Without this drinking water supply, the Goliad County agricultural economy would not be sustainable. TCEQ and GCGCD have the responsibility to honestly and diligently achieve their mission for Goliad County.

The original application included water test data that was to be used in the restoration activity after mining of the uranium. These baseline wells were drilled and water data taken in the 2007 period simultaneous to approximately 700 exploration boreholes being drilled in the same vicinity into the same drinking water bearing sands. Seventeen years later, UEC has presented the same data to be used in the renewal application. Is this an honest and valid consideration to represent that water quality in a disturbed drinking water sand is the same quality as drinking water samples taken from a settled water sand that exists today and existed prior to exploration?

Disregarding for a moment that at least eleven (11) faults have been identified in the production area, the UR03075 permit/renewal states that the production area is in “a graben” between two (2) faults, northwest and southeast, and that the area is a recharge area for the Gulf Coast Aquifer. With recharge occurring, groundwater must exit the “graben” area. Are the two (2) noted faults transmissive? In what direction is the groundwater discharging? GCGCD has repeatedly tested water quality in six (6) domestic wells outside of the production boundary. These wells are on all sides and varying distances from the production boundary. The test results are recorded on the GCGCD website under two reports which are the “Town Hall Mtg.pdf” and Dr. Abitz Ltr. to TCEQ”. There are two very significant conditions recorded by the test results.

1. Radon levels, which is a gas emitted when uranium is disturbed and activated have varied significantly. From 2006-2012, high radon readings were observed in all six (6) wells. By 2023, the radon level in all six (6) wells dropped to its lowest level in the 2006-2023 test period.
2. All six (6) wells tested achieved drinking water standards for radionuclides and arsenic. These components are what can cause health issues, primarily cancer. Activating these components are contrary to protecting public health and contrary to the Mission Statements of TCEQ and GCGCD.

It is irrational to accept data extracted seventeen (17) years ago under questionable conditions as being accurate and useable today. New water quality sampling under supervised procedures needs to be done to protect the drinking water supplies for numerous rural residences in the area. It also brings into question if the water quality is of unusable quality to meet the requirement for granting an “Aquifer Exemption”.

GCGCD requests an opportunity to work with TCEQ staff, management and commissioners to better evaluate and understand the potential of in situ uranium mining in the Ander area of Goliad County.

The Ander area, as most of Goliad County, is a rural ranching community with varying sizes of homesteads and numerous private water wells providing drinking water for residents and livestock.

GCGCD has spent much time and resources in the Ander area and contends that TCEQ needs to become familiar with the area in order to make responsible decisions to fulfill their missions and to protect the people living in the Ander area. When reviewing an application, TCEQ representatives need site information to be able to make responsible decisions.

GCGCD and TCEQ share responsibility to protect the people living in the area. These residents are not in a retirement mode or financially able to relocate. The local economic sustainability must be protected.

The Governor, the Texas Ag Commissioner, and our State Legislature all recognize we have a Statewide Water Supply issues CRITICAL to the future of Texas, and are working on how to resolve that ongoing issue. TCEQ is the lead agency responsible for protection of groundwater, yet permits industrial practices they know can have a major impact on groundwater contamination.

TCEQ representatives need to visit individual water well locations, review water quality data and validate if the water is good quality drinking water or condemned.

TCEQ representatives need to understand that if drinking water is not available, many residents will be adversely affected and property values will significantly decline.

TCEQ representatives need to acknowledge their responsibility and accountability and provide adequate protection.

TCEQ should not simply stand behind an office generated statement that a permit application meets all state and federal legal and technical requirements without a site validation of facts.

Conclusion

GCGCD is concerned that the TCEQ is not reviewing this application with the criticality necessary to ensure safe groundwater supplies for Goliad County. At this point it appears that the TCEQ has all but rewritten the renewal application for UEC through more than what is normal and customary for TNODs for a mining application. Much less what should be a simple renewal application. We urge that the TCEQ reject this renewal application before real damage can be done.

Sincerely,

<signed>

Wilfred Korth, President

Colt Williams, Secretary

Art Dohmann, Director

Tate Bammert, Director

Terrell Graham, Vice President

Barbara Smith, Director

Reagan Sahadi, Director

cc: Texas Senator Lois Kolkurst
Post Office Box 12068, Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711
District Address:
5606 North Navarro #300M
Victoria, Texas 77904

Representative A.J. Loudereback
District 30, Room 1N.9
Austin, Texas 78768-2910
District Address:
Post Office Box 1792
Victoria, Texas 77902

Catarina Gonzales, TCEQ Commissioner
Office of the Chief Clerk, MC100
TCEQ
12100 Park 35 Circle, Building F
Austin, Texas 78753

Jon Niermann, TCEQ Chairman
Office of the Chief Clerk, MC100
TCEQ
12100 Park 35 Circle, Building F
Austin, Texas 78753

Bobby Janecka, TCEQ Commissioner
Office of the Chief Clerk, MC100
TCEQ
12100 Park 35 Circle, Building F
Austin, Texas 78753

file

Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District
Post Office Box 562
Goliad, Texas 77963

TEXAS
COMMISSION
ON ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY
2024 DEC -2 PM 2:44
CHIEF CLERKS OFFICE

Retail



TX 780



78753

U.S. POSTAGE PAID
FCM LETTER
GOLIAD, TX 77963
NOV 26, 2024

\$1.01

R2304M112323-05

RDC 99

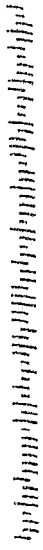
RECEIVED

DEC 02 2024

Office of the Chief Clerk, MC105
TCEQ
12100 Park 35 Circle, Building F
Austin, Texas 78753

TCEQ MAIL CENTER
DA

78753-180600



Ellie Guerra

From: PUBCOMMENT-OCC
Sent: Monday, April 17, 2023 12:44 PM
To: PUBCOMMENT-OCC2; PUBCOMMENT-OPIC; PUBCOMMENT-ELD; PUBCOMMENT-WPD
Subject: FW: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075
Attachments: GCGCD Comments on UR03075 Renewal.pdf

PM

From: gcgcd@goliadcogcd.org <gcgcd@goliadcogcd.org>
Sent: Friday, April 14, 2023 11:57 AM
To: PUBCOMMENT-OCC <PUBCOMMENT-OCC@tceq.texas.gov>
Subject: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075

REGULATED ENTY NAME GOLIAD PROJECT

RN NUMBER: RN105304802

PERMIT NUMBER: UR03075

DOCKET NUMBER:

COUNTY: GOLIAD

PRINCIPAL NAME: URANIUM ENERGY CORP

CN NUMBER: CN603228461

FROM

NAME: Annalysa Camacho

EMAIL: gcgcd@goliadcogcd.org

COMPANY: Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District

ADDRESS: PO BOX 562
GOLIAD TX 77963-0562

PHONE: 3616451716

FAX:

COMMENTS: On 4/12/23 we submitted comments that were missing attachments. Please disregard the previous comments with RN Number RN105304802. The attached pdf has the comments and the attachments that were missing in the previous comments. Sorry for any confusion. Thank you.



GOLIAD COUNTY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

118 S. Market St., P.O. Box 562, Goliad, Texas 77963-0562

Telephone: (361) 645-1716 Fax: (361) 645-1772

website: www.goliadcogcd.org | email: gcgcd@goliadcogcd.org

Board of Directors:

President – Wilfred Korth

Vice-President – Art Dohmann

Secretary – Roy Rosin

Directors – Terrell Graham, Ernest Alaniz, Reagan Sahadi, Barbara Smith

April 11, 2023

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Office of the Chief Clerk MC-105

P.O. Box 13087

Austin, Texas 78711-3087

Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District (GCGCD) is a governmental body created by the Legislature of Texas to protect and preserve the groundwater of Goliad County.

On December 20, 2020, UEC submitted an application to TCEQ for permit renewal for the authorization of in-situ uranium mining Permit No. UR03075. GCGCD requests that TCEQ schedule a public meeting in Goliad for the benefit of Goliad County citizens.

GCGCD makes the following public comments for the record. In general, it is not clear to GCGCD that the understanding of geology in this area is sufficient to allow for uranium mining in this area as further outlined below. GCGCD requests that this permit application renewal be remanded until the following issues are reviewed and resolved.

1. The geological information in the AOR provided with the permit renewal application for the deep injection wells, permit #WDW-423 and WDW-424 transmitted to GCGCD in 2020 and 2021 shows substantial changes from the geological information provided by the mining area permit UR-03075. The original mining permit application was filed with two faults in the Area of Review (AOR). The contested case regarding this permit only addressed two faults in the AOR. As currently understood, there are many more faults in the AOR.
2. Basic geologic understanding in the AOR appears markedly different in the two permit renewal applications submitted.
3. Whether the use and installation of the injection wells are in the public interest. Public interest regarding this issue includes whether UEC's mining operation or restoration activities will adversely impact the public interest by unreasonably reducing the amount of groundwater available for permitting by GCGCD. Measured groundwater levels have changed markedly since the original permit was filed.
4. The permit renewal application for the mining permit UR-03075 uses the same geologic and water sampling data as was used in the original permit application dated 07/31/2007. Data available to GCGCD does not agree with that the application adequately and accurately describes baseline conditions of the groundwater in the proposed permitted area under applicable requirements. The water sampling data for the mining excursion rings



GOLIAD COUNTY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

118 S. Market St., P.O. Box 562, Goliad, Texas 77963-0562
Telephone: (361) 645-1716 Fax: (361) 645-1772
website: www.goliadcogcd.org | email: gcgcd@goliadcogcd.org

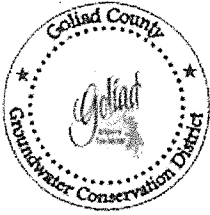
Board of Directors:

President – Wilfred Korth
Vice-President – Art Dohmann
Secretary – Roy Rosin

Directors – Terrell Graham, Ernest Alaniz, Reagan Sahadi, Barbara Smith

and baseline values for restoration was gathered in 2007-2008. GCGCD contends that many values were high due to the exploration borehole drilling occurring at that time which was stirring up the aquifer. GCGCD has periodically sampled several wells in the AOR since 2008 and has noted in the attached graphs an overall improvement of water quality since exploratory borehole were drilled.

5. The application does not meet all applicable criteria related to or required consideration by the Commission prior to issuing a Class III Injection Well Area Permit.
6. The applicant has not demonstrated that the proposed exempted aquifer meets the applicable criteria.
7. The application is not sufficiently protective of groundwater quality.
8. The application does not adequately characterize and describe the geology and hydrology in the proposed permit area, including fault lines, under the applicable rules.
9. The geologic and hydraulic properties of the proposed permit area indicate that the applicant will not be able to comply with rule requirements.
10. The application is not sufficiently protective of surface water quality.
11. UEC's proposal for restoration of groundwater to baseline levels as contained in the permit application is not reasonable and adequate.
12. The applicant's proposed activities negatively impact livestock and wildlife, potentially including endangered species.
13. The applicant's proposed activities will negatively impact the use of property and property values.
14. The applicant's proposed activities will adversely affect public health and welfare.
15. The Gulf Coast Aquifer is an unconfined aquifer in the areas of Goliad County where UEC will conduct UIC [underground injection control] activities. Proposed activities will endanger the Gulf Coast Aquifer in the areas of Goliad County where UEC will conduct UIC [underground injection control] activities.
16. Mining fluids will migrate vertically or horizontally and contaminate USDW [underground source of drinking water].
17. There are USDWs within the injection zones proposed by UEC.
18. USDWs within Goliad County will be adversely impacted by UEC's proposed in situ uranium operations.
19. GCGCD requests a complete review and correction of the geological data and a new set of samples be taken of all wells that will be used in the mining and restoration operation monitoring. Water Samples are to be tested by a certified lab.
20. Cross section maps for production area B show the underlying confining zone to be less than 15' thick in some places. GCGCD requests that monitor wells be installed in sand "C"



GOLIAD COUNTY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

118 S. Market St., P.O. Box 562, Goliad, Texas 77963-0562

Telephone: (361) 645-1716 Fax: (361) 645-1772

website: www.goliadcogcd.org | email: gcgcd@goliadcogcd.org

Board of Directors:

President – Wilfred Korth

Vice-President – Art Dohmann

Secretary – Roy Rosin

Directors – Terrell Graham, Ernest Alaniz, Reagan Sahadi, Barbara Smith

to monitor downward leakage during production of sand B. Underlying monitor wells for sands A, C, & D should also be evaluated.

21. Wells RBLB-2 and RBLD-1 appear to be miss labeled or mislocated.
22. There is considerable variability in depth of RBL wells especially for sands C & D and individually RBLA-5. This needs to be compared to geologic data. Is there an excursion control issue with level changes and faulting?

Again, GCGGD is requesting that these issues be reviewed and resolved. GCGCD is also requesting a public meeting in Goliad County concerning the renewal of Permit No. UR03075.

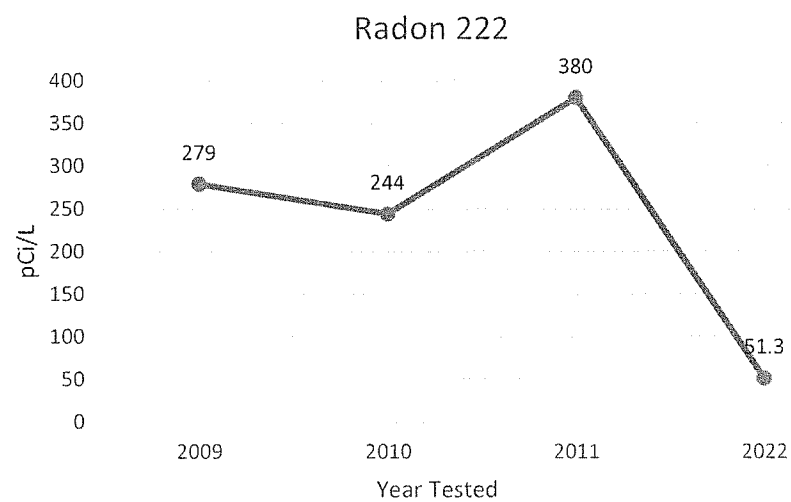
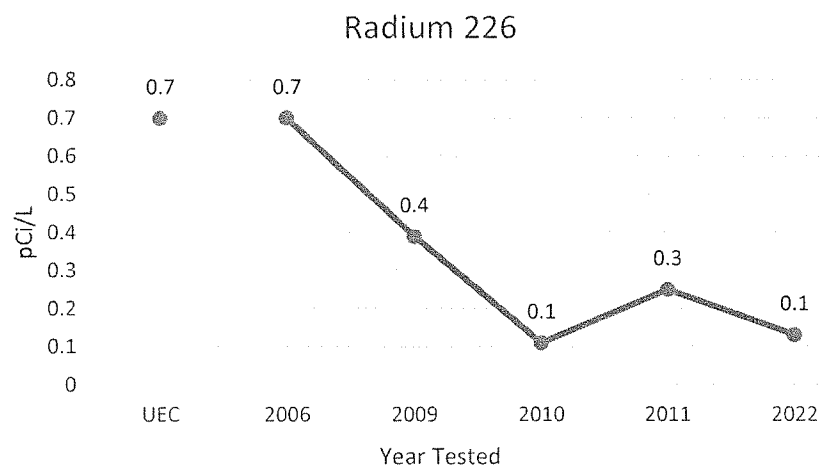
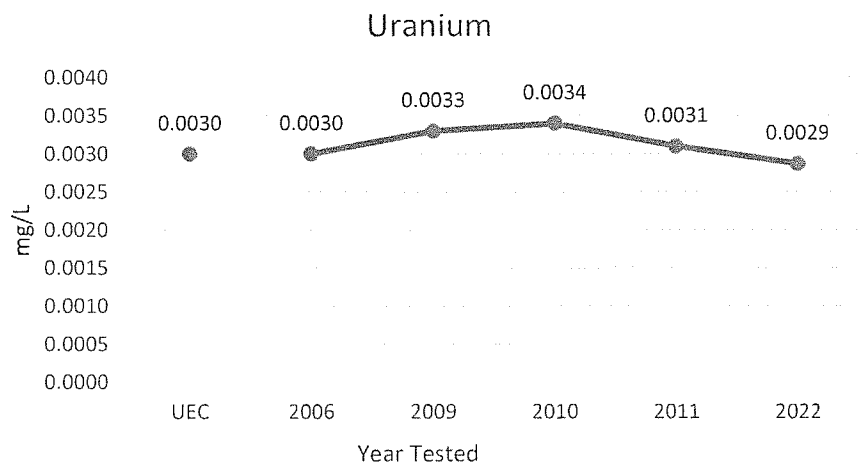
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "W. Korth", written over a horizontal line.

Wilfred Korth

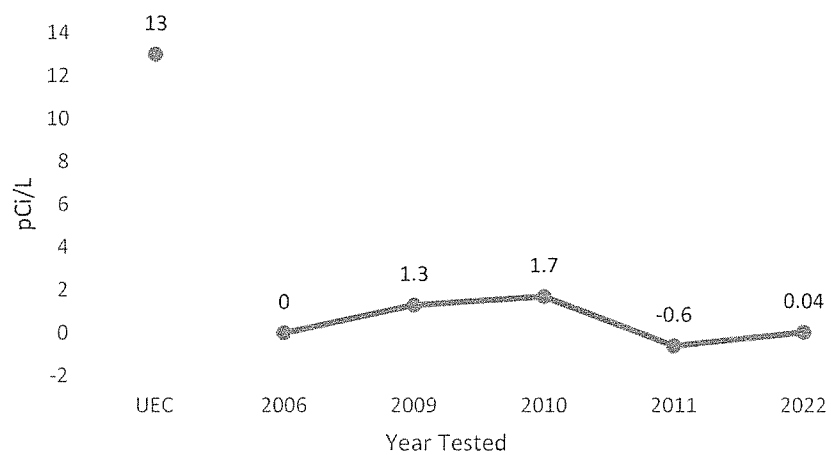
GCGCD President

Anklam

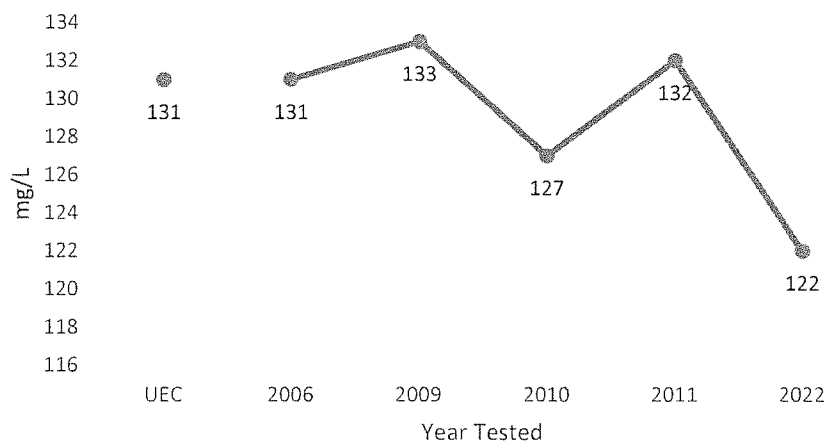


Anklam

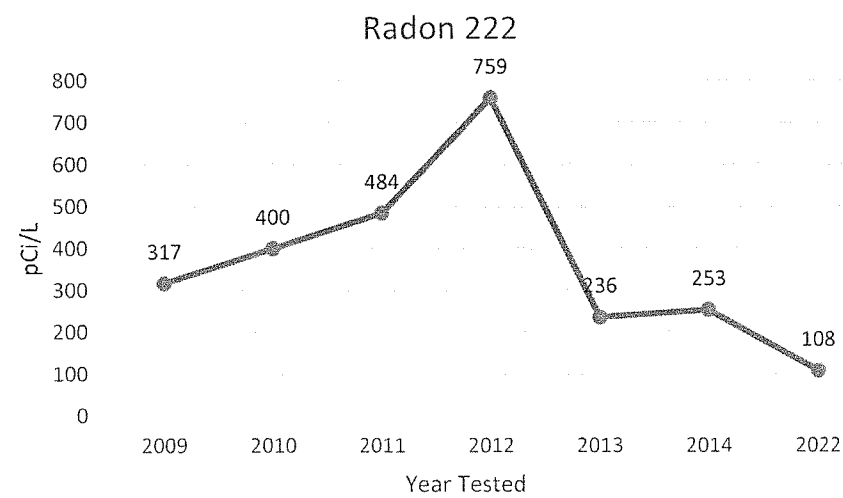
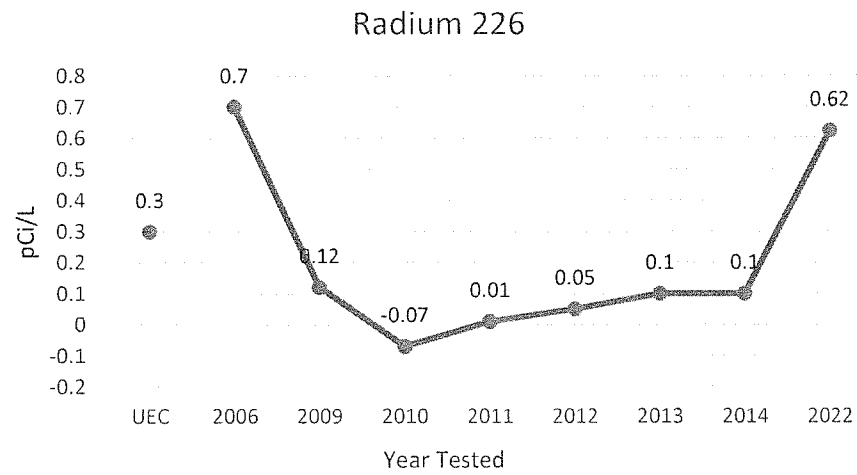
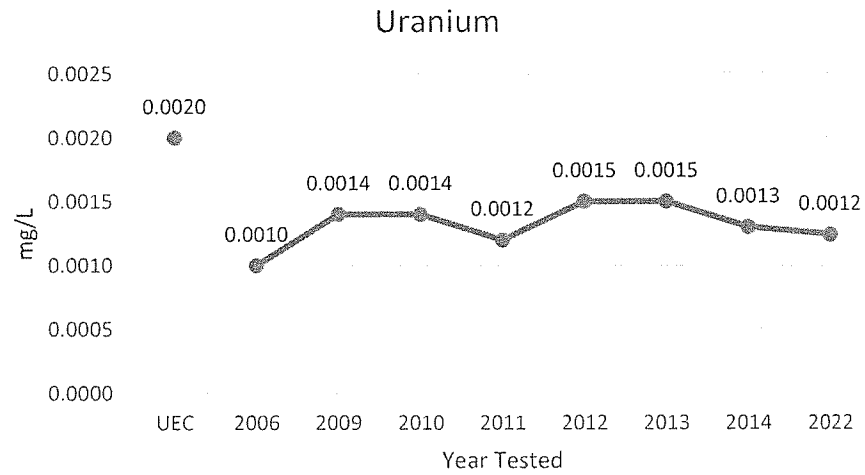
Gross Alpha



Chloride

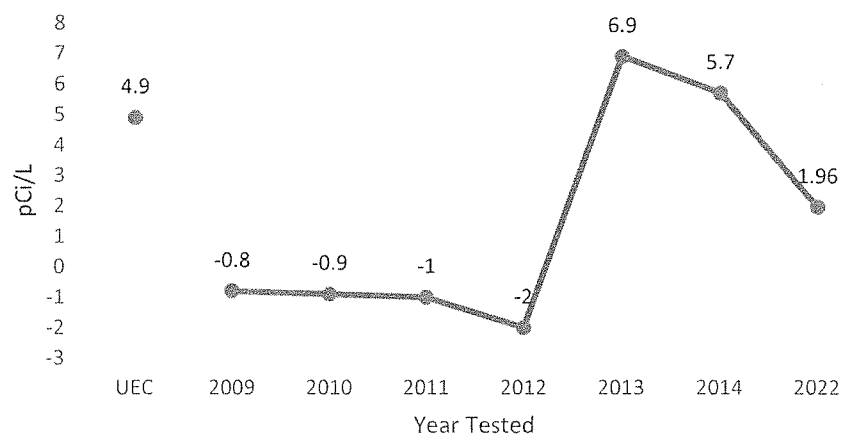


Bluntzer

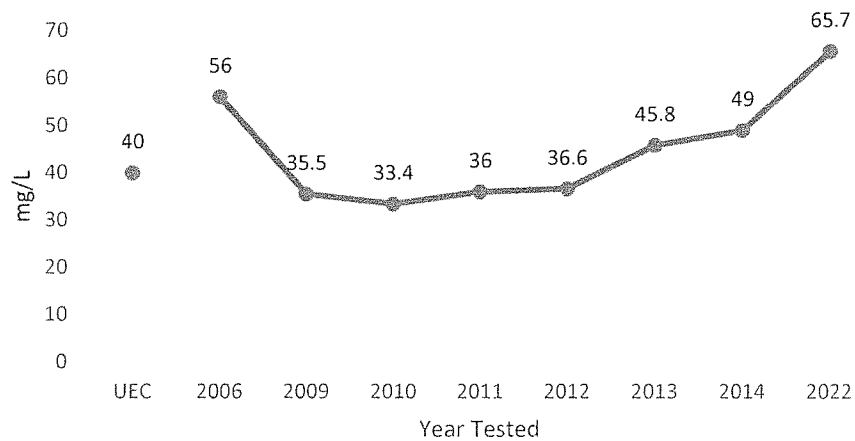


Bluntzer

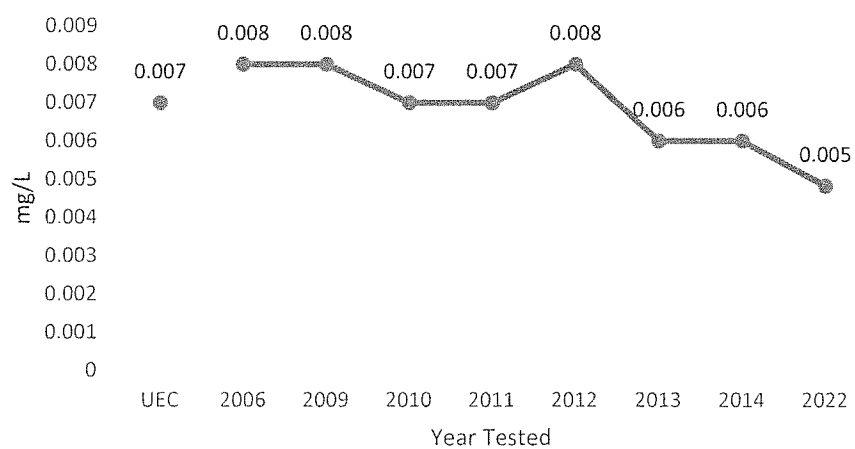
Gross Alpha



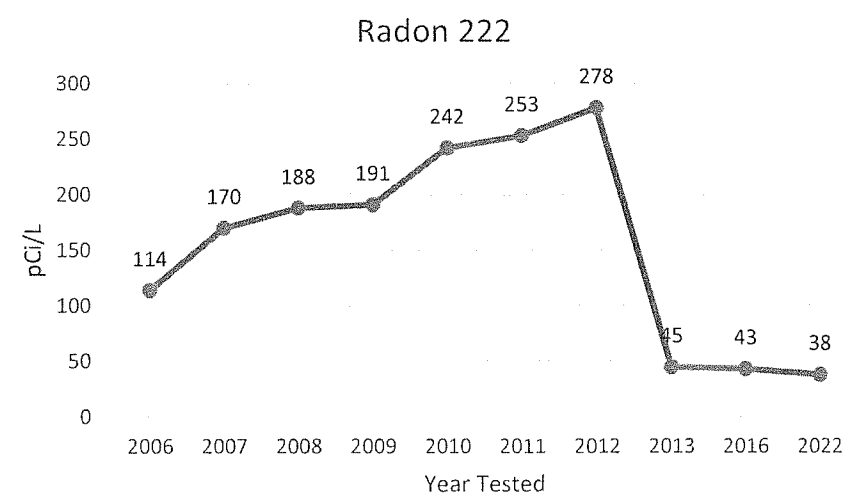
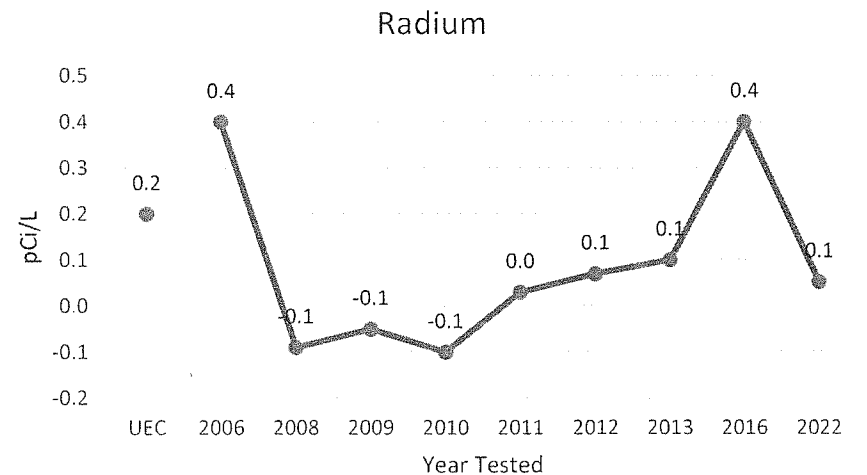
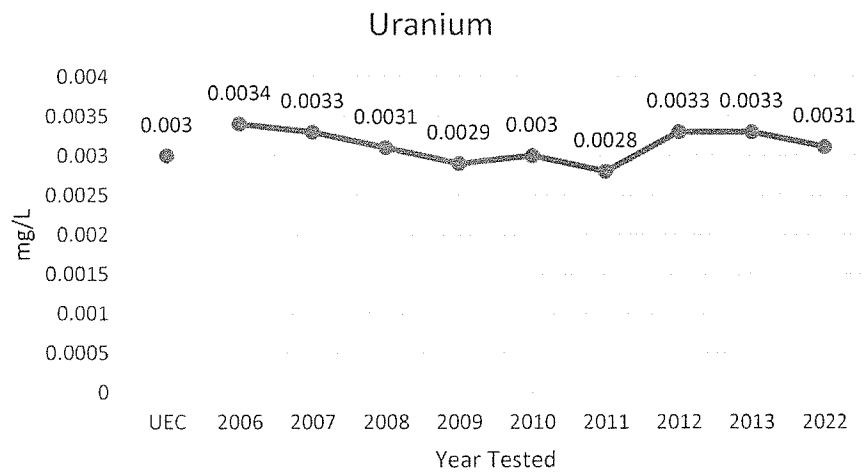
Chloride



Arsenic

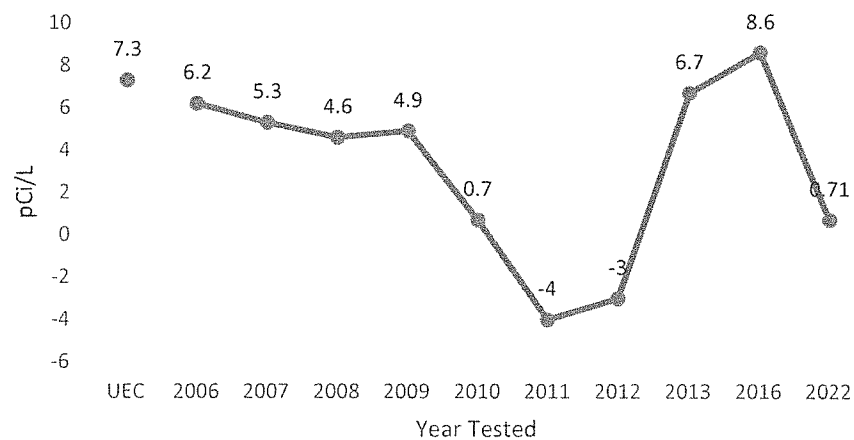


Church

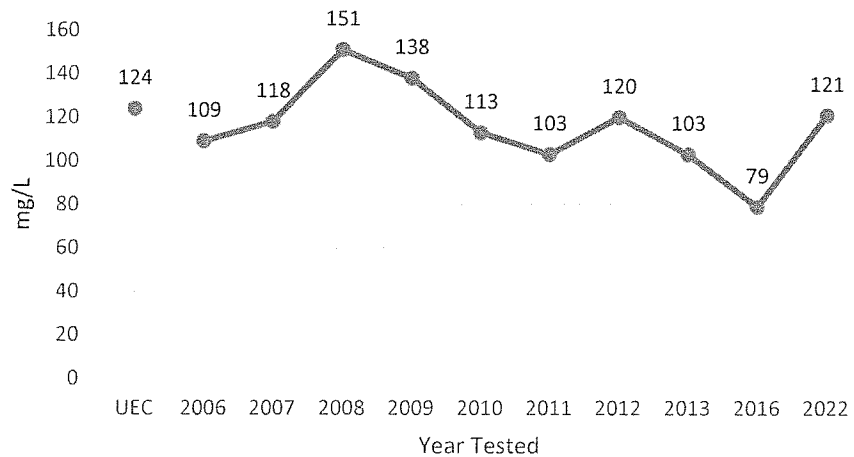


Church

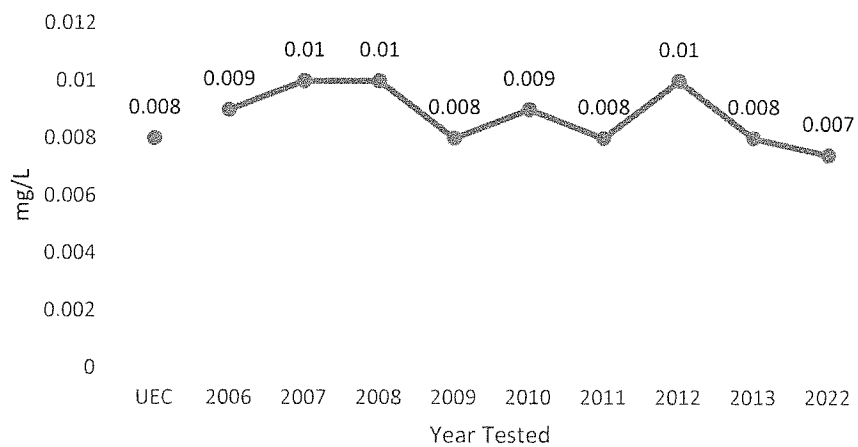
Gross Alpha



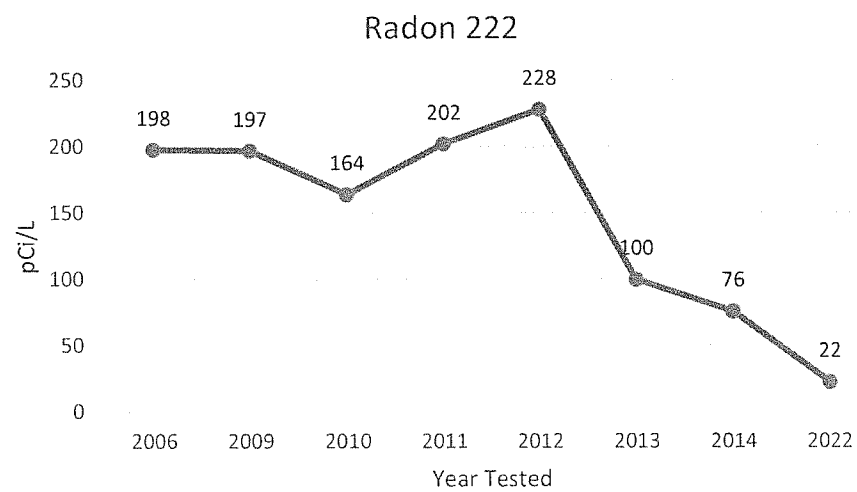
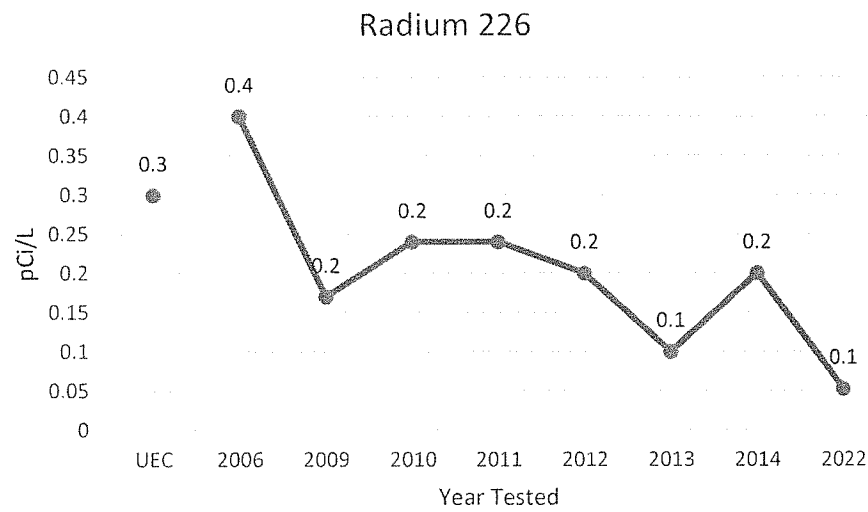
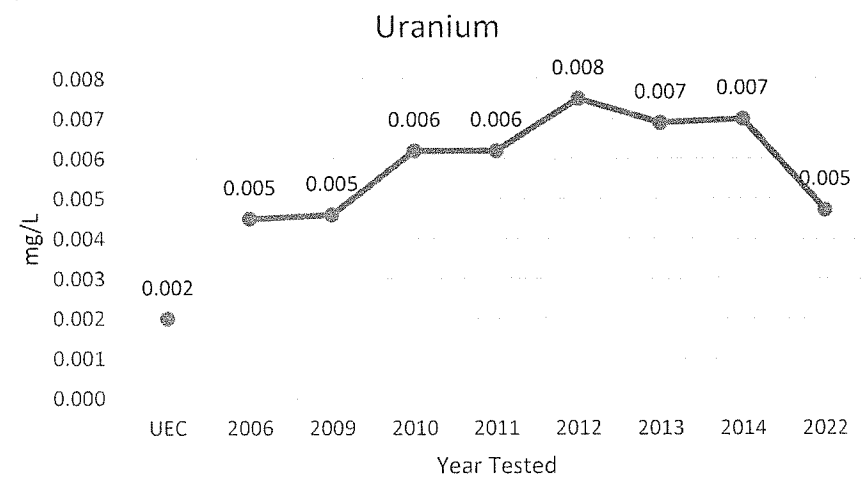
Chloride



Arsenic

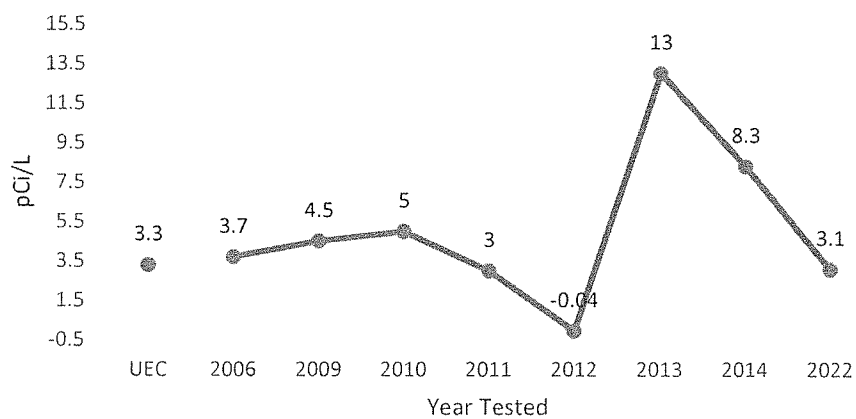


Duderstadt

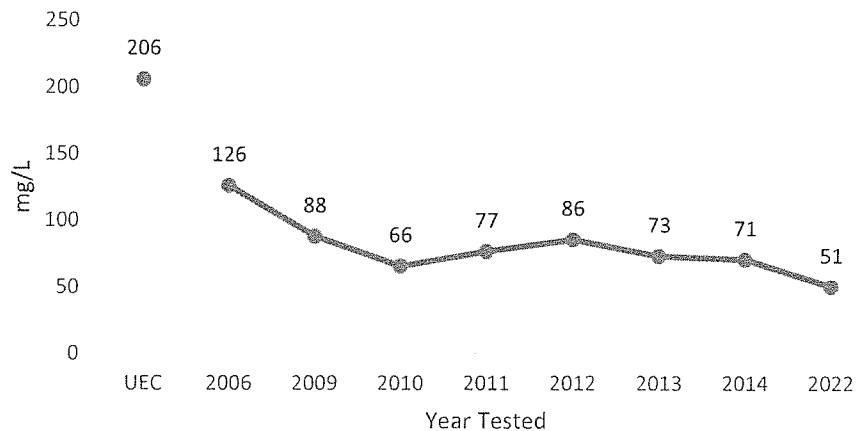


Duderstadt

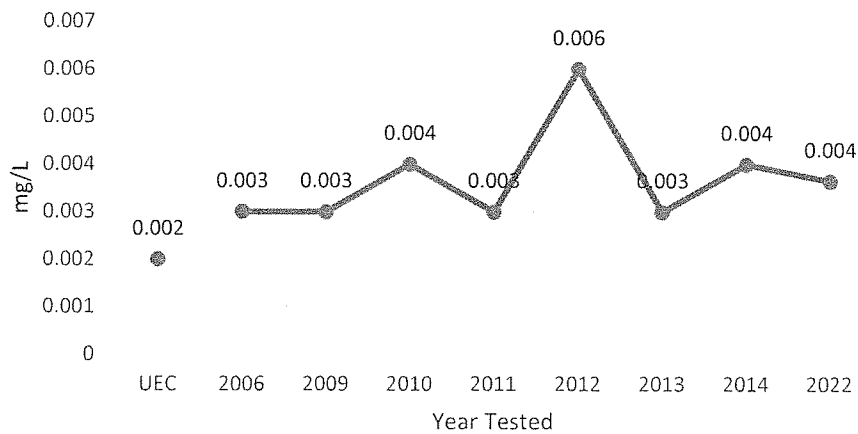
Gross Alpha



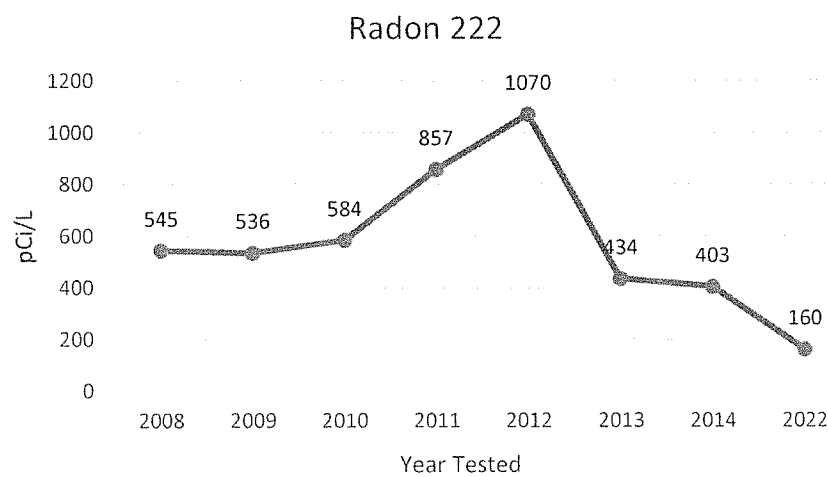
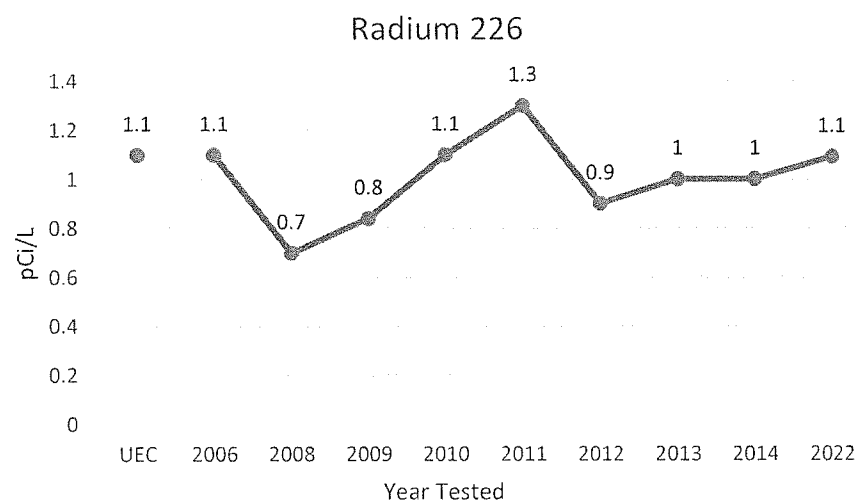
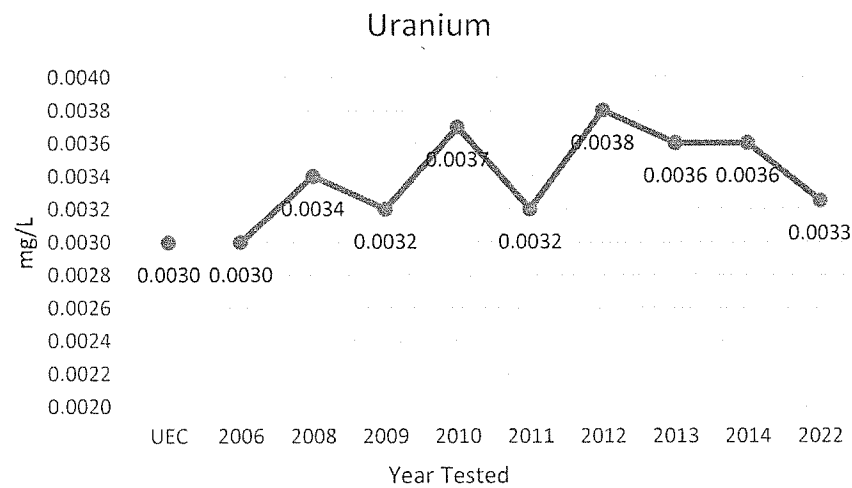
Chloride



Arsenic

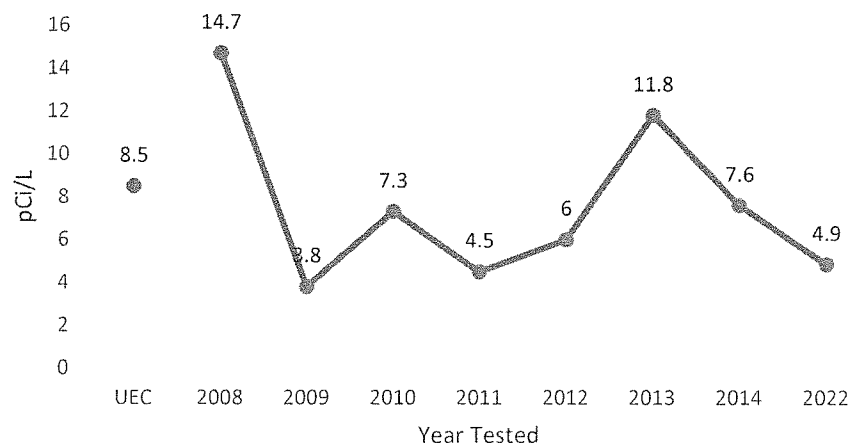


Long

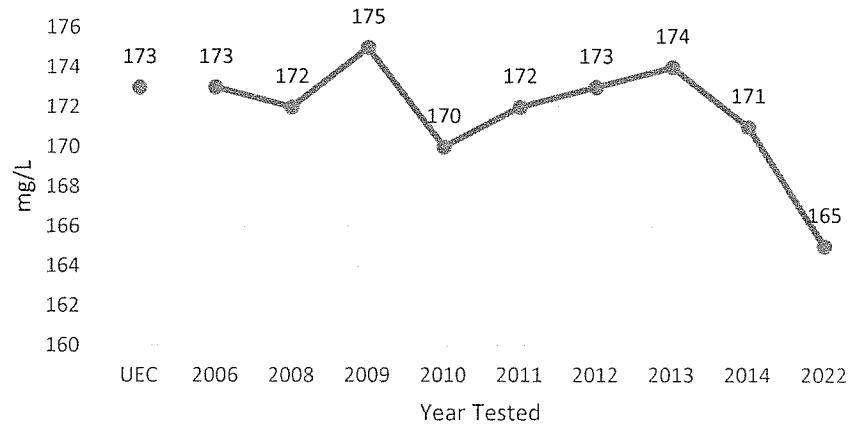


Long

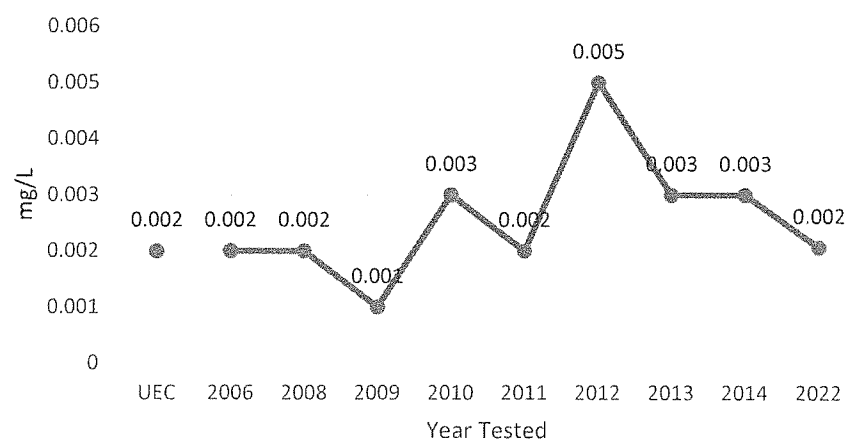
Gross Alpha



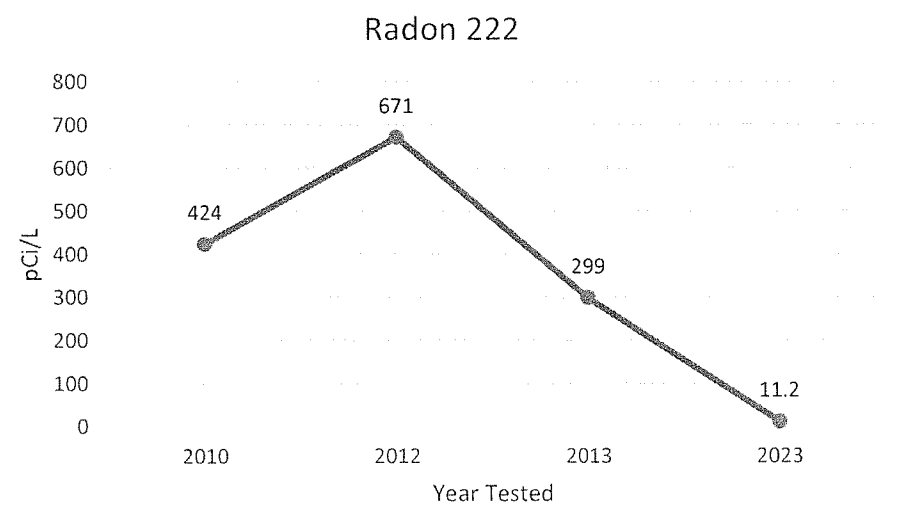
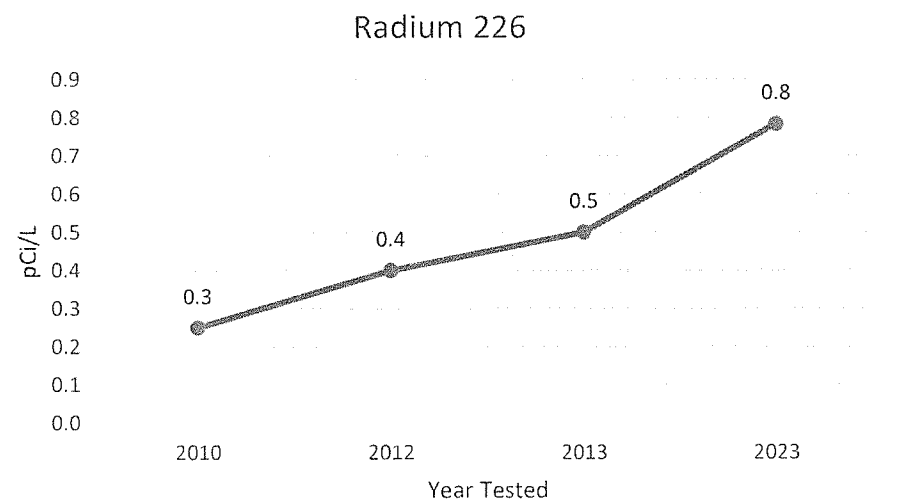
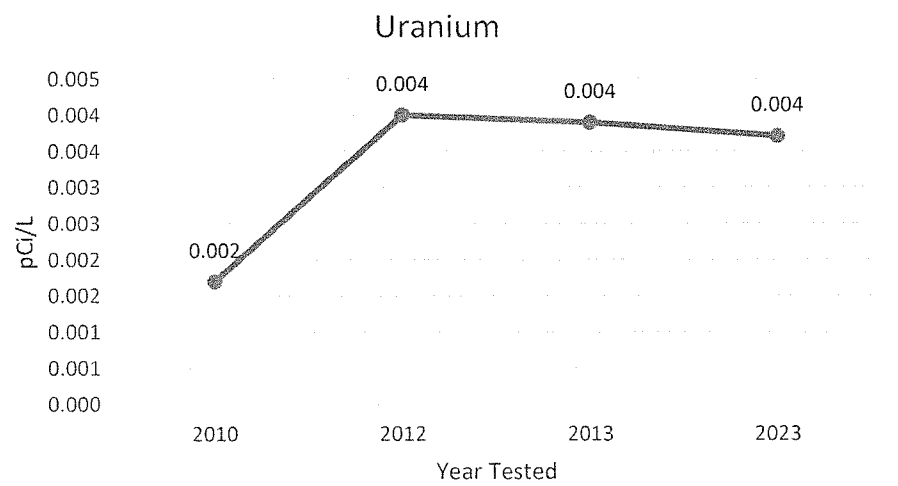
Chloride



Arsenic

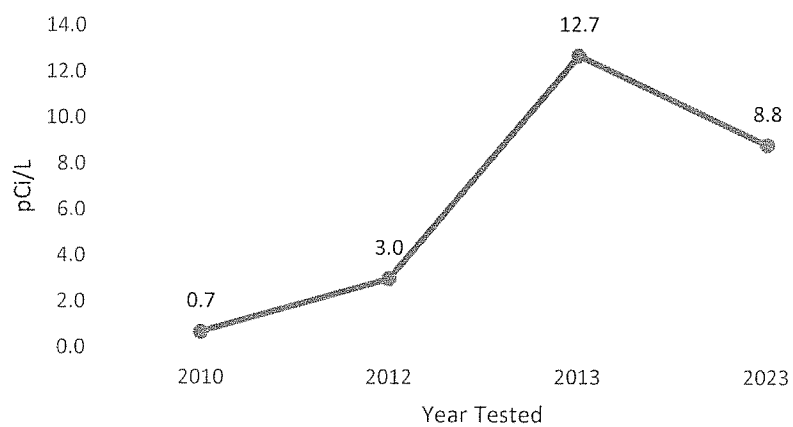


Warzecha

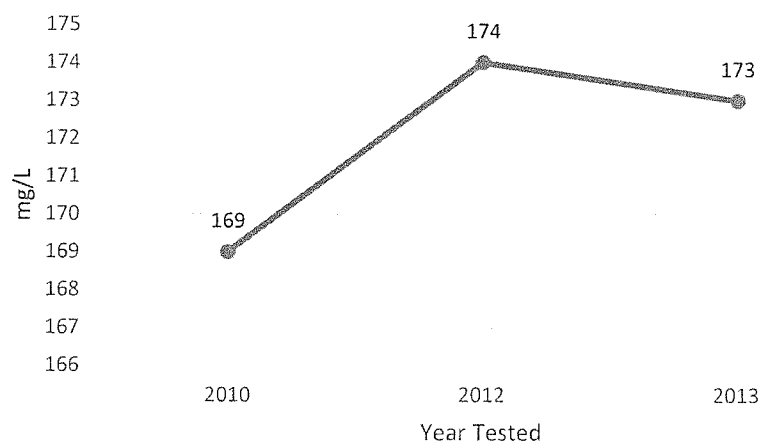


Warzecha

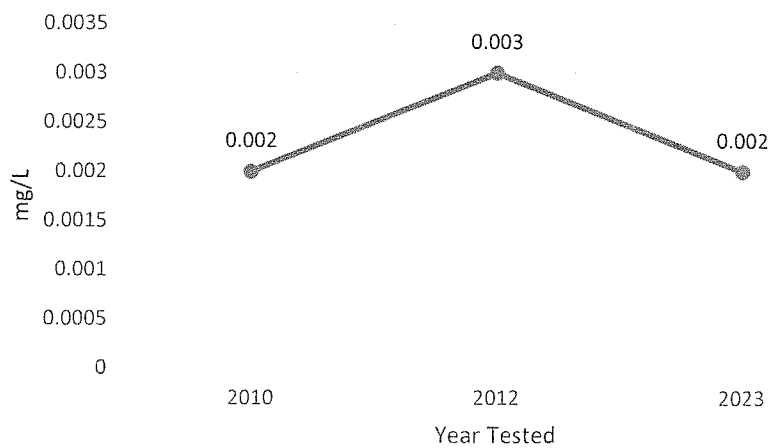
Gross Alpha



Chloride



Arsenic



Christina Bourque

From: PUBCOMMENT-OCC
Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2023 11:24 AM
To: PUBCOMMENT-OCC2; PUBCOMMENT-OPIC; PUBCOMMENT-ELD; PUBCOMMENT-WPD
Subject: FW: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075
Attachments: GCGCD Comments on UR03075 Renewal1.pdf

PM

From: gcgcd@goliadcogcd.org <gcgcd@goliadcogcd.org>
Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2023 8:58 AM
To: PUBCOMMENT-OCC <PUBCOMMENT-OCC@tceq.texas.gov>
Subject: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075

REGULATED ENTY NAME GOLIAD PROJECT

RN NUMBER: RN105304802

PERMIT NUMBER: UR03075

DOCKET NUMBER:

COUNTY: GOLIAD

PRINCIPAL NAME: URANIUM ENERGY CORP

CN NUMBER: CN603228461

FROM

NAME: Annalysa Camacho

EMAIL: gcgcd@goliadcogcd.org

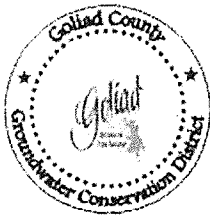
COMPANY: Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District

ADDRESS: PO BOX 562
GOLIAD TX 77963-0562

PHONE: 3616451716

FAX:

COMMENTS: Please see the attached pdf for comments. Thank you.



GOLIAD COUNTY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

118 S. Market St., P.O. Box 562, Goliad, Texas 77963-0562

Telephone: (361) 645-1716 Fax: (361) 645-1772

website: www.goliadcogcd.org | email: gcgcd@goliadcogcd.org

Board of Directors:

President – Wilfred Korth

Vice-President – Art Dohmann

Secretary – Roy Rosin

Directors – Terrell Graham, Ernest Alaniz, Reagan Sahadi, Barbara Smith

April 11, 2023

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Office of the Chief Clerk MC-105

P.O. Box 13087

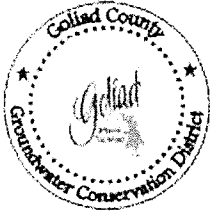
Austin, Texas 78711-3087

Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District (GCGCD) is a governmental body created by the Legislature of Texas to protect and preserve the groundwater of Goliad County.

On December 20, 2020, UEC submitted an application to TCEQ for permit renewal for the authorization of in-situ uranium mining Permit No. UR03075. GCGCD requests that TCEQ schedule a public meeting in Goliad for the benefit of Goliad County citizens.

GCGCD makes the following public comments for the record. In general, it is not clear to GCGCD that the understanding of geology in this area is sufficient to allow for uranium mining in this area as further outlined below. GCGCD requests that this permit application renewal be remanded until the following issues are reviewed and resolved.

1. The geological information in the AOR provided with the permit renewal application for the deep injection wells, permit #WDW-423 and WDW-424 transmitted to GCGCD in 2020 and 2021 shows substantial changes from the geological information provided by the mining area permit UR-03075. The original mining permit application was filed with two faults in the Area of Review (AOR). The contested case regarding this permit only addressed two faults in the AOR. As currently understood, there are many more faults in the AOR.
2. Basic geologic understanding in the AOR appears markedly different in the two permit renewal applications submitted.
3. Whether the use and installation of the injection wells are in the public interest. Public interest regarding this issue includes whether UEC's mining operation or restoration activities will adversely impact the public interest by unreasonably reducing the amount of groundwater available for permitting by GCGCD. Measured groundwater levels have changed markedly since the original permit was filed.
4. The permit renewal application for the mining permit UR-03075 uses the same geologic and water sampling data as was used in the original permit application dated 07/31/2007. Data available to GCGCD does not agree with that the application adequately and accurately describes baseline conditions of the groundwater in the proposed permitted area under applicable requirements. The water sampling data for the mining excursion rings



GOLIAD COUNTY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

118 S. Market St., P.O. Box 562, Goliad, Texas 77963-0562

Telephone: (361) 645-1716 Fax: (361) 645-1772

website: www.goliadcogcd.org | email: gcgcd@goliadcogcd.org

Board of Directors:

President – Wilfred Korth

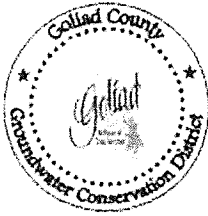
Vice-President – Art Dohmann

Secretary – Roy Rosin

Directors – Terrell Graham, Ernest Alaniz, Reagan Sahadi, Barbara Smith

and baseline values for restoration was gathered in 2007-2008. GCGCD contends that many values were high due to the exploration borehole drilling occurring at that time which was stirring up the aquifer. GCGCD has periodically sampled several wells in the AOR since 2008 and has noted in the attached graphs an overall improvement of water quality since exploratory borehole were drilled.

5. The application does not meet all applicable criteria related to or required consideration by the Commission prior to issuing a Class III Injection Well Area Permit.
6. The applicant has not demonstrated that the proposed exempted aquifer meets the applicable criteria.
7. The application is not sufficiently protective of groundwater quality.
8. The application does not adequately characterize and describe the geology and hydrology in the proposed permit area, including fault lines, under the applicable rules.
9. The geologic and hydraulic properties of the proposed permit area indicate that the applicant will not be able to comply with rule requirements.
10. The application is not sufficiently protective of surface water quality.
11. UEC's proposal for restoration of groundwater to baseline levels as contained in the permit application is not reasonable and adequate.
12. The applicant's proposed activities negatively impact livestock and wildlife, potentially including endangered species.
13. The applicant's proposed activities will negatively impact the use of property and property values.
14. The applicant's proposed activities will adversely affect public health and welfare.
15. The Gulf Coast Aquifer is an unconfined aquifer in the areas of Goliad County where UEC will conduct UIC [underground injection control] activities. Proposed activities will endanger the Gulf Coast Aquifer in the areas of Goliad County where UEC will conduct UIC [underground injection control] activities.
16. Mining fluids will migrate vertically or horizontally and contaminate USDW [underground source of drinking water].
17. There are USDWs within the injection zones proposed by UEC.
18. USDWs within Goliad County will be adversely impacted by UEC's proposed in situ uranium operations.
19. GCGCD requests a complete review and correction of the geological data and a new set of samples be taken of all wells that will be used in the mining and restoration operation monitoring. Water Samples are to be tested by a certified lab.
20. Cross section maps for production area B show the underlying confining zone to be less than 15' thick in some places. GCGCD requests that monitor wells be installed in sand "C"



GOLIAD COUNTY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

118 S. Market St., P.O. Box 562, Goliad, Texas 77963-0562

Telephone: (361) 645-1716 Fax: (361) 645-1772

website: www.goliadcogcd.org | email: gcgcd@goliadcogcd.org

Board of Directors:

President – Wilfred Korth

Vice-President – Art Dohmann

Secretary – Roy Rosin

Directors – Terrell Graham, Ernest Alaniz, Reagan Sahadi, Barbara Smith

to monitor downward leakage during production of sand B. Underlying monitor wells for sands A, C, & D should also be evaluated.

21. Wells RBLB-2 and RBLD-1 appear to be miss labeled or mislocated.
22. There is considerable variability in depth of RBL wells especially for sands C & D and individually RBLA-5. This needs to be compared to geologic data. Is there an excursion control issue with level changes and faulting?

Again, GCGGD is requesting that these issues be reviewed and resolved. GCGCD is also requesting a public meeting in Goliad County concerning the renewal of Permit No. UR03075.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Wilfred Korth", written over a horizontal line.

Wilfred Korth

GCGCD President

Tammy Johnson

From: PUBCOMMENT-OCC
Sent: Thursday, April 17, 2025 10:49 AM
To: PUBCOMMENT-RAD; PUBCOMMENT-ELD; PUBCOMMENT-OCC2; PUBCOMMENT-OPIC
Subject: FW: Office of Chief Clerk MC105
Attachments: TCEQ.pdf

H
RFR

From: dchapman@gvec.net <dchapman@gvec.net>
Sent: Wednesday, April 16, 2025 6:36 PM
To: Info <Info@tceq.texas.gov>
Subject: Office of Chief Clerk MC105

Attached letter to Office of Chief Clerk, MC105
Thank you.

Debra Chapman
Goliad County resident
dchapman@gvec.net
361-215-4355

Chapman

Debra Chapman

792 W FM 1961 Yorktown TX 78164

Goliad County, Texas

dchapman@gvec.net 361-215-4355

April 16, 2025

TCEQ Administrative Office

**RE: TCEQ / UEC Contested Case Hearing – Renewal of Permit U03075 – Goliad County
Request for Reconsideration and Request for Contested Case Hearing**

As a resident, property owner, and taxpayer in Goliad County, Texas, I respectfully request that the preliminary decision on permit U03075 be reconsidered and further submit a request for a contested case hearing based on numerous issues including but not limited to the following:

- Water conservation is a well documented concern in Texas at this time. My husband and I relocated here 15 years ago from Corpus Christi where we were drinking purchased bottled water. We quickly discovered that the well water at the Goliad property easily replaced the need for bottled water. The well water has been tested multiple times to confirm same.*
- In addition to the legally defined "affected parties" in the vicinity of the proposed Uranium mining, this matter is of great concern by all Goliad residents. With over 5000 domestic and livestock water supply wells in the county which provide potable water for both animal and human consumption, noting that there is no other drinking water supply system in the county therefore making any change to the water quality of great concern.*
- With the UEC application process there were issues and errors with most notably three areas of concern. 1) the water is currently potable and confirmed by multiple testing and not as referenced by UEC with 17 year old tests; 2) the number of "faults" were misrepresented initially and not appropriately considered; and 3) compliance testing to be made by UEC which equates to self testing rather than independent testing for safety and compliance.*

I respectfully submit that Goliad County, though sparsely populated, is none the less the residence of Americans for which the life sustaining water supply is of utmost importance and the area is counting on the Texas Governor, TCEQ and EPA to recognize and protect our precious water supply.

Debra Chapman

Chapman

Debra Chapman

792 W FM 1961 Yorktown TX 78164

Goliad County, Texas

dchapman@qvec.net 361-215-4355

April 29, 2024

Reviewed By SCW

MAY 16 2024 PM

TCEQ Administrator
12100 Park 35 Circle, Bldg F
Austin TX 78753

RE: Proposed Uranium Mining in Goliad County

As a Texas Resident, US Citizen, Taxpayer and Business Owner living in Goliad County, I would like to submit the following comments regarding an issue coming before TCEQ regarding Uranium Mining less than 2 miles from our beautiful ranch.

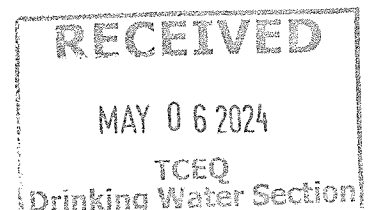
I am concerned about the negative impact this mining would have on the quality and quantity of our water supply. It is my understanding that the entire county is dependent on various wells using groundwater and it is the sole source of potable water for nearly every home in Goliad County. We have lived on this ranch for 14 years and the water quality has been tested multiple times as we use this water for our home, our cattle as well as for our "drinking water".

It appears that URANIUM ENERGY CORP has submitted an application that because of faulty testing and other means, has indicated that our current quality of water is "less than optimal" as a part of their Application. The Goliad County Water Board has submitted substantial information which contradicts much of the information included in the APPLICATION which is being considered by TCEQ.

Area Residents as well as the Goliad County Water Board is requesting a Public Meeting in Goliad County prior to any action taken by TCEQ to be sure that the decision is not purely political but is based on the most current and accurate information available.



Debra Chapman



Tammy Johnson

From: PUBCOMMENT-OCC
Sent: Tuesday, April 22, 2025 3:40 PM
To: PUBCOMMENT-RAD; PUBCOMMENT-ELD; PUBCOMMENT-OCC2; PUBCOMMENT-OPIC
Subject: FW: Contested Case Hearing
Attachments: GCC Uranium Ltr.pdf

H

From: dchapman@gvec.net <dchapman@gvec.net>
Sent: Friday, April 18, 2025 12:51 PM
To: Info <Info@tceq.texas.gov>
Subject: Contested Case Hearing

Attached is a Letter from a Goliad County Resident regarding
REQUEST FOR CONTESTED CASE HEARING u03075

Gregory C. Chapman
Property Tax Consultant
gchapman@gvec.net
361-549-8162

April 18, 2025

**Gregory C. Chapman
792 FM 1964
Yorktown, Texas 78164**

**Honorable Gregory Abbott,
Governor of the State of Texas
P. O. Box 12428
Austin, Texas 748711-2428**

Dear Governor Abbott:

**Re: Uranium Mining in Goliad County, Texas
TCEQ/UEC Contested Case Hearing -Renewal of Permit U03075**

First of all, let me say I am a supporter of your administration and agree with your conservative policies regarding sealing the border, school choice and reducing property taxes. You have been a good governor but I need to relate to you a profound danger facing Texas, if uranium mining is approved in Goliad County.

Uranium Energy Corporation has made applications for a waste disposal well permit to inject mining waste into our drinking aquifer, where the water quality could be endangered for thousands of Goliad County residents. My family and I live less than 2,500' from the proposed injection wells and we are concerned that seepage from uranium mining waste will pollute and destroy the quality and purity of our drinking water aquifer.

UCE has hired an army of Austin-based law firms, lawyers, to persuade the TCEQ that injection wells are harmless and that a production permit will cause no harm to the drinking aquifer. UEC is proposing to employ in situ mining, where hundreds of water wells will be drilled, injected with chemicals, then the ground water is pumped to the surface where "yellow cake", is produced, a radioactive element. These wells are drilled into the drinking aquifer, thus causing disturbed uranium to migrate to the surrounding ground water, thus rendering our drinking water unfit for human and animal consumption.

The Goliad Co. Water Conservation District is opposed to the UEC but has limited resources to fight this uranium mining corporation. It appears the TCEQ is supporting the UEC against the citizens of Goliad County and the State of Texas. We are average citizens, not financially capable of fighting corporations and ask you for help in recognizing that the wrong decision regarding this matter, will cause destruction of our drinking water aquifer .

The problem of all this is that the TCEQ has dictatorial authority over the courts, is pro industry and seems to lean toward approval of the waste disposal wells against the opinions of many experts who maintain that approval and implementation will result in the destruction of our drinking water aquifer.

Honorable Governor, State of Texas, Gregory Abbott

Page2

As governor of Texas, you appointed the commissioners of the TCEQ, with approval of the Senate, therefore, you have considerable political influence over their decisions regarding their support of UEC's goal of mining uranium in a drinking water aquifer. I call on you to intervene on behalf of the citizens of Goliad County and all of Texas to stop this dangerous and possibly catastrophic course that will endanger a pure drinking water aquifer.

I have been designated an "affected party" by the TCEQ, who recognizes that due to our close location to the injection well sites, the drinking water could be endangered and or polluted forever. There are more property owners affected by UEC's actions, but my point is that all Goliad County, as well as Dewitt and Victoria County could also be affected.

My property is Homesteaded but is now threatened and will be rendered worthless if uranium waste disposal wells and mining are approved nearby.

The TCEQ is a state government created political entity with vast powers, some good, and some bad, as in this case, their approval of waste permits and mining will destroy our clean drinking water aquifer. If ground drinking water destruction occurs, via in situ uranium mining, and is allowed, Republicans will rightly be blamed and will face the political consequences.

Approval of UEC injection well uranium disposal wells and later production amounts to a taking of private property, with government backing, for private corporate gain, in this case, the TCEQ support of the UEC, without compensation to property owners. Your office should be aware of and resist and limit the power of TCEQ, to destroy a drinking water aquifer. Please help save our drinking water aquifer.

Additionally, I feel the actions of the UEC are in direct violation of the Clean Water Act, enforced by the Environmental Protection Agency.

In closing, we the citizens of Goliad County, Texas, are asking your office to intervene on our behalf as well as all citizens of Texas to protect this finite and vital resource, clean drinking water, so necessary for all life to exist.

Thank you for your support. Regards,



Gregory C. Chapman

Cc: Representative A.J Louderback
Senator Lois Kolkhorst
Congressman Michael Cloud
Senator Charles Perry
TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk MC105

Vincent Redondo

From: PUBCOMMENT-OCC
Sent: Friday, November 8, 2024 2:58 PM
To: PUBCOMMENT-OCC2; PUBCOMMENT-OPIC; PUBCOMMENT-ELD; PUBCOMMENT-RAD
Subject: FW: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075
Attachments: TCEQ Letter 11-7-2024.pdf

H

Jesús Bárcena
Office of the Chief Clerk
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Office Phone: 512-239-3319

How is our customer service? Fill out our online customer satisfaction survey at:
www.tceq.texas.gov/customersurvey

From: gchapman@gvec.net <gchapman@gvec.net>
Sent: Thursday, November 7, 2024 11:56 AM
To: PUBCOMMENT-OCC <PUBCOMMENT-OCC@tceq.texas.gov>
Subject: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075

REGULATED ENTY NAME GOLIAD PROJECT

RN NUMBER: RN105304802

PERMIT NUMBER: UR03075

DOCKET NUMBER:

COUNTY: GOLIAD

PRINCIPAL NAME: URANIUM ENERGY CORP

CN NUMBER: CN603228461

NAME: Gregory C Chapman

EMAIL: gchapman@gvec.net

COMPANY:

ADDRESS: 792 W FM 1961
YORKTOWN TX 78164-5419

PHONE: 3615498162

FAX:

COMMENTS: Please accept attached document.

11-7-2024

REQUEST FOR CONTESTED CASE HEARING

TO: TCEQ

Office of the Chief Clerk

MC-105

P. O. BOX 13087

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711-3087

COMMENTS RELATIVE TO UEC REQUEST TO OBTAIN CLASS III INJECTION WELL PERMIT RENEWAL,
PERMIT UR03075

COMMENTS ALSO SUBMITTED UNDER:

SOAH DOCKET NO. 582-23-15496-SUFFIX: TCEQ

IN RE: 2022 – 1533 – WDW

7-25-2023

Protestant, Affected Party:

Gregory C. Chapman

792 FM 1961

Yorktown, Texas 78164, 361-564-9150, gchapman@gvec.net

Dear TCEQ:

As an Affected Party and Protestant to Uranium Energy Corp., UEC, proposed request for authorization regarding a permit to inject nonhazardous and or hazardous and or radioactive wastes into the ground water, I must strenuously object, to approval of the liquid waste injection wells permit at WDW 423 and WDW 424.

Only a fool would agree to allowing a uranium mining corporation to inject nonpoisonous and or poisonous and or pollutants into a stratum of the earth containing clean unpolluted ground water, which is what the UEC requests, and without which, its planned production of in situ mining would collapse.

Point A:

My argument concerns "water rights", as conceptualized in the bundle of rights of private property ownership, and how the actions of other parties, in this case, a for profit corporation, UEC, through its proposal to inject hazardous and or non- hazardous pollutants, into the groundwater, regarding WDW 423 and WDW 424, and later in situ mine for uranium, will damage my water rights and land and those owning private property close to the proposed well injection site and the mining site, by destroying the quality of drinking water in my and their drinking groundwater.

As an affected part, I wish the below to be introduced into the record.

Point B:

I quote, Husch Blackwell LLP:

The Texas Supreme Court, TXSC, recently confirmed what many already know, reference: water law verdict, #6681438, 2022, Pape Partners, Ltd. v. DRR Family Properties, The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, TCEQ, has only ADMINISTRATIVE authority related to water rights in Texas. This means that water rights ownership disputes must utilize Texas courts and adjudicate water right ownership. It is the courts and NOT the TCEQ, that determine ownership of water rights.

The TXSC also opined, "that nothing in the Water Rights Adjudication Act, Sec. 5.013 (a) (1), Chapter 11, Gives the TCEQ authority to decide conflicting claims to water rights acquired with the title to the land.

STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

In Re: 2022-1553-WDW

CHAPMAN, PROTESTAT

ALSO TCEQ REQUEST FOR CONTESTED CASE HEARING, 11-7-2024

Page 2

Point B: Continued:

Quoting "Water Rights in Texas":

Landowners in Texas hold a vested private property right in the groundwater beneath their land. With fee possession, groundwater is only subject to reasonable regulation. Since 1949, Groundwater Conservation Districts have been the main regulator of groundwater. With the Day decision, Texas courts have begun to recognize that excessive regulation of groundwater amount to taking of property for which compensation is owed under the Texas and U. S. Constitutions.

Point C:

Also, if permit is allowed to inject non-poisonous and or what results in poisonous and or radio-active liquids into earth strata containing fresh unpolluted ground water, used as my personal drinking water or by same of near-by residents, land for use as drinking water for cattle and indigenous species, incalculable harm and ecological disaster would befall, plus the fact that UEC cannot guarantee that said pollutants will not migrate north, south, east or west within groundwater sands/formations.

Point D:

Therefore, in my opinion, TCEQ has NO AUTHORITY, to grant a permit to UEC, for radio-active and or other hazardous or nonhazardous and or pollutants injection, in or near ground water, as the Texas Supreme Court has ruled that water rights ownership issues must be litigated in courts to adjudicate water rights ownership.

Point E:

If approval is granted to legitimize waste permits #423 and 424, and if said injection, and later uranium in situ mining, destroys my water rights, relative to use and access to clean unpolluted drinking water, I will be forced to move off my Homestead, as it will have no clean drinking water, resulting in great personal financial loss, which equates in a "taking of my property", with no compensation. To whom could I sell 115.00 acres, with a modern home with significant improvements, less than an estimated 3,400', from the injection sites and in situ mining areas? If mining goes forward, I legally must disclose this fact to any potential purchaser, thus ensuring the loss of potential sale, at current market levels. The specter of actual mining of uranium will greatly damage and or destroy my investment. I and property owners near the injection wells and mining site will suffer great financial loss in the tens of millions of dollars as our property's market values will be destroyed, not including the loss of income from the loss of cattle production. Who wants to live next to a uranium mine? Only a fool.

CHAPMAN, PROTESTANT

Page 3

In my opinion, approval of an injection well permits by the TCEQ, on behalf of UEC, is null, therefore, UEC and its legal counsel must observe the Texas Supreme Court, in the above-mentioned case, upholding our water rights in Texas, not the TCEQ, a political entity.

Point F:

Additionally, approval of injection sites and in situ mining will result in great financial loss to me and my family and in essence, would result in the taking of my property without compensation, in violation of the Texas and U. S. Constitution.

Page 4

My position is for TCEQ to deny the permit #WDW3 and WDW #4724, for the above reasons and to deny any mining permits, as UEC has offered no conclusive scientific evidence that in situ mining of uranium will not harm or destroy our clean drinking water.

I request a contested case hearing. There may be other affected parties or groups.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gregory C. Chapman', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Gregory C. Chapman

Gregory C. Chapman
792 FM 1961
Yorktown, Texas 78164
(Homestead and Residence Located within Goliad Co.)
361-549-8162
gchapman@gvec.net

April 30, 2024

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
TCEQ
12100 Park 35 Circle, Bldg. F
AUSTIN, TX. 78753

Reviewed By SCW

MAY 02 2024

CHIEF CLERKS OFFICE

2024 MAY - 2 PM - 3: 09

TEXAS
COMMISSION
ON ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY

Dear TCEQ:

Re: Uranium Energy Corp. – TCEQ PERMIT # URO3075

I am against and concerned, as a landowner and as an affected party, of UEC's request for renewal of Permit #URO3075, relating to the injection of fluids into ground water strata regarding water used for human drinking consumption, in northern Goliad County, near Weser/Ander, Tx.

Despite an administrative law judge ruling against this request by UEC to approve the permit, UEC persists now in its continued efforts to seek approval before the TCEQ Commissions, in my opinion, a pro-uranium and pro-industry political state entity.

What a travesty of justice, TCEQ Commissioners having the political power to over-ride a judge's motion to deny the permit! Why bother with a court system at all, in Texas, if the TCEQ has veto power over a judge?

My family and I live less than a mile away from the requested injection sites, and if the permit is approved by a rubber stamp, pro-industry TCEQ, the entire drinking water in a large area of Goliad County could be poisoned.

Without good, clean potable drinking water, caused by in situ uranium mining injection wells, I and my neighbors land are destroyed, and so going the market value of property near the injection wells as land values collapse.

I ask for a public hearing regarding this matter.

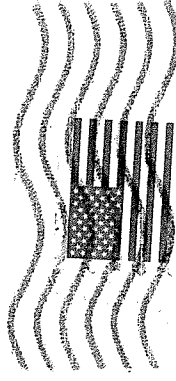
Sincerely,


Gregory C. Chapman

Gregory C. Chapman
792 W FM 1961
Yorktown TX 78164

TEXAS
COMMISSION
ON ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY
2024 MAY -2 PM 3:05
CHIEF CLERKS OFFICE

SAN ANTONIO TX 780
RIO GRANDE DISTRICT
30 APR 2024 PM 3 L
RECEIVED



MAY 02 2024

TCEQ MAIL CENTER
DA

RECEIVED

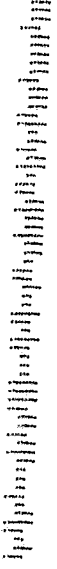
Office of the Chief Clerk
TCEQ

12100 Park 35 Circle, Building F
Austin, Texas 78753

MAY 02 2024

TCEQ MAIL CENTER
DA

78753-190200



3

TCEQ Public Meeting Form
August 5, 2024

Uranium Energy Corp.
Permit No. UR03075

Application to Obtain
A Class III Injection Well Area Permit Renewal

PLEASE PRINT

Name: Gregory C. Chapman

Mailing Address: 792 FM 1961, Yorktown, TX. 78164

Physical Address (if different): 792 FM 1961, Goliad Co.

City/State: _____ Zip: _____

****This information is subject to public disclosure under the Texas Public Information Act****

Email: gchapman@gvec.net

Phone Number: 361-549-8162

- Are you here today representing a municipality, legislator, agency, or group? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, which one? _____

☒ Please add me to the mailing list.

☒ I wish to provide formal **ORAL COMMENTS** at tonight's public meeting.

☐ I wish to provide formal **WRITTEN COMMENTS** at tonight's public meeting.

(Written comments may be submitted at any time during the meeting)
Please give this form to the person at the information table. Thank you.

8-5-2024 – TCEQ Hearing, Goliad Co.

RECEIVED

AUG 05 2024

AT PUBLIC MEETING

My Name is Gregory C. Chapman.

My family and I reside at 792 FM 1961, in Goliad County.

I was granted party status and am designated as an “affected person,” by the State Office of Administrative Hearings Court, pursuant to Docket # 582-23-15499.

As an affected person, I am concerned about the health, safety and purity of the ground water and the use of my property should the TCEQ grant approval of reinstating the waste well disposal permits being sought by Uranium Energy Corp, W423 and W424.

Our property is approximately 2,250', W, NW of the proposed well sites, therefore, we are very close to the proposed well sites.

Page 2

We rely on ground water for our drinking water and for drinking water for our cattle, the water being pure and unpolluted, for which I have current laboratory tests for quality and purity.

In my opinion, as a landowner extremely near a proposed uranium in situ site, application for reinstatement of permits should be denied by the TCEQ as:

- A. Dissolved uranium waste injected into groundwater is an ecological threat to all life and**
- B. Without clean, non-polluted groundwater, none of us can remain on the land or continue to exist**

The Texas Constitution created the Homestead Act, to encourage preservation of family ranches and farmland in 1840. Our land is homesteaded.

If the permit is approved, my Homestead rights are threatened or destroyed, as the groundwater may be polluted thus forcing us to leave the property.

My groundwater is private property, not public property and cannot be seized by the government, or by a corporation, without the consent of the government, with compensation to the property owner.

The TCEQ should not have veto power over a court of law, despite the fact that the SOAH judge recently ruled that the draft report by the TCEC does not comply with statutory and regulatory requirements and therefore cannot be issued.

My groundwater rights are mine, and therefore, no government entity, or the TCEQ, in conjunction with a private corporation, which allows my water and water rights to become polluted, THEREFORE, constitute a taking of my property without due compensation.

Page 4

The U. S. Constitution 5th Amendment forbids the taking of property without due compensation, which in this case, the TCEQ a government entity, would allow a private for-profit corporation to take our water, in essence by allowing it to become polluted, which is unconstitutional.

If UEC pollutes our groundwater, then they have taken our water rights, with the complicity of a government entity, the TCEQ, and have destroyed our Homestead rights and the value of our real property for private gain.

The water rights of Texas are at stake now with present TCEQ Commissioners being appointed, not elected, which if permits are approved, smacks of politics, pure and simple.

In closing, I ask TCEQ to deny UEC application for injection waste permits.

Thank you for your time.

Renee Lyle

From: PUBCOMMENT-OCC
Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2024 4:40 PM
To: PUBCOMMENT-OCC2; PUBCOMMENT-OPIC; PUBCOMMENT-ELD; PUBCOMMENT-RAD
Subject: FW: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075

H

From: wwchristopher@gmail.com <wwchristopher@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, December 29, 2023 3:20 PM
To: PUBCOMMENT-OCC <PUBCOMMENT-OCC@tceq.texas.gov>
Subject: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075

REGULATED ENTY NAME GOLIAD PROJECT

RN NUMBER: RN105304802

PERMIT NUMBER: UR03075

DOCKET NUMBER:

COUNTY: GOLIAD

PRINCIPAL NAME: URANIUM ENERGY CORP

CN NUMBER: CN603228461

NAME: William Christopher

EMAIL: wwchristopher@gmail.com

COMPANY: Christopher Land & Livestock Co

ADDRESS: 5300 OLD GOLIAD RD
GOLIAD TX 77963-3317

PHONE: 3616497072

FAX:

COMMENTS: I wish to ask for a public hearing to protest renewal of this permit. Our property is downslope from the leases.

TCEQ Public Meeting Form
August 5, 2024

Uranium Energy Corp.
Permit No. UR03075

Application to Obtain
A Class III Injection Well Area Permit Renewal

#1

PLEASE PRINT

Name: Bill & Pam Christopher

Mailing Address: 5300 old Goliel Rd, Goliel, TX 77963

Physical Address (if different): Same

City/State: Goliel TX Zip: 77963

****This information is subject to public disclosure under the Texas Public Information Act****

Email: WWChristopher@gmail.com

Phone Number: 361-649-7072

• Are you here today representing a municipality, legislator, agency, or group? ☐ Yes ☒ No
If yes, which one? _____

☐ Please add me to the mailing list.

☒ I wish to provide formal **ORAL COMMENTS** at tonight's public meeting.

☒ I wish to provide formal **WRITTEN COMMENTS** at tonight's public meeting.

Reviewed By Gaw

MAY 02 2024 PM

April 28, 2024

Office of the Chief Clerk
TCEQ
12100 Park 35 Circle, Building F
Austin, Texas 78753

CHIEF CLERKS OFFICE

2024 MAY - 1 PM 2:44

TEXAS
COMMISSION
ON ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY

Re: Uranium Energy Corp.; TCEQ Permit # UR03075

Dear TCEQ:

Please accept this notification of my request for a Public Meeting regarding the above referenced permit renewal.

I am very concerned about the negative impacts this permit will have on the quality and quantity of my water supply. Groundwater is my sole source of potable water.

Name: William Christopher

Address: 5300 Old Coliad Rd, Coliad, TX 77963

Phone: 361-649-7072

Email (if available): Wwchristopher@gmail.com

Thank you for your attention to this matter.



TEXAS
COMMISSION
ON ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY

2024 MAY -1 PM 2:44

CHIEF CLERKS OFFICE

SAN ANTONIO TX 780
RIO GRANDE DISTRICT
29 APR 2024 PM 2 L

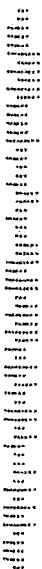
RECEIVED

MAY 01 2024

TCEQ MAIL CENTER
DA

Office of the Chief Clerk
TCEQ
12100 Park 35 Circle, Building F
Austin, Texas 78753

78753-190200



Tammy Johnson

From: PUBCOMMENT-OCC
Sent: Thursday, April 17, 2025 1:48 PM
To: PUBCOMMENT-RAD; PUBCOMMENT-ELD; PUBCOMMENT-OCC2; PUBCOMMENT-OPIC
Subject: FW: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075
Attachments: Beverly and Randall Havlik - Request for Reconsideration.pdf

RFR

From: beverly.havlik@gmail.com <beverly.havlik@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 17, 2025 1:41 PM
To: PUBCOMMENT-OCC <PUBCOMMENT-OCC@tceq.texas.gov>
Subject: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075

REGULATED ENTY NAME GOLIAD PROJECT

RN NUMBER: RN105304802

PERMIT NUMBER: UR03075

DOCKET NUMBER:

COUNTY: GOLIAD

PRINCIPAL NAME: URANIUM ENERGY CORP

CN NUMBER: CN603228461

NAME: Beverly Havlik

EMAIL: beverly.havlik@gmail.com

COMPANY:

ADDRESS: 3265 Danforth Rd
Goliad, TX 77963

PHONE: 5194943439

FAX:

COMMENTS: Please see attached letter.

Randall and Beverly Havlik
3265 Danforth Road
Goliad Texas
77963
605-641-0939

April 17, 2025

To: Laurie Gharis, Chief Clerk

RE: Request for Reconsideration – Permit No. UR03075 (Uranium Energy Corp.)

We are writing to request reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision to approve Uranium Energy Corp's (UEC) permit (UR03075) to mine uranium in Goliad County.

We are residents of Goliad who depend on the same water table this project will disturb. Like most people in the county, we use a well for our water—and that means we have to trust that TCEQ will put the protection of clean groundwater ahead of industrial projects that carry major environmental risks.

One of the most concerning issues is the number of faults under and around the facility. In the Response to Comment 2, the Executive Director only mentions two faults—the northwest and southeast ones—but documents from UEC's own filings (WDW-423 and WDW-424) show that there are at least five faults running through the permit boundary. Why were these not included in the official geological review?

TCEQ rules say that all known or suspected faults should be mapped and on file. If UEC knew about more than two, and submitted that information in other applications, why was it left out here? That oversight alone seems like a reason to reconsider.

There are also 20 artificial penetrations within the permit area—former oil and gas wells that go deep into the formation. Several of them were only partially cased, and many go beyond the depth of safe surface casing. If there is any movement of injection fluid outside the mining zone, it could travel through these paths and contaminate freshwater supplies. This is not just speculation—it's a real risk supported by the data.

We also don't understand how the groundwater flow rate has such a wide disagreement. UEC says 6.7 feet per year. But respected scientists and EPA reviewers estimated closer to 40 feet per year. If it's actually 40 feet per year, any contamination could spread fast and far. Why hasn't that discrepancy been addressed before approving the permit?

In Comment 24, the Executive Director claims that approving this mine is in the "public interest." With all due respect, we don't think most people in Goliad County—or Texas, for that matter—would agree.

This isn't just about uranium. It's about clean, accessible water. We have no public water system here. Contamination would affect families, ranches, gardens, and local farms for generations. There is no fixing this if it goes wrong.

TCEQ's own rules say it must prevent underground injection that *may* pollute groundwater. Not "will." Not "probably." Even *may*. And since no in-situ uranium mine in the U.S. has ever restored an aquifer to baseline, and all have contaminated the groundwater they mined, how can this still be considered safe?

We understand that uranium has value. But it's not worth gambling our only water supply over. Especially when Goliad residents will bear the full burden of any mistake.

We respectfully ask that you reconsider this decision and protect our water, land, and health.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signatures of Randall and Beverly Havlik in cursive script.

Randall and Beverly Havlik
3265 Danforth Road
Goliad County, Texas

**CC: Governor Greg Abbott, Representative AJ Louderback, Sothern District Director Kim Moore
for Senator Louis Kolkhorst, Congressman Michael Cloud, Senator Charles Perry, Texas Ag
Commissioner Sidney Carroll Miller**

Jennifer Cox

From: PUBCOMMENT-OCC
Sent: Wednesday, August 21, 2024 2:29 PM
To: PUBCOMMENT-OCC2; PUBCOMMENT-OPIC; PUBCOMMENT-ELD; PUBCOMMENT-RAD
Subject: FW: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075

Jesús Bárcena
Office of the Chief Clerk
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Office Phone: 512-239-3319

How is our customer service? Fill out our online customer satisfaction survey at:
www.tceq.texas.gov/customersurvey

From: emporium@rushmore.com <emporium@rushmore.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 1:23 PM
To: PUBCOMMENT-OCC <PUBCOMMENT-OCC@tceq.texas.gov>
Subject: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075

REGULATED ENTY NAME GOLIAD PROJECT

RN NUMBER: RN105304802

PERMIT NUMBER: UR03075

DOCKET NUMBER:

COUNTY: GOLIAD

PRINCIPAL NAME: URANIUM ENERGY CORP

CN NUMBER: CN603228461

NAME: Beverly B Havlik

EMAIL: emporium@rushmore.com

COMPANY:

ADDRESS: 3265 DANFORTH RD
GOLIAD TX 77963-3537

PHONE: 6056410939

FAX:

COMMENTS: We live about 10 min away from proposed mining and it will affect our water consumption-used for us AND our animals! We are adamantly AGAINST this project. We've only had our place since 2020, but would NEVER have purchased it had we known about the potential mine.

Jennifer Cox

From: PUBCOMMENT-OCC
Sent: Friday, August 9, 2024 3:30 PM
To: PUBCOMMENT-OCC2; PUBCOMMENT-OPIC; PUBCOMMENT-ELD; PUBCOMMENT-RAD
Subject: FW: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075

Jesús Bárcena
Office of the Chief Clerk
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Office Phone: 512-239-3319

How is our customer service? Fill out our online customer satisfaction survey at:
www.tceq.texas.gov/customersurvey

From: emporium@rushmore.com <emporium@rushmore.com>
Sent: Friday, August 9, 2024 11:53 AM
To: PUBCOMMENT-OCC <PUBCOMMENT-OCC@tceq.texas.gov>
Subject: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075

REGULATED ENTY NAME GOLIAD PROJECT

RN NUMBER: RN105304802

PERMIT NUMBER: UR03075

DOCKET NUMBER:

COUNTY: GOLIAD

PRINCIPAL NAME: URANIUM ENERGY CORP

CN NUMBER: CN603228461

NAME: Beverly B Havlik

EMAIL: emporium@rushmore.com

COMPANY: Czexas Ranch

ADDRESS: 3265 DANFORTH RD
GOLIAD TX 77963-3537

PHONE: 6056410939

FAX:

COMMENTS: Goliad County is located in a rural, drought-prone area. We, the residents, and our livestock, rely heavily on groundwater and wells for our daily needs. Introducing uranium mining could threaten this precious resource. Uranium mining is associated with significant environmental hazards, among which groundwater contamination ranks highly. Furthermore, the Texas Water Development Board has identified Goliad County as a region with a high risk of long-term water shortages, even in the absence of added stressors like uranium mining. IF WE HAD KNOWN ABOUT THIS PROJECT WHEN WE BOUGHT OUR FOREVER HOME 4 YEARS AGO, WE WOULD NOT HAVE BOUGHT!

Tammy Johnson

From: PUBCOMMENT-OCC
Sent: Tuesday, April 22, 2025 3:21 PM
To: PUBCOMMENT-RAD; PUBCOMMENT-ELD; PUBCOMMENT-OCC2; PUBCOMMENT-OPIC
Subject: FW: Class III Underground Injection Control Area Permit No. UR03075
Attachments: UR03075_UEC Application Response.pdf

RFR
H

From: Kenneth Klanika <kklanika@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 18, 2025 5:20 PM
To: CHIEFCLK <chiefclk@tceq.texas.gov>
Cc: sid.miller@texasagriculture.gov; charles.perry@senate.texas.gov; kim.moore@senate.texas.gov; christian.palacios@mail.house.gov; mshelton@goliadcogcd.org
Subject: Class III Underground Injection Control Area Permit No. UR03075

Laurie Gharis, Chief Clerk

TCEQ, MC-105

P.O. Box 13087

Austin, TX 78711-3087

Dear Ms Gharis:

Our family operates a small business and owns property in the vicinity of operations planned by Uranium Energy Corp ("UEC"). We rely on a dependable source of groundwater for our livelihood and believe that adequate assessment of the proposed risks of the mining operation have not be adequately assessed. As an affected party, I am requesting reconsideration of the recommended approval of the subject Class III UIC Area Permit, and if the preliminary decision is not reconsidered, I formally request a contested case hearing.

I understand the balance the TCEQ must undertake in promoting sound business development in the state, but it must not come at the expense of its residents who are equally entitled to justice and fair use of their water resources. While I appreciate the opportunity to comment under the TCEQ provisions of 30 TAC Sec 55.156, the Executive Director's responses to comments ignore some of the provisions in the applicable rules that would give landowners and residents comfort in knowing that their only water source will be protected.

Response to Comment #2, states that 30 TAC Chapter 331 and Section 331.122 has been satisfied through a provision of a checklist of items required by rule; however, several points are not addressed in this evaluation. The presence of faulting has been updated and revised to include greater detail and more faulting than originally stated in findings of fact (FOF 97). Yet TCEQ has not required production area characterization with this revised information or has left it to future applications (FOF 99). I realize the rule only requires the provision of publicly available fault data; however, UEC had access to seismic data showing faults in excess of the two presented—potentially up to eleven faults transversing the Area of Review. If this data was presented in subsequent applications for Class I injection permits, why would characterization of these faults not be required in the mining permit? How these faults would affect mining operations should be deemed a necessary evaluation for issuance of a permit.

The Executive Director response also does not address the fact that artificial penetrations within the proposed facility boundary and Area of Review have penetrated the freshwater zones leading to the possibility of migration of fluids outside of the mining zone. A plan to remediate improperly plugged wellbores was not required to eliminate this risk of cross-contamination of drinking water sources. Response to Comment #6 discounts the potential influence of improperly plugged artificial penetrations on mining operations. Some of these artificial penetrations are related to prior oil and gas activities and some of them are directly related to the data collection and testing conducted by UEC for the subject applications.

The Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District (“GCGCD”) has conducted water sampling to measure on-going water quality and establish background data for future assessment. The results of those studies have shown some disturbing trends that indicate the original assessment work conducted by UEC degraded groundwater quality, but those conditions have improved since UEC has ceased any ground disturbance work. It would be reassuring to see a collaboration of efforts by the TCEQ and the GCGCD to verify that any future mining operations approved by the TCEQ would not have an adverse effect of water resources in the Ander area.

Finally, I appreciate the efforts of the GCGCD and the Goliad County Commissioners to protect our local water resources and support local business owners and residents in the Ander area. Unfortunately, the Class III well injection and permitting process at the TCEQ allows an applicant to provide generalized hydrogeologic data in support of a mining application without addressing site specific issues that should be considered in issuance of the permit. I pray that this process will not have long lasting and detrimental effects on the lives of Goliad County residents and business owners in and around the Ander area.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Klanika

2078 CR 460

Coupland, TX 78615

kenneth@kupakllc.com

512-627-9121

CC:

Governor Greg Abbott

Representative AJ Louderback

Senator Lois Kokhorst

Congressmand Michael Cloud

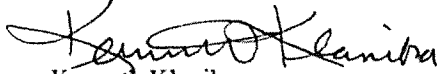
Senator Charles Perry

Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller

Michelle Shelton

Finally, I appreciate the efforts of the GCGCD and the Goliad County Commissioners to protect our local water resources and support local business owners and residents in the Ander area. Unfortunately, the Class III well injection and permitting process at the TCEQ allows an applicant to provide generalized hydrogeologic data in support of a mining application without addressing site specific issues that should be considered in issuance of the permit. I pray that this process will not have long lasting and detrimental effects on the lives of Goliad County residents and business owners in and around the Ander area.

Sincerely,



Kenneth Klanika
2078 CR 460
Coupland, TX 78615
kenneth@kupakllc.com
512-627-9121

CC:

Governor Greg Abbott
Representative AJ Louderback
Senator Lois Kokhorst
Congressmand Michael Cloud
Senator Charles Perry
Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller

April 18, 2025

Laurie Gharis, Chief Clerk
TCEQ, MC-105
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711-3087

**RE: Uranium Energy Corp. Class III Underground Injection Control Area Permit UR03075
Request for Reconsideration and Request for Contested Hearing**

Dear Ms Gharis:

Our family operates a small business and owns property in the vicinity of operations planned by Uranium Energy Corp ("UEC"). We rely on a dependable source of groundwater for our livelihood and believe that adequate assessment of the proposed risks of the mining operation have not been adequately assessed. As an affected party, I am requesting reconsideration of the recommended approval of the subject Class III UIC Area Permit, and if the preliminary decision is not reconsidered, I formally request a contested case hearing.

I understand the balance the TCEQ must undertake in promoting sound business development in the state, but it must not come at the expense of its residents who are equally entitled to justice and fair use of their water resources. While I appreciate the opportunity to comment under the TCEQ provisions of 30 TAC Sec 55.156, the Executive Director's responses to comments ignore some of the provisions in the applicable rules that would give landowners and residents comfort in knowing that their only water source will be protected.

Response to Comment #2, states that 30 TAC Chapter 331 and Section 331.122 has been satisfied through a provision of a checklist of items required by rule; however, several points are not addressed in this evaluation. The presence of faulting has been updated and revised to include greater detail and more faulting than originally stated in findings of fact (FOF 97). Yet TCEQ has not required production area characterization with this revised information or has left it to future applications (FOF 99). I realize the rule only requires the provision of publicly available fault data; however, UEC had access to seismic data showing faults in excess of the two presented—potentially up to eleven faults transversing the Area of Review. If this data was presented in subsequent applications for Class I injection permits, why would characterization of these faults not be required in the mining permit? How these faults would affect mining operations should be deemed a necessary evaluation for issuance of a permit.

The Executive Director response also does not address the fact that artificial penetrations within the proposed facility boundary and Area of Review have penetrated the freshwater zones leading to the possibility of migration of fluids outside of the mining zone. A plan to remediate improperly plugged wellbores was not required to eliminate this risk of cross-contamination of drinking water sources. Response to Comment #6 discounts the potential influence of improperly plugged artificial penetrations on mining operations. Some of these artificial penetrations are related to prior oil and gas activities and some of them are directly related to the data collection and testing conducted by UEC for the subject applications.

The Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District ("GCGCD") has conducted water sampling to measure on-going water quality and establish background data for future assessment. The results of those studies have shown some disturbing trends that indicate the original assessment work conducted by UEC degraded groundwater quality, but those conditions have improved since UEC has ceased any ground disturbance work. It would be reassuring to see a collaboration of efforts by the TCEQ and the GCGCD to verify that any future mining operations approved by the TCEQ would not have an adverse effect of water resources in the Ander area.

Tammy Johnson

From: PUBCOMMENT-OCC
Sent: Tuesday, April 22, 2025 10:04 AM
To: PUBCOMMENT-RAD; PUBCOMMENT-ELD; PUBCOMMENT-OCC2; PUBCOMMENT-OPIC
Subject: FW: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075
Attachments: UR03075_UEC Application Response.pdf

H
RFR

From: kklanika@gmail.com <kklanika@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 18, 2025 6:18 PM
To: PUBCOMMENT-OCC <PUBCOMMENT-OCC@tceq.texas.gov>
Subject: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075

REGULATED ENTY NAME GOLIAD PROJECT

RN NUMBER: RN105304802

PERMIT NUMBER: UR03075

DOCKET NUMBER:

COUNTY: GOLIAD

PRINCIPAL NAME: URANIUM ENERGY CORP

CN NUMBER: CN603228461

NAME: Kenneth Klanika

EMAIL: kklanika@gmail.com

COMPANY:

ADDRESS: 2078 County Road 460
Coupland, TX 78615

PHONE: 5126279121

FAX:

COMMENTS: See attached.

April 18, 2025

Laurie Gharis, Chief Clerk
TCEQ, MC-105
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711-3087

**RE: Uranium Energy Corp. Class III Underground Injection Control Area Permit UR03075
Request for Reconsideration and Request for Contested Hearing**

Dear Ms Gharis:

Our family operates a small business and owns property in the vicinity of operations planned by Uranium Energy Corp ("UEC"). We rely on a dependable source of groundwater for our livelihood and believe that adequate assessment of the proposed risks of the mining operation have not been adequately assessed. As an affected party, I am requesting reconsideration of the recommended approval of the subject Class III UIC Area Permit, and if the preliminary decision is not reconsidered, I formally request a contested case hearing.

I understand the balance the TCEQ must undertake in promoting sound business development in the state, but it must not come at the expense of its residents who are equally entitled to justice and fair use of their water resources. While I appreciate the opportunity to comment under the TCEQ provisions of 30 TAC Sec 55.156, the Executive Director's responses to comments ignore some of the provisions in the applicable rules that would give landowners and residents comfort in knowing that their only water source will be protected.

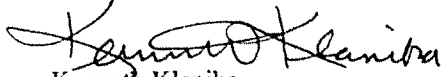
Response to Comment #2, states that 30 TAC Chapter 331 and Section 331.122 has been satisfied through a provision of a checklist of items required by rule; however, several points are not addressed in this evaluation. The presence of faulting has been updated and revised to include greater detail and more faulting than originally stated in findings of fact (FOF 97). Yet TCEQ has not required production area characterization with this revised information or has left it to future applications (FOF 99). I realize the rule only requires the provision of publicly available fault data; however, UEC had access to seismic data showing faults in excess of the two presented—potentially up to eleven faults transverse the Area of Review. If this data was presented in subsequent applications for Class I injection permits, why would characterization of these faults not be required in the mining permit? How these faults would affect mining operations should be deemed a necessary evaluation for issuance of a permit.

The Executive Director response also does not address the fact that artificial penetrations within the proposed facility boundary and Area of Review have penetrated the freshwater zones leading to the possibility of migration of fluids outside of the mining zone. A plan to remediate improperly plugged wellbores was not required to eliminate this risk of cross-contamination of drinking water sources. Response to Comment #6 discounts the potential influence of improperly plugged artificial penetrations on mining operations. Some of these artificial penetrations are related to prior oil and gas activities and some of them are directly related to the data collection and testing conducted by UEC for the subject applications.

The Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District ("GCGCD") has conducted water sampling to measure on-going water quality and establish background data for future assessment. The results of those studies have shown some disturbing trends that indicate the original assessment work conducted by UEC degraded groundwater quality, but those conditions have improved since UEC has ceased any ground disturbance work. It would be reassuring to see a collaboration of efforts by the TCEQ and the GCGCD to verify that any future mining operations approved by the TCEQ would not have an adverse effect on water resources in the Area.

Finally, I appreciate the efforts of the GCGCD and the Goliad County Commissioners to protect our local water resources and support local business owners and residents in the Ander area. Unfortunately, the Class III well injection and permitting process at the TCEQ allows an applicant to provide generalized hydrogeologic data in support of a mining application without addressing site specific issues that should be considered in issuance of the permit. I pray that this process will not have long lasting and detrimental effects on the lives of Goliad County residents and business owners in and around the Ander area.

Sincerely,



Kenneth Klanika
2078 CR 460
Coupland, TX 78615
kenneth@kupakllc.com
512-627-9121

CC:

Governor Greg Abbott
Representative AJ Louderback
Senator Lois Kokhorst
Congressmand Michael Cloud
Senator Charles Perry
Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller

Ellie Guerra

From: PUBCOMMENT-OCC
Sent: Thursday, June 22, 2023 12:07 PM
To: PUBCOMMENT-OCC2; PUBCOMMENT-OPIC; PUBCOMMENT-ELD; PUBCOMMENT-RAD
Subject: FW: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075

H

From: kenneth@kupakllc.com <kenneth@kupakllc.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 21, 2023 7:43 PM
To: PUBCOMMENT-OCC <PUBCOMMENT-OCC@tceq.texas.gov>
Subject: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075

REGULATED ENTY NAME GOLIAD PROJECT

RN NUMBER: RN105304802

PERMIT NUMBER: UR03075

DOCKET NUMBER: 2017-1598-UIC

COUNTY: GOLIAD

PRINCIPAL NAME: URANIUM ENERGY CORP

CN NUMBER: CN603228461

NAME: Kenneth Klanika

EMAIL: kenneth@kupakllc.com

COMPANY: Kupak LLC

ADDRESS: 2078 COUNTY ROAD 460
COUPLAND TX 78615-5126

PHONE: 5126279121

FAX:

COMMENTS: I respectfully request a public hearing on this matter. Please include me as an affected party for consideration of permit renewal on UR03075. I would also like to receive applicable information related to the subject applications and information to be presented at hearing.

TCEQ Public Meeting Form
August 5, 2024

9

Uranium Energy Corp.
Permit No. UR03075

Application to Obtain
A Class III Injection Well Area Permit Renewal

PLEASE PRINT

Name: Kenneth Klanika

Mailing Address: 2078 CR 460

Physical Address (if different): Same

City/State: Coupland, TX Zip: 78645

****This information is subject to public disclosure under the Texas Public Information Act****

Email: Kenneth@Kupakllc.com

Phone Number: 512-627-9121

- Are you here today representing a municipality, legislator, agency, or group? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, which one? _____

☒ Please add me to the mailing list.

☒ I wish to provide formal *ORAL COMMENTS* at tonight's public meeting.

☐ I wish to provide formal *WRITTEN COMMENTS* at tonight's public meeting.

(Written comments may be submitted at any time during the meeting)
Please give this form to the person at the information table. Thank you.

Tammy Johnson

From: PUBCOMMENT-OCC
Sent: Thursday, April 17, 2025 1:35 PM
To: PUBCOMMENT-RAD; PUBCOMMENT-ELD; PUBCOMMENT-OCC2; PUBCOMMENT-OPIC
Subject: FW: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075
Attachments: Request for Reconsideration - Sarah Maslen and Chance Havlik.pdf

RFR

From: sarahmaslen18@gmail.com <sarahmaslen18@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 17, 2025 12:52 PM
To: PUBCOMMENT-OCC <PUBCOMMENT-OCC@tceq.texas.gov>
Subject: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075

REGULATED ENTY NAME GOLIAD PROJECT

RN NUMBER: RN105304802

PERMIT NUMBER: UR03075

DOCKET NUMBER:

COUNTY: GOLIAD

PRINCIPAL NAME: URANIUM ENERGY CORP

CN NUMBER: CN603228461

NAME: Sarah Maslen

EMAIL: sarahmaslen18@gmail.com

COMPANY:

ADDRESS: 3265 Danforth Rd
Goliad , TX 77963

PHONE: 5194943439

FAX:

COMMENTS: Please see attached letter.

Sarah Maslen and Chancelor Havlik
3265 Danforth Road
Goliad Texas
77963
sarahmaslen18@gmail.com
519-494-3439
chancelorhavlik@gmail.com
605-645-7794

April 17, 2025

To: Laurie Gharis, Chief Clerk

RE: Request for Reconsideration – Permit No. UR03075 (Uranium Energy Corp.)

We are writing to ask that you reconsider the Executive Director's decision to approve Uranium Energy Corp's (UEC) permit (UR03075) to mine uranium in Goliad County. Our family moved here just a few years ago looking for peace and space to raise our future children—and we rely entirely on our well for drinking water, like most people here.

We are not experts in hydrology or geology, but after reading through the Executive Director's Response to Public Comments and seeing what our local groundwater conservation district (GCGCD) has commented on, we would like to Request Reconsideration.

One major issue that keeps coming up is the fault lines in the mining area. The ED's response in Comment 2 only talks about two faults—the “northwest” and “southeast” ones—but UEC's own maps submitted in other applications (for WDW-423 and WDW-424) show at least five faults crossing the facility, and more nearby. Why weren't these acknowledged or evaluated in the response? It's even more confusing when you realize that the state's own rules (30 TAC 331.122) say that known or suspected faults are supposed to be mapped and submitted. From what we understand, this kind of mining injects fluids into the ground that dissolve uranium. That same fluid comes back up—along with anything else it pulls out—and then it's cleaned and reused. But if there are unknown faults and old wells scattered throughout the site, how can anyone guarantee that toxic fluid stays in the “right zone”?

The groundwater flow rate is another issue. UEC says it's 6.7 feet per year. But other experts—including people who worked on EPA assessments—estimate it could be more like 40 feet per year. If groundwater is moving that fast, it makes the risk of pollution spreading way higher. Which one is correct? Was this discrepancy even resolved?

We've also been thinking a lot about the “public interest” part of the law. In the ED's response to Comment 24, it says that this permit is in the public interest. Respectfully, we don't agree. And we don't think most of our neighbors do either. In Goliad County we all use wells. Over 5,500 domestic and livestock wells draw from the same aquifers this mine will affect.

When you live in a place like this, water is everything. If your well gets contaminated, it's not like you can just connect to a city line. You're out of luck—and possibly out of your home. In our county, water is the backbone of everything we do, and most of the residents feel the same way. We value the interests of clean groundwater, and conserving it, more than any benefit uranium would provide.

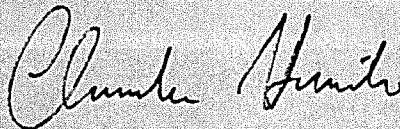
It's especially upsetting that there's no history of this type of mining ever restoring groundwater to baseline after a project ends. The ED even admits that in-situ uranium mining always affects the water it touches. So how is this being approved if TCEQ is required to prevent underground injection that "may" pollute fresh water, not just when it will? Even a chance of pollution should disqualify it.

We understand that uranium is considered a valuable resource, but it's not more valuable than the water our families, livestock, and crops drink. Goliad is a small, rural county, and it often feels like decisions like this get made with bigger cities or industries in mind. But please know—we live here. We drink this water. And we don't have the money or power to fix a problem if one happens. We are requesting reconsideration of this decision.

Sincerely,



Sarah Maslen and Chancellor Havlik
3265 Danforth Road
Goliad County, Texas



**CC: Governor Greg Abbott, Representative AJ Louderback, Southern District Director Kim Moore
for Senator Louis Kolkhorst, Congressman Michael Cloud, Senator Charles Perry, Texas Ag
Commissioner Sidney Carroll Miller**

Tammy Johnson

From: PUBCOMMENT-OCC
Sent: Friday, April 18, 2025 8:33 AM
To: PUBCOMMENT-RAD; PUBCOMMENT-ELD; PUBCOMMENT-OCC2; PUBCOMMENT-OPIC
Subject: FW: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075

H
RFR

From: dlmichaelsen@yahoo.com <dlmichaelsen@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 17, 2025 5:19 PM
To: PUBCOMMENT-OCC <PUBCOMMENT-OCC@tceq.texas.gov>
Subject: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075

REGULATED ENTY NAME GOLIAD PROJECT

RN NUMBER: RN105304802

PERMIT NUMBER: UR03075

DOCKET NUMBER:

COUNTY: GOLIAD

PRINCIPAL NAME: URANIUM ENERGY CORP

CN NUMBER: CN603228461

NAME: David Michaelsen

EMAIL: dlmichaelsen@yahoo.com

COMPANY:

ADDRESS: 247 Aberdeen Ave
Corpus Christi, TX 78411

PHONE: 3618168829

FAX:

COMMENTS: David Michaelsen & Linda Pinsker April 17, 2025 247 Aberdeen Ave. Corpus Christi, TX 78411 361-816-8829 & 361-442-3303 dlmichaelsen@yahoo.com Laurie Gharis, Chief Clerk TCEQ, MC-105 PO Box 13087 Austin, TX 78711-3087 Reference: TCEQ Permit No. UR03075 Dear Ms. Gharis: I am writing today to request my wife & I be deemed "affected persons" related to the above referenced Permit Application. My wife (Linda Pinsker) and I own 56.1 acres at 1005 Fox Rd., Goliad Texas, 77963,

less than 1.5 miles southeast from the proposed Uranium Energy Corp. (UEC) Class III in situ mining site, and have our retirement home on that property. We installed a water well in April of 2020 and it is registered with the Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District as well # 79-14-E-1459. Our well is approx. 1.6 miles down gradient from UEC's Sand B formation which is the first sand formation to be mined and the subject of the above referenced permit and Production Area Authorization (PAA-1) Our main objection to this permit is the potential that our drinking water being contaminated by UEC's mining operation in the aquifers listed in their permit and PAA-1. Groundwater is our only available source of water for our property and new home and contamination would adversely affect our lives. As "affected persons", we request a contested case hearing. We dispute the issuance of the permit for a number of reasons. After review of the Executive Directors (ED) response to permit comments we believe the permit issuance should be reconsidered because of several issues that may not have been properly reviewed and considered. First the number of faults within the Mine Permit area is more than the two that the ED evaluated. It was established fact during the WDW-423 and WDW-424 contested case hearings (which we were also affected parties to) that at least 5 faults exist in the mine production area. UEC failed to include this public information for consideration in the application. Our second issue is that UEC is changing the parameters of the monitoring program. The TCEQ has allowed UEC to revise the permit range table values and revise the excursion monitoring parameters to add total alkalinity, sulfate, and uranium and remove total dissolved solids (TDS). We object to removing TDS from the excursion monitoring parameters, because that is the one constituent that is not off the chart on the high end of parameters for the production zone values. Keeping TDS in will make UEC more accountable in maintaining water quality and protecting the ground water. The ED Response No.11 says that conductivity is directly proportional to TDS and can be determined by applying a conversion factor, but the ED failed to inform the public what conversion factor was to be applied. Also in the Draft Permit V.F.1.1 the Quality Control standard, TDS, is referenced as a water quality that shall be determined. The TCEQ may be deviating from the draft permit QC standards; therefore we are contesting the ED's decision to grant this permit. Also, conveniences of field technicians taking the water samples should not over-ride the protection of public drinking water. Since we were not included as persons regarding Comment No. 5, we are asking for reconsideration of the following issue; why is UEC not required to take current water samples to establish the baseline for aquifer restoration and excursion detection. The ED Response states that, "Based upon information provided in the original and renewal permit applications, there do not appear to be any sources of potential groundwater contamination introduction within or immediately adjacent to the mine area..." However, the original water samples were contaminated and not properly performed, therefore new water samples should now be taken to correct the mistakes from the past. Also, per the Draft Permit Item V.F.2, the permittee is to notify the TCEQ two weeks prior to taking baseline water samples. Was this done? And can the TCEQ provide documentation that they were notified and were afforded the opportunity to take split samples to confirm the analysis? Current water samples need to be taken to accurately determine the baseline values in the production and non-production zone ground waters. Furthermore, on a permit that has so much public concern about ground water contamination, why does TCEQ allow the 125% increase of constituents' parameters over the background of the "very poor" water quality at the mining site. What is the 125% based on? A stricter requirement like equal to or 90% of the maximum background parameters of the baseline monitor wells seems more appropriate. The arbitrary value of 125% could allow a plum of contaminated water at 115%-120% over the highest baseline value to move unchecked or not responded to for months. TCEQ needs to provide more stringent permit requirements to protect the surrounding public groundwater. Also, as it stands now, remedial action is not defined in the PAA-1. Due to our close proximity to the UEC site, please consider our comments and reconsider authorizing approval of this permit. If you have any questions, I may be reached at 361-816-8829. Sincerely, David Michaelson & Linda Pinsker

Marielle Bascon

From: PUBCOMMENT-OCC
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2024 7:06 AM
To: PUBCOMMENT-RMD; PUBCOMMENT-ELD; PUBCOMMENT-OCC2; PUBCOMMENT-OPIC
Subject: FW: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075
Attachments: Mining Permit Letter - signed 111424.pdf

PM
H

From: dlmichaelsen@yahoo.com
Sent: Thursday, November 14, 2024 3:38 PM
To: PUBCOMMENT-OCC
Subject: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075

REGULATED ENTY NAME GOLIAD PROJECT

RN NUMBER: RN105304802

PERMIT NUMBER: UR03075

DOCKET NUMBER:

COUNTY: GOLIAD

PRINCIPAL NAME: URANIUM ENERGY CORP

CN NUMBER: CN603228461

NAME: MR David Michaelsen

EMAIL: dlmichaelsen@yahoo.com

COMPANY:

ADDRESS: 247 ABERDEEN AVE
CORPUS CHRISTI TX 78411-1284

PHONE: 3618168829

FAX:

COMMENTS: I have attached a letter with my comments concerning this permit and request for another public meeting and contested case hearing

David Michaelson & Linda Pinsker
247 Aberdeen Ave.
Corpus Christi, TX 78411
361-816-8829
dlmichaelson@yahoo.com

Nov. 14, 2024

Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
PO Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711-3087

Reference: TCEQ Permit No. UR03075

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing today to request my wife & I have our comments filed in the above referenced Permit Application. My wife (Linda Pinsker) and I purchased 56.1 acres of property at **1005 Fox Rd., Goliad Texas, 77963**, less than 1.5 miles from Uranium Energy Corp. (UEC), the applicant's mining site in 2018 and are nearing completion of building a home on that property. We installed a water well in April of 2020 and it is registered with the Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District as well # 79-14-E-1459. As shown on the attached map (exhibit 1) our well is approx. 1.6 miles from URC's Sand B formation which is the first sand formation to be mined and subject of Production Area Authorization (PAA-1). Based on reports, our well is down gradient of the natural groundwater flow from the UEC project site and the mining operations of the referenced permit.

Our main objection to this permit is the potential of groundwater contamination by UEC's mining operation due to the massive exchange of water in the shallow aquifers listed in their permit and PAA-1. Groundwater is our only available source of water for our property and new home and contamination would adversely affect our lives.

We do request another public meeting because UEC is changing the parameters of the monitoring program. Monitoring parameters were the basis of one of my comments at the August 5, 2024 public meeting. My second comment at that meeting was disappointment that these documents are not on-line (i.e. the TCEQ website) for review.

I have recently been to the Goliad Library to research the monitoring issue and nothing about UEC's change in monitoring parameters is there. One of my formal comments is: How can the TCEQ approve UEC's monitoring plan without proper review and comment by the public. In the TCEQ's Oct. 17, 2024 Combined Revised Notice, it states that UEC has applied to revise the permit range table values and revise the excursion monitoring parameters to add total

alkalinity, sulfate, and uranium and remove total dissolved solids. We strongly object to removing the total dissolved solids (TDS) from the excursion monitoring parameters, because that is the one constituent that is not off the chart on the high end of parameters for the production zone values. Keeping TDS in will make UEC more accountable in maintaining water quality and protecting the ground water. Why would TCEQ agree to allow UEC to remove TDS? Also, none of the correspondence regarding the justification for changing parameters is on the TCEQ website or in the Goliad Public Library for the public to review.

Another comment I have is: How can Sand A formation be used for placement of the non-production zone aquifer monitor wells in PAA-1, when it was ruled by the Executive Director (ED) that mining in Sand A cannot take place until another Pump Test is performed in Zone A sands. This is required to prove faults are properly sealed? I realize mining is not happening in Sand A, but because Sand A formation is part of the PAA-1 then why not require that pump test now for this permit approval? If excursions do show up in Sand A waters, then faults can be ruled in or out, as to why excursions may have occurred, a requirement of Rule 331.85(f)4. It would greatly help in the remediation of these issues.

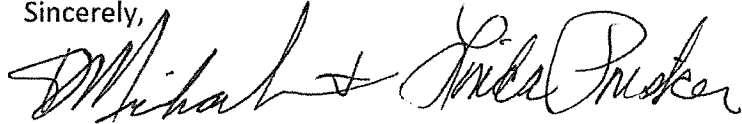
And we do not understand why UEC is not required to take current water samples to establish the baseline for aquifer restoration and excursion detection. Per Code 331.104(e) the control parameter upper limits for production and non-production zone monitors wells shall be determined from pre-mining groundwater sample data. The key word here is "pre-mining" not some historic data collected over 15 years ago! I believe the testimony of Dr. Philip Bennett, (witness for UEC) in hearings concerning this permit, said that ground water parameters change over time. Current water samples need to be taken to more accurately determine if excursions are in the production and non-production zone ground waters.

Furthermore, on a permit that has so much public concern about ground water contamination, why does TCEQ allow the 125% increase of constituents' parameters over the background of the "very poor" water quality at the mining site and not consider a stricter requirement like equal to or 110% of the maximum background parameters of the baseline monitor wells. That would provide better protection of the surrounding public groundwater. UEC would be triggered to react sooner. Also, as it stands now, remedial action is not defined in the PAA-1.

And to restate an earlier comment, I don't understand why this permit and all correspondence are not on the TCEQ website. I know the answer was the new policy went in effect after this permit was filed, but why are these new amendments not on the website or in the Goliad Library? It's very difficult for the public to research this permit. Why does UEC want to change monitoring and why is TCEQ letting monitoring requirements to be changed for UEC's benefit and not be tightened to protect the public? The public needs to know and a public meeting is requested. And because of all our concerns, we also request a contested case hearing.

Due to our close proximity to the UEC site, please consider our comments when reviewing and making requirements on UEC, regarding the approval of this permit. If you have any questions, I may be reached at 361-816-8829.

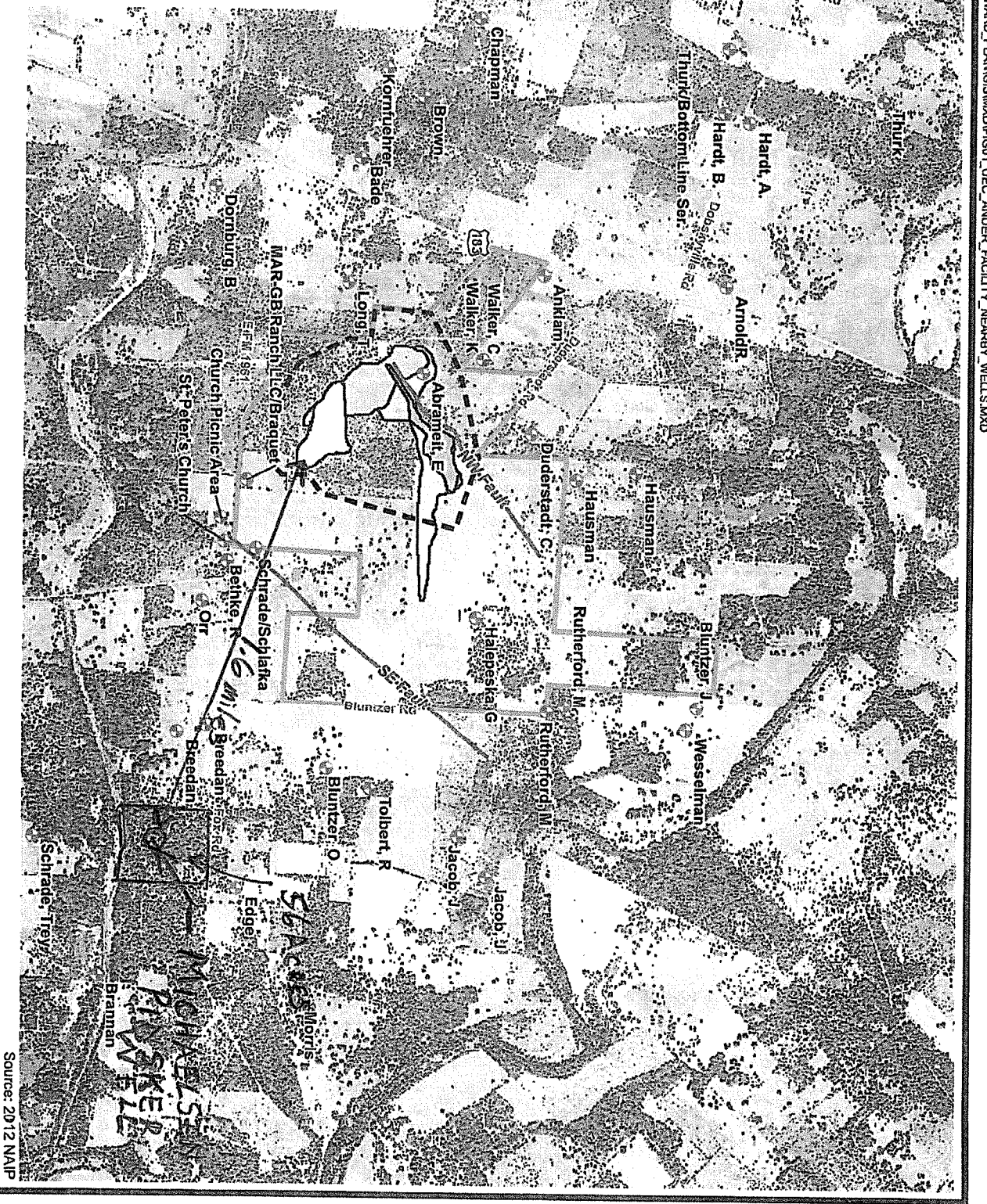
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Michaelson & Linda Pinsker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

David Michaelson & Linda Pinsker

Attachments - Exhibit 1

CC: Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District



100-443887-1000

UEC Ander Facility and Nearby Wells

UEC Ander Facility and Nearby Wells

Inhibit 1

David Michaelson & Linda Pinsker
247 Aberdeen Ave.
Corpus Christi, Texas 78411

April 30, 2024

Office of the Chief Clerk
TCEQ
12100 Park 35 Circle, Building F
Austin, Texas 78753

Reviewed By GCW

MAY 06 2024 PM

Re: Uranium Energy Corp.; TCEQ Permit # UR03075

Dear TCEQ:

Please accept this notification of our request for a Public Meeting regarding the above referenced permit renewal.

We are property owners, at 1005 Fox Rd. Goliad, Texas, land within 2 miles of the proposed mining site, for the above referenced permit. We have a house under construction now and plan to move to this new home once it is complete.

We have studied some of the issues involved with this permit and do not feel this site is a safe location to perform uranium mining. We are very concerned about the negative impacts that allowing this permit to move forward will have on the quality and quantity of our water supply. Groundwater is our sole source of potable water and it would not only greatly affect us, but the entire region.

Our Contact Information is listed below:

Name: David Michaelson

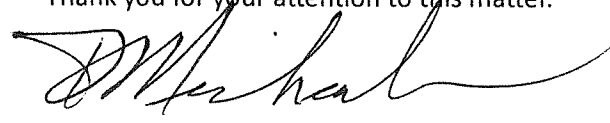

Current
Address: 247 Aberdeen Ave.
Corpus Christi, TX 78411

Future
1005 Fox Rd.
Goliad, TX 77963

Phone: 361-816-8829

Email: dlmichaelson@yahoo.com

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

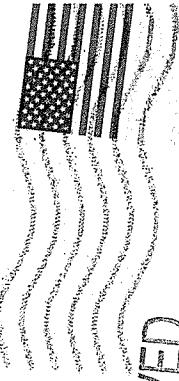



TEXAS
COMMISSION
ON ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY
2024 MAY -3 PM 3:11
CHIEF CLERKS OFFICE

DLM Engineering, PLLC
247 Aberdeen Ave.
Corpus Christi, TX 78411

TEXAS
COMMISSION
ON ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY
2024 MAY -3 PM 3:11
CHIEF CLERKS OFFICE

CORPUS CHRISTI
TX 78411
01 MAY 2024 PM



RECEIVED

MAY 03 2024

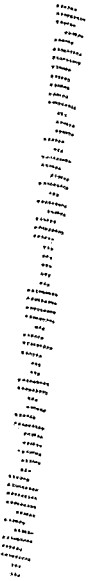
TCEQ MAIL CENTER
DA

Office of the Clerk
TCEQ

12100 Park 35 Circle, Building F
Austin, TX 78753

105

7875361808



Reviewed By Gow

MAY 02 2024

pm
H

April 28, 2024

Office of the Chief Clerk
TCEQ
12100 Park 35 Circle, Building F
Austin, Texas 78753

CHIEF CLERKS OFFICE

2024 MAY - 1 PM 2:43

TEXAS
COMMISSION
ON ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY

Re: Uranium Energy Corp.; TCEQ Permit # UR03075

Dear TCEQ:

Please accept this notification of my request for a Public Meeting regarding the above referenced permit renewal.

I am very concerned about the negative impacts this permit will have on the quality and quantity of my water supply. Groundwater is my sole source of potable water.

Name:

Jesse Ortega

Address:

1939 Fox Road

Phone:

361-673-3270

Email (if available):

jesseloortega73@gmail.com

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

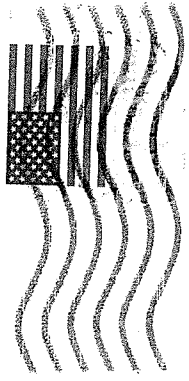
We Want A public Hearing & meeting!!!

TEXAS
COMMISSION
ON ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY

2024 MAY -1 PM 2:42

CHIEF CLERKS OFFICE

SAN ANTONIO TX 780
RIO GRANDE DISTRICT
29 APR 2024 PM 3 L



RECEIVED

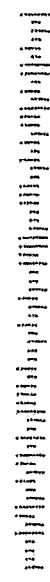
MAY 01 2024

TCEQ MAIL CENTER
DA

Office of the Chief Clerk
TCEQ

12100 Park 35 Circle, Building F
Austin, Texas 78753

78753-190200



Tammy Johnson

From: PUBCOMMENT-OCC
Sent: Tuesday, April 22, 2025 9:45 AM
To: PUBCOMMENT-RAD; PUBCOMMENT-ELD; PUBCOMMENT-OCC2; PUBCOMMENT-OPIC
Subject: FW: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075
Attachments: 2025.04.18 HR-RFR.pdf

H
RFR

From: mahita@txenvirolaw.com <mahita@txenvirolaw.com>
Sent: Friday, April 18, 2025 4:04 PM
To: PUBCOMMENT-OCC <PUBCOMMENT-OCC@tceq.texas.gov>
Subject: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075

REGULATED ENTY NAME GOLIAD PROJECT

RN NUMBER: RN105304802

PERMIT NUMBER: UR03075

DOCKET NUMBER:

COUNTY: GOLIAD

PRINCIPAL NAME: URANIUM ENERGY CORP

CN NUMBER: CN603228461

NAME: Marisa Perales

EMAIL: mahita@txenvirolaw.com

COMPANY: Perales, Allmon & Ice, P.C.

ADDRESS: 1206 San Antonio Street
Austin, TX 78701

PHONE: 5124696000

FAX: 5124829346

COMMENTS: On behalf of Marisa Perales and Lauren Ice, I am submitting the attached request for a contested case hearing and request for reconsideration.

PERALES, ALLMON & ICE, P.C.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

1206 San Antonio Street
Austin, Texas 78701
(512) 469-6000 • (512) 482-9346 (facsimile)
info@txenvirolaw.com

Of Counsel:
David Frederick
Vic McWherter
Claire Krebs

April 18, 2025

Laurie Gharis, Chief Clerk
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, Texas 78711-3087

Via TCEQ Online Comment Form

**Re: Request for Contested Case Hearing and Request for Reconsideration
Regarding the Application of Uranium Energy Corp. for Class III Injection
Well Area Permit Renewal and Amendment, Permit No. UR03075**

Dear Ms. Gharis:

I am submitting the following request for a contested case hearing and request for reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision on behalf of the Carrizo/Comecrudo Nation of Texas, Inc. (the "Tribe") regarding the Application of Uranium Energy Corp. ("Applicant" or "UEC") for a Class III Injection Well Area Permit Renewal and Amendment (the "Application").

I. The Tribe is an "Affected Person."

The Tribe is a Texas non-profit membership organization. Among the Tribe's purposes is to serve the cultural, social, educational, spiritual, linguistic, economic, health, and traditional needs of its members and descendants of the Carrizo/Comecrudo Nation of Texas and other indigenous or Native American groups. The Tribe seeks to protect ancestral lands and relatives and to honor their ancestors. The Tribe also serves as a steward for plants and animals and their habitats.

The Tribe timely submitted comments on this Application. The interests the Tribe seeks to protect by participating in this proceeding—namely to protect area groundwater resources from contamination—are germane to its purpose of protecting the ancestral lands and stewarding of resources for tribal members and the animals and plants of cultural significance. Neither the claim asserted nor the relief requested requires the participation of the individual members of the Tribe in the case. Finally, the Tribe identifies at least one member who would have standing to request a hearing in their own right.

Mr. Jesse Manciaz is a member of the Tribe. He and his wife own approximately 5 acres of land near 449 FM 2043, Goliad, Texas 77963, which is approximately 15 miles southwest of the UEC property. Mr. Manciaz is concerned that contamination from the uranium mining could contaminate the groundwater beneath his property, which he owns. Mr. Manciaz also manages the property in order to maintain a wildlife exemption on his property, specifically in order to provide nesting habitat to several bird species. Mr. Manciaz believes the birds utilize his property because of freshwater supplies nearby in the San Antonio River. He is concerned that contamination from the uranium mining activity could impact his use of his property for wildlife habitat and for bird species. The Texas Water Development Board and the Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District have acknowledged that the San Antonio River is a gaining stream, meaning it receives water from the aquifer system. Thus, contamination from the uranium mining into the aquifer could adversely impact the San Antonio River and other surface waters, which could impact bird populations in the area, and Mr. Manciaz's ability to use and enjoy his property.

II. The Tribe disputes issues that were raised during the public comment period.

The Tribe provides the following relevant and material disputed issues of fact that were raised during the public comment period and that are the basis of this hearing request. The Tribe requests the following issues be referred to hearing.

A. Whether the Application accurately depicts the geology and subsurface characteristics of the permit area. (RTC Nos. 2, 6)

The Tribe and other commenters provided reliable information in comments which demonstrate that UEC's representation that there are only two faults in the area is wrong, and that there are likely as many as 11 faults present in the area that UEC has failed to acknowledge or assess for transmissivity. The ED's Response to Comments does not consider or address this information. In fact, the Response to Comments acknowledges that the ED's review was limited to only the Application materials and to the record of the contested case hearing on the original Application. This information remains in dispute and should be referred to a contested case hearing.

B. Whether the Application accurately depicts the hydrologic and hydrogeologic characteristics of the permit area and the potential for contaminant migration. (RTC Nos. 2, 6)

The Response to Comments does not address comments regarding the Application's failure to adequately assess the hydrogeology of the area or the potential for contaminant migration. Though several comments criticized the reliability of UEC's modeling projections, the Response to Comments does not address the model or the complex conditions at the site. Because hydrogeology and the potential for contaminant migration remain in dispute, this issue should be referred to a contested case hearing.

C. Whether the proposed groundwater monitoring plan is adequately protective of groundwater quality. (RTC Nos. 9, 10)

Again, the Response to Comments did not address the comments that the complex subsurface geology means that a more reliable groundwater flow model must be employed, and a more sophisticated monitoring plan is necessary to ensure groundwater quality and nearby wells are being protected from contaminant migration. Because the adequacy of the proposed groundwater monitoring plan remains in dispute, the issue should be referred to a contested case hearing.

D. Whether the proposed financial assurance is adequate. (RTC No. 15)

The Tribe disagrees with the Response to Comments that the Application's financial assurance plan is adequate to provide for the plugging and abandonment of the permitted Class III wells, baseline wells, and monitoring wells, or that there is no requirement that the groundwater restoration be accounted for in this permitting process. Therefore, the issue should be referred to a contested case hearing.

E. Whether groundwater quality and private water wells will be adequately protected. (RTC No. 16)

The Tribe disagrees with the Response to Comments that groundwater and nearby water wells will be adequately protected from mining activities and permitted injection activities, given that the Application, among other failures, has not properly characterized the subsurface geology, hydrogeology, and potential for contamination; has failed to propose an adequate groundwater monitoring plan; and has failed to provide adequate financial assurance for groundwater restoration. Therefore, this issue should be referred to a contested case hearing.

III. Conclusion

For the reasons described above, the Tribe urges the Commission to reconsider the Application and, upon reconsideration, to deny Uranium Energy Corp.'s Application for Renewal and Amendment to Permit No. UR03075. In the alternative, the Tribe requests a contested case hearing with regard to the Application. Please contact me with any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Marisa Perales

Marisa Perales

State Bar No. 24002750

marisa@txenvirolaw.com

Lauren Ice
State Bar No. 24092560
lauren@txenvirolaw.com
PERALES, ALLMON & ICE, P.C.
1206 San Antonio St.
Austin, Texas 78701
Tel: (512) 469-6000
Fax: (512) 482-9346

*Counsel for the Carrizo/Comecrudo
Nation of Texas, Inc.*

Ellie Guerra

From: PUBCOMMENT-OCC
Sent: Tuesday, December 17, 2024 1:21 PM
To: PUBCOMMENT-OCC2; PUBCOMMENT-OPIC; PUBCOMMENT-ELD; PUBCOMMENT-RAD
Subject: FW: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075
Attachments: 2024.12.16 Carrizo Comecrudo Comments_FINAL.pdf

PM

Jesús Bárcena
Office of the Chief Clerk
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Office Phone: 512-239-3319

How is our customer service? Fill out our online customer satisfaction survey at:
www.tceq.texas.gov/customersurvey

From: marisa@txenvirolaw.com <marisa@txenvirolaw.com>
Sent: Monday, December 16, 2024 4:48 PM
To: PUBCOMMENT-OCC <PUBCOMMENT-OCC@tceq.texas.gov>
Subject: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075

REGULATED ENTY NAME GOLIAD PROJECT

RN NUMBER: RN105304802

PERMIT NUMBER: UR03075

DOCKET NUMBER:

COUNTY: GOLIAD

PRINCIPAL NAME: URANIUM ENERGY CORP

CN NUMBER: CN603228461

NAME: Marisa Perales

EMAIL: marisa@txenvirolaw.com

COMPANY: Perales, Allmon & Ice, P.C.

ADDRESS: 1206 San Antonio Street
Austin, TX 78701

PHONE: 5124696000

FAX: 5124829346

COMMENTS: Please see the attached comments submitted on behalf of the Carrizo/Comecrudo Nation of Texas, Inc.

PERALES, ALLMON & ICE, P.C.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

1206 San Antonio Street
Austin, Texas 78701
(512) 469-6000 • (512) 482-9346 (facsimile)
info@txenvirolaw.com

Of Counsel:
David Frederick
Richard Lowerre
Vic McWherter

December 16, 2024

Laurie Gharis, Chief Clerk
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, Texas 78711-3087

Via TCEQ Online Comment Form

Re: Comments Regarding the Application of Uranium Energy Corp. for Class III Injection Well Area Permit Renewal and Amendment, Permit No. UR03075

Dear Ms. Gharis:

I am submitting the following comments on behalf of the Carrizo/Comecrudo Nation of Texas, Inc. (the "Tribe") regarding the Application of Uranium Energy Corp. ("Applicant" or "UEC") for Class III Injection Well Area Permit Renewal and Amendment (the "Application"). The Application should be denied for the reasons described below.

The Tribe is a Texas non-profit membership organization. Among the Tribe's purposes is to serve the cultural, social, educational, spiritual, linguistic, economic, health, and traditional needs of its members and descendants of the Carrizo/Comecrudo Nation of Texas and other indigenous or Native American groups. The Tribe seeks to protect ancestral lands and relatives and to honor their ancestors. The Tribe also serves as a steward for plants and animals and their habitats.

I. Inadequate Subsurface Geology Investigation and Inaccurate Subsurface Characterization

The Application has failed to identify all of the faults in the Area of Review. UEC represents that there are two faults in the area. In fact, there are likely as many as 11 faults present in the area that UEC has failed to acknowledge or assess for transmissivity. Comments by Dr. H.C. Clark—attached and incorporated herewith, as Attachment A—provide further support regarding the existence of up to 11 faults in the area. These faults present migration pathways that threaten area groundwater resources with potential contamination. Failure to identify and investigate these faults should result in the return of the Application to UEC for failure to submit all information required by TCEQ rules or denial of the Application.

Exacerbating UEC's failure to identify all underlying faults is the known presence of old oil and gas wells in the area. The area has a long history of oil and gas production, and there is good reason to expect that unplugged or improperly plugged old wells exist in the area of review. It is also likely that many of the old, abandoned wells in the area have not been recorded. These old improperly plugged or unplugged wells present another migration pathway. Accordingly, a thorough investigation and inventory of such wells must be performed.

Finally, the impacts from recent seismic activity must be considered here. Earthquakes have become much more common in South Texas, in the last several years, and this seismic activity is likely to have created new faults or enlarged existing ones. This presents another reason that UEC must conduct a thorough assessment of all existing faults in the area of its proposed mining activity and thoroughly assess the potential for contaminant migration via these faults.

II. Inadequate Evaluation of Hydrogeology and Contaminant Migration Potential

Related to the concerns described above is UEC's failure to adequately assess the hydrogeology of the area and the potential for contaminant migration. The subsurface depositional environment at the UEC site is a complex one—much more complex than what is represented by UEC's simplistic and unreliable groundwater flow models. The Tribe has attached as Attachment B the expert report prepared by Dr. Richard Abitz and incorporates it herein. According to Dr. Abitz, "there should be no confidence placed in the UEC model projections of contaminant transport beyond the injection/recovery well clusters." Indeed, UEC has not developed a reliable groundwater flow model, based on reliable assumptions that reflect the complex conditions at the site.

The failure to accurately characterize the potential for contaminant migration is particularly concerning, because of the nearby water wells that will likely be impacted by UEC's operations. There are several private water wells in the near vicinity of the UEC site; there are also dozens of residents who rely on groundwater in the immediate vicinity of the UEC site, including for agricultural uses. Sampling results from nearby private water wells provide useful data revealing little variation in uranium concentrations over the last 16 years. As noted by Dr. Abitz, migration of mining fluids is a common occurrence at in-situ uranium mines, such as UEC's. Such excursions are expected to occur, if TCEQ renews UEC's permit, and this will have a detrimental impact on private water wells and residents relying on those wells.

III. Inadequate Groundwater Monitoring

The simplistic groundwater monitoring plan proposed by UEC cannot be considered to be adequately protective of groundwater resources, based on site-specific conditions.

First, the location of the proposed monitoring wells is not based on site-specific conditions and the potential migration pathways that exist. The monitoring rings consist of monitoring wells that are placed 400 feet from each other and 400 feet from the ore body. But the complex subsurface geology at this site warrants a more sophisticated monitoring well plan, with monitoring wells located at the site of likely migration pathways, based on a thorough subsurface investigation, including identification of all faults and a more reliable groundwater flow model.

UEC's proposed monitoring rings are much too simplistic to be considered protective at the mine site; they are unlikely to detect contaminant excursions before they reach nearby private wells.

Moreover, UEC's baseline data is not representative of pre-mining conditions, and should not be used for purposes of assessing the efficacy of restoration efforts. Sampling results from the nearby private wells provide more reliable baseline data that should be used by UEC and TCEQ, instead of the biased data submitted by UEC. UEC's data was collected after drilling, which results in higher uranium concentrations—because of oxidation of the uranium core from the introduction of water during the drilling process. But this is not an accurate or reliable representation of baseline conditions—conditions that existed before UEC drilled its wells/boreholes and disturbed the ore zone. UEC must revise this data so that it reflects true baseline conditions.

Moreover, UEC must continue monitoring for TDS; this must remain part of its monitoring and assessment plan. Moreover, UEC's monitoring plan must ensure that radon concentrations are not increased at the site or in the nearby water wells.

IV. Financial Assurance

As pointed out by Dr. Abitz, migration of mining fluids outside the monitoring well ring is a common occurrence, including at UEC sites. And there is ample research indicating that no in-situ mine has ever restored aquifer levels to pre-mining conditions. For this reason, the financial assurance required of UEC is inadequate. UEC's mine at this location presents a particularly high risk, considering the population that relies on groundwater resources in the area of the mine. UEC's financial assurance should be significantly higher.

V. Procedural Irregularities Warrant an Extension of the Public Comment Period and Another Public Meeting.

A number of procedural irregularities have occurred with regard to UEC's pending Application and TCEQ's review and processing of it—irregularities that potentially impact the public's ability to meaningfully comment on the Application.

For example, UEC appears to have revised or amended its Application after the public meeting was convened. This means that the public was not able to comment on the most recent version of the Application. This warrants another public meeting.

In addition, TCEQ staff indicated that Application materials and the draft permit would be provided only in response to a Public Information Act request.¹ But TCEQ's general response time to such requests is no earlier than 10 business days after receiving the request. The comment deadline for UEC's Application is December 16, 2024. Thus, Application materials and the draft permit should have been made available to the interested members of the public up until that deadline, without the need for a PIA request and the attendant 10-business-day response time.

¹ Staff also indicated that these materials are available at the local public library. But the local public library is not easily accessible to all interested persons. In addition, the library has limited hours: Monday through Thursday, from 7:00 a.m. until 5:30 p.m., though it is closed during the lunch hour.

Finally, TCEQ's Commissioners Integrated Database ("CID") appears to be malfunctioning. A search of the database reveals that 284 comments have been submitted regarding this Application, but only the first 100 comments are accessible. Attempts to access the remaining comments result in an error message. The malfunctioning of the CID website prevents the affected public from accessing all relevant information regarding the pending Application.

The various irregularities documented above support an extension of the comment deadline and the convening of another public meeting.

VI. Conclusion

For the reasons described above, the Tribe urges the Commission to extend the comment deadline and convene another public meeting. In addition, the Tribe urges the Commission to deny Uranium Energy Corp.'s Application for Renewal and Amendment to Permit No. UR03075. Please contact me with any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Marisa Perales

Marisa Perales

State Bar No. 24002750

marisa@txenvirolaw.com

PERALES, ALLMON & ICE, P.C.

1206 San Antonio St.

Austin, Texas 78701

Tel: (512) 469-6000

Fax: (512) 482-9346

*Counsel for the Carrizo/Comecrudo Nation
of Texas, Inc.*

ATTACHMENT A

[Questions or Comments >>](#)[TCEQ Home](#)

TCEQ Commissioners' Integrated Database - Comment Detail

[BACK TO:](#) **Back to Report Result 1 - 1**


I was an expert in geology, hydrology, and geophysics for Goliad County in the initial mining permit hearing. There, a principal focus was the presence of faults and the role they played as conduits for the uranium-bearing water that created the present ore bodies along the Northwest Fault. At the hearing, the TCEQ agreed with us that a UEC pump test demonstrated groundwater communication within and across the Northwest Fault and the A, C, and D ore bodies (the ore bodies and the fault are one, and groundwater can move from one level to the next). At the time of the initial mining application, UEC was concerned with the difficulty of citing a sufficient number of monitor wells around these ore bodies and the Northwest Fault to meet the monitoring requirements. The protestants felt that the whole geologic framework was far more complex than the simple graben (the Northwest Fault down to the east and the Southeast Fault down to the west) UEC proposed, and that groundwater pathways offered by the communicating faults and sands would make monitoring the uranium mining project very difficult, if not impossible. We lost.

Recently, I learned that seismic sections across the Northwest Fault zone and graben system are available (there are 3, but we are limited to 1 attachment and I have chosen a representative seismic section) and my review of these seismic sections clearly confirms the presence of a number of faults, several interacting with the shallow groundwater system and jeopardizing the groundwater monitoring system as presently proposed for both the ore bodies involved with the Northwest Fault and the intra-graben ore body B.

Moreover, these seismic sections, and indeed a comprehensive fault interpretation (attached), were apparently in UEC's possession at the time of the original mining hearing. I recall that at the time of the mining hearing, we asked for all geologic information available to UEC and received very little, mostly older maps related to geophysical logs developed for oil and gas exploration decades before. To the very best of my recollection, we did not receive these seismic sections at the time of document production for the original hearing-if I am wrong, I certainly apologize-if not, this should be an issue to be considered at the mining permit renewal hearing, if not before. If this seismic information had been available to us at the original hearing, it would have helped us, the TCEQ, and the EPA to fully realize the involvement of not two (2), but up to eleven (11) faults (UEC's own interpretation--comments are limited to one attachment and I have used that-Please ask the groundwater district for this map) interacting with the uranium geology and present groundwater hydrology across the uranium mining permit renewal area. Please consider these issues as the UEC Goliad Uranium mining permit

renewal application goes through the review, and likely the hearing process. Thank you. I have pretty much retired to the cattle business these days and won't be involved further, but I wish you well as you consider the UEC application.
ONE SEISMIC LINE ATTACHED.

Related Links:

Central Registry	Commissioners Agenda	Executive Director's Agenda	Commission Issued Orders	Public Meetings	State Office of Administrative Hearings 
Public Notice	Comment on Pending Applications	File documents			

Site Help | Disclaimer | Site Policies | Accessibility | Website Archive | Our Compact with Texans | TCEQ Homeland Security | Contact Us

Statewide Links: **Texas.gov**  | **Texas Homeland Security**  | **TRAIL Statewide Archive**  | **Texas Veterans Portal** 

© 2002-2024 Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Last Modified 2024-10-15 - Production v3.3.0a

ATTACHMENT B

Professional Statement in Support of the Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District Request to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to Deny the Renewal of UEC's ISR Permit (UR03075)

April 2, 2024

Professional Qualifications

My name is Richard J. Abitz. I have a Doctor of Philosophy in geology (emphasis in geochemistry) from the University of New Mexico and over 35 years of experience as an environmental consultant dealing with problems associated with the solubility and mobility of hazardous and radioactive elements in the sediment/water environment of major aquifers.

I presently serve as the director of the Environmental Restoration (ER) Group for the Idaho Closure Project contract at the Department of Energy's (DOE) Idaho National Laboratory Site. The ER Group is an organization of 20 scientists, engineers, and technicians who are responsible for executing groundwater and soil remedial actions to protect human health and the environment, as established in the Record of Decisions under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (42 USC § 9601 et. seq.). The primary actions are to 1) remediate and monitor groundwater contaminated by hazardous solvents and radioactive isotopes, 2) inspect and maintain established environmental controls at legacy sites where remedial actions removed contamination, and 3) prepare annual reports on the progress of remedial actions.

My experience also includes decades of work with uranium contamination in the surface environment and groundwater at the DOE Portsmouth and Fernald Sites. At the Portsmouth Site, which produced low enriched uranium for commercial power plants and highly enriched uranium for weapon components and Navy ship reactors, I served as the senior scientist responsible for dose calculations to assess the risk to human health associated with exposure to uranium and other radionuclide isotopes under present conditions and a future condition where all contamination was buried in an on-site disposal facility. At the Fernald Site, which processed uranium ores and yellow cake for over 30 years (1952 to 1985) to produce uranium metal for plutonium production reactors at the Hanford and Savannah River Sites, I managed the Environmental Services Division for the Fernald Closure Project. Our division was responsible for 1) installation and development of monitoring, extraction, and injection wells, 2) air, water and soil sampling activities, 3) analytical facilities for the measurement of radionuclides, metals, and organic compounds in soil and water samples, 4) *in situ* measurements of ^{226}Ra , ^{232}Th , and ^{238}U activities in soil using sodium-iodide and high-purity germanium detectors, 5) data verification, validation, and reporting, and 6) data analysis, modeling, and reporting.

In addition to my work at DOE sites, I have served as a subcontractor to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in support of groundwater remediation at the Homestake uranium tailings site north of Milan, NM. For the Navajo Nation (New Mexico), Sioux Nation (Nebraska), Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District (Texas), and National Resources Defense Council, I served as a technical expert and witness to evaluate the impact of proposed *in situ* uranium leach mining on community groundwater supplies. I have also provided technical input to the Wyoming Powder River Basin Resource Council's comment responses to EPA's proposed Health and Environmental Protection Standards for Uranium and Thorium Mill Tailings (40 CFR 192).

Based on my geology education and environmental work experience, I have extensive theoretical, laboratory, and field knowledge on 1) the solid forms of uranium in aquifer sediments; 2) the chemical reactions that are responsible for the mobilization and/or adsorption/precipitation of uranium from groundwater systems; and 3) well fields and ion-exchange operations associated with recovering groundwater that is contaminated with uranium. Therefore, I am qualified to provide scientific arguments in support of GCGCD's request to TCEQ to deny the renewal of UEC's Permit (UR03075) for in situ recovery (ISR) of uranium at the proposed Goliad ISR site.

Stratigraphy and Faulting in the South Texas Coastal Plain

The uranium deposits of South Texas occur in sediments deposited in complex fluvial-shallow marine depositional environments, which differ from the stratigraphically simpler classic roll-front deposits observed in Wyoming and other western uranium districts (Adams & Smith 1980). In addition to the complex lateral and vertical variation in the fluvial stratigraphy, hundreds of growth faults cutting the Pleistocene and Holocene sediments exposed in the coastal plain have been mapped (Verbeek 1979, Yeager et al 2019). The growth faults juxtapose older stratigraphic formations against the younger units, such as the Goliad sandstone units identified by UEC for ISR uranium mining. Researchers have also established that uranium deposits in the permeable fluvial sandstone beds are commonly associated with disseminated pyrite that formed from the upward transport of hydrogen sulfide (from deeper evaporite beds) along the growth faults (Adams & Smith 1980, and references therein).

A combination of fluvial stratigraphy cut by growth faults creates a complex three-dimensional subsurface where downgradient flow pathways along or across fault boundaries and through tilted and fractured lithologic units become impossible to predict over the area of the proposed Goliad ISR mining operation. Complex subsurface flow models developed for the Edwards aquifer, located in a geological environment in south-central Texas similar with the proposed Goliad mining site, required extensive data from drill holes and rock core, mapped faults and other geologic structures, aerial photography, and seismic and electromagnetic surveys; and the resultant model was marginally successful at predicting groundwater flow paths (Pantea et al 2008). UEC groundwater flow models are far simpler than the complex model developed by Pantea and others (2008), and there should be no confidence placed in the UEC model projections of contaminant transport beyond the injection/recovery well clusters.

In summary, the complex subsurface geology at the proposed Goliad ISR mining site precludes *in situ* leaching operations at this location because the lixiviant injected into the ore zone cannot be isolated within the monitor well ring. The migration of mining fluids outside the monitor well ring (i.e., excursions) is a common occurrence at ISR sites with simple subsurface geology (Staub et al 1986). If the UEC permit is renewed by TCEQ, excursions at the proposed Goliad site will occur and impact private wells, as has been observed for other Texas ISR operations at Rosita and Kingsville Dome.

Groundwater Quality at the Proposed Goliad ISR Mining Site

Uranium and radon concentrations in groundwater will be the focus of this discussion because they are the most mobile contaminants released by ISR mining. Uranium because the ISR process is designed to mobilize uranium for recovery as uranyl carbonate ions [$\text{UO}_2(\text{CO}_3)_2^{-2}$ and $\text{UO}_2(\text{CO}_3)_3^{-4}$] and radon because

it is an inert gas (i.e., no chemical interactions with the solids in the aquifer) that migrates at the same or greater rate than the groundwater.

Figure 1 shows the location of nine private wells, two UEC injection wells, and the proposed UEC permit boundary. Except for the Abrameit and Mooreland wells, seven of the wells are located 500 to 1,700 feet from the permit boundary. The Abrameit well is within the proposed permit area and the Mooreland well is about 1.5 miles to the southeast of the permit boundary.

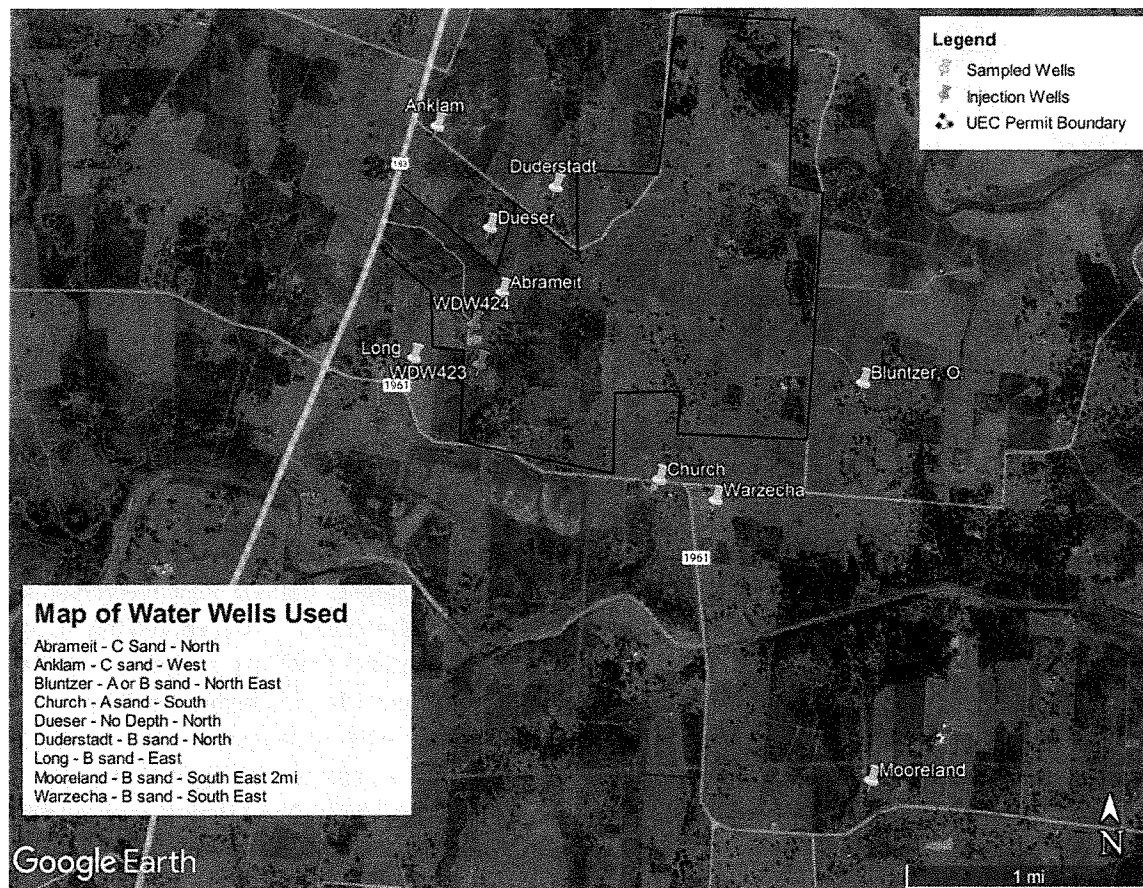


FIGURE 1. Private wells adjacent to the proposed UEC ISR permit boundary.

Figure 2 plots the trends for uranium concentrations for private wells adjacent to the proposed UEC permit area and UEC uranium results for production zone wells (not shown on Figure 1). Many of the private wells have been collecting groundwater quality data for over 16 years, which provides an excellent temporal record for the variation in uranium concentrations for groundwater undisturbed by ISR mining operations. Results for the private wells show very little temporal variation in uranium concentrations (Figure 2), that is there is very little change in the measured concentration of uranium over the past 16-plus years.

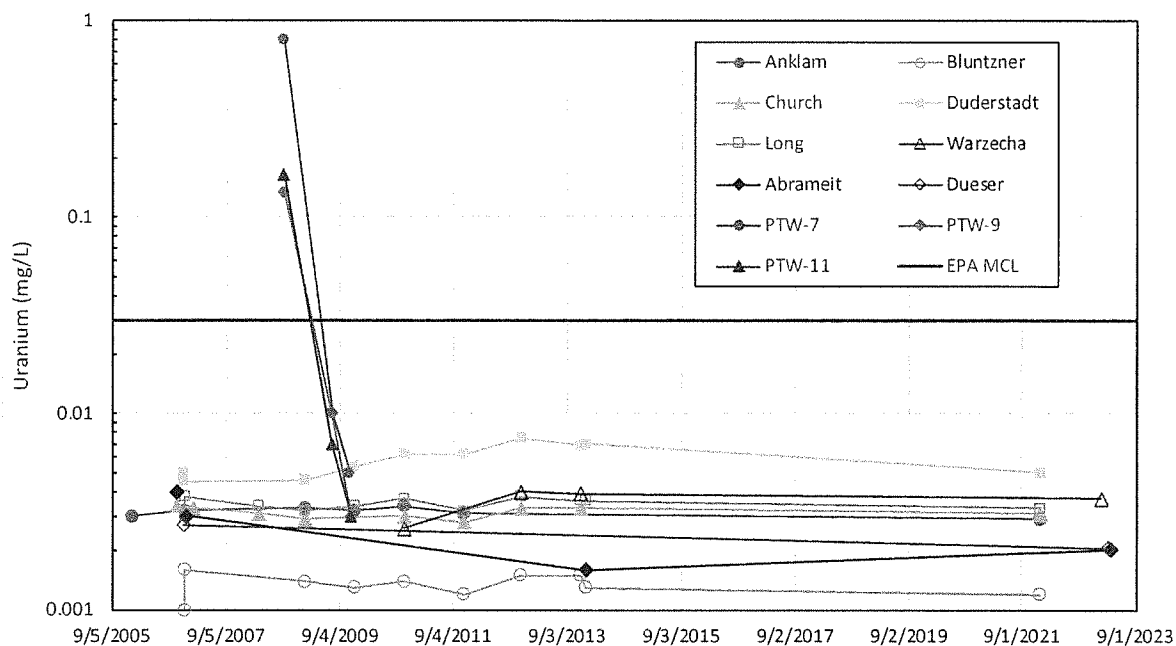


FIGURE 2. Temporal variation of uranium in private wells and ore-zone wells.

In contrast to the private wells, the sample dates for each ore-zone well (PTW-7, PTW-9, PTW-11) show large differences in uranium concentrations (Figure 2), due to the initial samples being collected after drilling the wells in 2008. Well drilling uses water that contains higher levels of oxygen, relative to the reduced aquifer water, and drilling also grinds the ore into finer particles that have a higher surface area for oxidation reactions. The result is oxidation of the uranium ore particles and higher uranium concentrations. Because the drilling is a transient process, the low levels of oxygen introduced into the aquifer are consumed and, without injection of oxidizing lixiviant (i.e., active mining), reducing conditions return and uranium concentrations drop back to baseline levels. Note that the baseline levels for uranium in the reduced ore zone (2009 dates) are nearly identical to those in the private wells. That is, they all are about an order of magnitude lower than the EPA established maximum contaminant level (MCL) for uranium (0.03 mg/L). It is also noteworthy to point out that UEC, and the ISR industry, are allowed to use the higher values induced by drilling (2008 values from ore-zone wells) as 'baseline' for the ore zone, which biases restoration values to high concentrations far above the true baseline for uranium. Additionally, when submitting their request to TCEQ for renewal of their permit, UEC made no effort to revise their biased 'baseline' submitted with the original permit with the 2009 values. Figure 2 clearly illustrates that the true baseline values for uranium in the ore zone (2009 results) and private wells are well below the EPA MCL for uranium.

Radon values for the private wells (Figure 3) show a large range of measured concentrations over the 16-plus years of monitoring. The Long and Bluntzner wells show a sharp increase in radon values around 2011, a peak concentration in 2012, and a sharp decline thereafter. Although not as evident, this trend is also observed in the Anklam and Warzecha wells. All wells, except Abrameit, show a decline in radon

values after 2013. The high values for the Abrameit well probably reflect its location within the proposed permit area (Figure 1) and proximity to ore deposits in the subsurface.

UEC drilled over 700 boreholes/wells in the proposed permit area between May 2006 and September 2008 to establish ore locations and a 'baseline' groundwater quality in the ore zone and surrounding aquifer. As noted above for uranium results, true baseline values for the groundwater were not established by UEC. It is highly probable that the observed radon peak concentrations in 2012 reflect the transport of radon from the large disturbance in the ore zone during the drilling of over 700 boreholes/wells. As radon moves with the groundwater along fault zones, fractured sandstone, and permeable channel sandstones, the peak radon concentrations indicate groundwater flow paths connect the ore zone to the private wells. The initial indication of a significant increase in radon values occurred in 2011, which implies high levels of radon can reach private wells within three to five years of disturbing the ore zone (borehole drilling began in 2006 and well drilling ended in 2008).

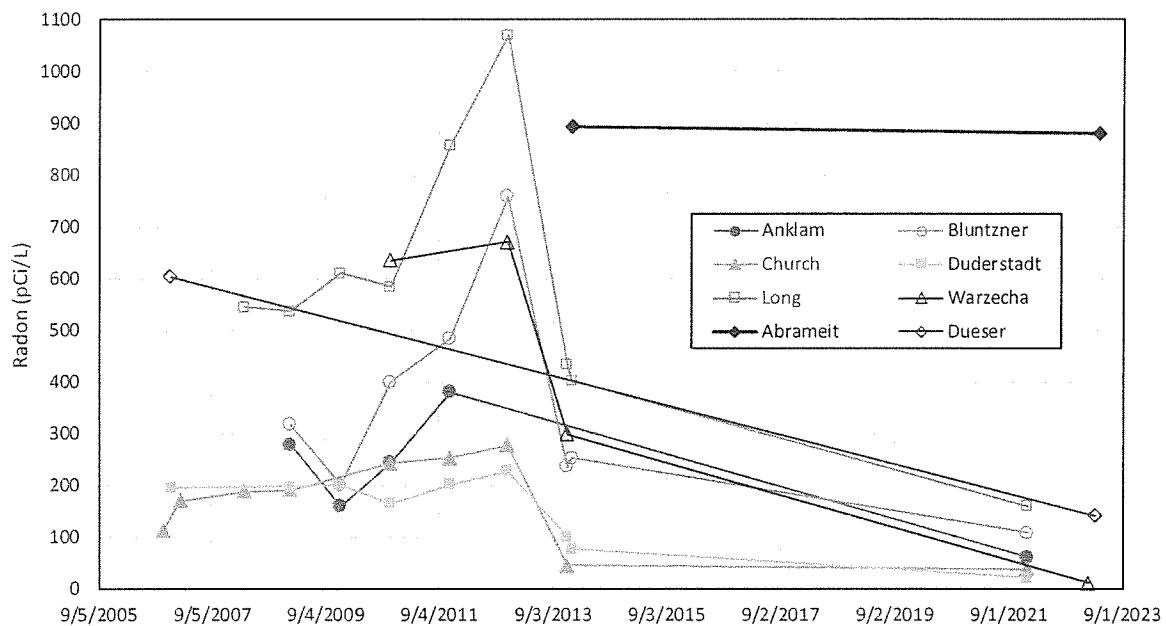


FIGURE 3. Temporal variation of radon in private wells.

Although EPA does not regulate radon levels in groundwater, they are proposing to regulate state water systems to achieve less than 4,000 pCi/L in groundwater provided by community water systems. Radon in the water is released as radon gas when used in the home, and this limit for domestic water systems is estimated to generate a radon air concentration in the home of no greater than 0.4 pCi/L (this is one-tenth of the EPA recommended level of less than 4 pCi/L for radon in indoor air). The proposed value of 4,000 pCi/L for radon in domestic water systems would be lowered to 300 pCi/L if the state does not have an EPA-approved program for enhancing lower indoor radon levels. As shown on Figure 3, all private wells (except Abrameit) have radon concentrations that are presently below the proposed EPA limit of 300 pCi/L.

Depletion of Groundwater Resources

The National Research Council (NAS 2002) indicated that future development of uranium mining and other oil and mineral extraction activities should consider the tradeoffs between extracting oil and mineral deposits and the need to preserve the diminishing western groundwater resources for domestic, livestock, and agriculture use. ISR operations are especially egregious with respect to the consumption of groundwater resources due to consumption of the groundwater during mining and restoration and the large volume of contaminated groundwater that remains in the aquifer after mining. Gallegos and others (2022) report that the Texas Department of Health estimated that 12 ISR companies operating in 1980 were using about two billion gallons per company per year, or a total annual volume of 24 billion gallons of uranium-mining fluids in the injection and recovery process. As present ISR groundwater operations are similar with those 40 years ago, allowing UEC to renew their permit for ISR operations will result in the loss of billions of gallons of groundwater that could have been used for domestic, livestock, and agriculture needs.

Water consumption during ISR operations occurs during mining and restoration, with consumption during restoration generally higher. For five Texas ISR operations in the Goliad Formation, an estimated 500 gallons of groundwater is consumed per pound of mined U₃O₈ (Gallegos et al 2002). The five Texas ISR operations recovered between 2 and 4 million pounds of U₃O₈ (Gallegos et al 2002), which equates to the consumption of 1 to 2 billion gallons removed from the aquifer. However, the greatest volume of groundwater that is lost due to ISR operations is the contaminated pore volume that remains after restoration is deemed complete. Pore volumes for the five Texas ISR operations varied from around 10 to 300 billion gallons (Gallegos et al 2002).

For the Goliad Formation sands at the UEC Goliad site, the exempted aquifer pore volume is estimated to be about 32 billion gallons (as noted in previously adjudicated issues during the initial UEC permit hearing). Most of the pore volume in the exempted aquifer volume is lost to contamination because it is well documented that no ISR operation in Wyoming, New Mexico, and Texas has ever restored groundwater to initial pre-mining values (Deutsch, 1984; Staub, 1986; Hall, 2009). Therefore, the renewal of the UEC permit for ISR operations at the Goliad site should be denied by TCEQ to avoid the loss of over 30 billion gallons of groundwater that should be conserved for domestic, livestock, and agriculture use.

Furthermore, the groundwater resource in Goliad County is far more valuable to the people and the State because the extracted uranium from the Goliad Formation is a vanishingly small fraction of the world uranium production. The United States produces less than 0.15% of the world's uranium (about 75 tons per year relative to a total global production of 49,355 tons per year [Uranium Production | Uranium Output - World Nuclear Association \(world-nuclear.org\)](https://world-nuclear.org/information/news-and-features/uranium-production)), and the production from the Goliad site would be a tiny fraction of the 0.15% the United States produces annually. Clearly, there is no demand for the uranium that is presently immobile in the aquifer sands at the proposed Goliad site.

Summary

Extraction of the uranium from the aquifer sands at the proposed Goliad site would result in the loss of over 30 billion gallons of groundwater and contaminate private wells that are adjacent to the proposed

permit boundary. Based on radon measurements in groundwater samples collected from private wells, there is compelling evidence that groundwater flow paths exist between the ore bodies and the private wells. The ore bodies are not a threat to the water quality of the private wells while natural reducing conditions are present in the aquifer. If ISR operations are permitted, the oxidation of the uranium ore zones would contaminate the aquifer and radon and uranium would be transported along complex flow paths to the private wells. Monitoring well rings cannot ensure the detection of contamination, especially in the complex subsurface geology at the Goliad site. Therefore, the TCEQ should protect human health and the environment and honor the request of the GCGCD to deny the renewal of UEC permit UR03075.

References

- Adams, S.S. & Smith, R.B., 1981. National Uranium Resource Evaluation: Geology and Recognition Criteria for Sandstone Uranium Deposits in Mixed Fluvial-Shallow Marine Sedimentary Sequences, South Texas, Samuel S. Adams & Associates, Boulder, Colorado, R. B. Smith & Associates, Austin, Texas, prepared for U.S. DOE Grand Junction Office, Colorado.
- Deutsch, W.J., N.E. Bell, B.W. Mercer, R.J. Serne, J.W. Shade, and D.R. Tweeton, 1984. *Aquifer Restoration Techniques for In Situ Leach Uranium Mines*, NUREA/CR-3104, PNL-4538, Pacific Northwest Laboratory, prepared for the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, Washington DC.
- Gallegos, T.J., Scott, A.M., Stengel, V.G., Teeple, A.P., 2022. A Methodology to Assess the Historical Environmental Footprint of In-Situ Recovery (ISR) of Uranium: A Demonstration in the Goliad Sand in the Texas Coastal Plain, USA. *Minerals*, v.12, p.369.
- Hall, S., 2009. Groundwater Restoration at Uranium In-Situ Recovery Mines, South Texas Coastal Plain. U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 2009–1143.
- National Academy of Science, 2002. *Evolutionary and Revolutionary Technologies for Mining*; National Academy Press: Washington, DC.
- Pantea, M.P., Cole, J.C., Smith, B.D., Faith, J.R., Blome, C.D., Smith, D.V., 2008. Three-Dimensional Geologic Model of Complex Fault Structures in the Upper Seco Creek Area, Medina and Uvalde Counties, South-Central Texas, Scientific Investigations Report 2008–5131, U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Geological Survey.
- Staub, W.P., N.E. Hinkle, R.E. Williams, F. Anastasi, J. Osiensky, and D. Rogness, 1986. *An Analysis of Excursions at Selected In Situ Uranium Mines in Wyoming and Texas*, NUREG/CR-3967, ORNL/TM-9956, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, prepared for the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, Washington DC.
- Verbeek, E.R., 1979. Surface Faults in the Gulf Coastal Plain Between Victoria and Beaumont, Texas, *Tectonophysics*, v.52, p.373.
- Yeager, K.M., Wolfe, P.C., Feagin, R.A., Brunner, C.A., Schindler, K.J., 2019. Active near-surface growth faulting and late Holocene history of motion: Matagorda peninsula, Texas, *Geomorphology*, no.327, p.159.

Tammy Johnson

From: PUBCOMMENT-OCC
Sent: Tuesday, April 22, 2025 3:17 PM
To: PUBCOMMENT-RAD; PUBCOMMENT-ELD; PUBCOMMENT-OCC2; PUBCOMMENT-OPIC
Subject: FW: Permit No. UR03075
Attachments: UEC-a.jpeg

RFR

From: Debra Primrose <dprimrose7@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 17, 2025 11:13 PM
To: Laurie Gharis <Laurie.Gharis@tceq.texas.gov>
Subject: Permit No. UR03075

Debra Primrose
500 Atzenhoffer Road
Yorktown, Texas 78164
281-239-5588

Uranium Energy Corp.
Class III Underground Injection Control Area Permit No. UR03075

Executive Director Response to Public Comment (RTC),

I am a concerned citizen of Weesatche, Texas in Goliad County Texas. I live 8.5 miles from Ander, Texas in which the Uranium Mining will take place if you issue Permit No. UR03075.

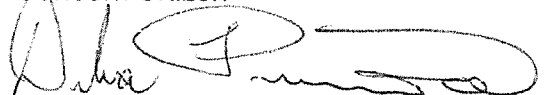
The water that flows under the ground is important for my health and survival, the animal we raise, and the plants we grow. Other entities such as Corpus Christi, San Antonio, and Victoria and other cities are after that water that flows freely underground, so they will have water for their communities.

UEC would like to mine in the Ander/Weesatche Community and contaminate our water by drilling through fault lines. We need to preserve our water for the future due to drought, earthquakes, and other natural disasters. Your report shows two fault lines that run in this area. WE, in Goliad County, feel that there are many more fault lines that need to be taken into consideration.

Our Governor has also spoken about preserving water for the future. So let it start with Goliad County.

Therefore, I respectfully request that the Executive Director (ED) reconsider its preliminary decision on Permit U03075 based in part on its response to Comment #2. I feel a new evaluation of fault lines and water tables in the area should be taken to best preserve the water in our area without contamination of arsenic and other deadly material to mankind animals, and plants. **We Need to save the Earth we have. WE only Have One Earth.**

Concern Citizen

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Debra Primrose', written over a horizontal line.

Debra Primrose

CC: Governor Gregg Abbott, Representative AJ Louderback, Senator Lois Kolkhorst, Congressman Michael Cloud, Senator Charles Perry, Texas Ag Commissioner, TCEQ

Tammy Johnson

From: PUBCOMMENT-OCC
Sent: Tuesday, April 22, 2025 3:18 PM
To: PUBCOMMENT-RAD; PUBCOMMENT-ELD; PUBCOMMENT-OCC2; PUBCOMMENT-OPIC
Subject: FW: Permit UR03075
Attachments: UEC-a.jpeg

RFR

From: Debra Primrose <dprimrose7@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 17, 2025 11:12 PM
To: Laurie Gharis <Laurie.Gharis@tceq.texas.gov>
Subject: Permit UR03075

Debra Primrose
500 Atzenhoffer Road
Yorktown, Texas 78164
281-239-5588

Uranium Energy Corp.
Class III Underground Injection Control Area Permit No. UR03075

Executive Director Response to Public Comment (RTC),

I am a concerned citizen of Weesatche, Texas in Goliad County Texas. I live 8.5 miles from Ander, Texas in which the Uranium Mining will take place if you issue Permit No. UR03075.

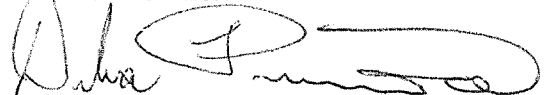
The water that flows under the ground is important for my health and survival, the animal we raise, and the plants we grow. Other entities such as Corpus Christi, San Antonio, and Victoria and other cities are after that water that flows freely underground, so they will have water for their communities.

UEC would like to mine in the Ander/Weesatche Community and contaminate our water by drilling through fault lines. We need to preserve our water for the future due to drought, earthquakes, and other natural disasters. Your report shows two fault lines that run in this area. WE, in Goliad County, feel that there are many more fault lines that need to be taken into consideration.

Our Governor has also spoken about preserving water for the future. So let it start with Goliad County.

Therefore, I respectfully request that the Executive Director (ED) reconsider its preliminary decision on Permit U03075 based in part on its response to Comment #2. I feel a new evaluation of fault lines and water tables in the area should be taken to best preserve the water in our area without contamination of arsenic and other deadly material to mankind animals, and plants. **We Need to save the Earth we have. WE only Have One Earth.**

Concern Citizen

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Debra Primrose', written over a horizontal line.

Debra Primrose

CC: Governor Gregg Abbott, Representative AJ Louderback, Senator Lois Kolkhorst, Congressman Michael Cloud, Senator Charles Perry, Texas Ag Commissioner, TCEQ

Renee Lyle

From: PUBCOMMENT-OCC
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 12:45 PM
To: PUBCOMMENT-OCC2; PUBCOMMENT-OPIC; PUBCOMMENT-ELD; PUBCOMMENT-RAD
Subject: FW: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075

PM

Jesús Bárcena
Office of the Chief Clerk
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Office Phone: 512-239-3319

How is our customer service? Fill out our online customer satisfaction survey at:
www.tceq.texas.gov/customersurvey

From: dprimrose7@gmail.com <dprimrose7@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2024 8:04 PM
To: PUBCOMMENT-OCC <PUBCOMMENT-OCC@tceq.texas.gov>
Subject: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075

REGULATED ENTY NAME GOLIAD PROJECT

RN NUMBER: RN105304802

PERMIT NUMBER: UR03075

DOCKET NUMBER:

COUNTY: GOLIAD

PRINCIPAL NAME: URANIUM ENERGY CORP

CN NUMBER: CN603228461

NAME: Debra Sue Primrose

EMAIL: dprimrose7@gmail.com

COMPANY: 880000008844

ADDRESS: 500 ATZENHOFFER RD
YORKTOWN TX 78164-5414

PHONE: 2812395588

FAX:

COMMENTS: I request a public meeting to discuss Permit UR03075. I do not understand why TCEQ and Texas State Officials would allow Uranium Energy Corp. a permit which would destroy the Land, Wildlife, Water and People health and lives in Goliad County. TCEQ should be protecting and representing the people and the Land and its resources that has been hard earned, so that it will not become an endangered species.

Melissa Schmidt

From: PUBCOMMENT-OCC
Sent: Tuesday, July 27, 2021 8:38 AM
To: PUBCOMMENT-OCC2; PUBCOMMENT-OPIC; PUBCOMMENT-ELD; PUBCOMMENT-WPD
Subject: FW: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075
Attachments: TCEQ UR030752.pdf

UR
123334

H

From: gcgcd@goliadcogcd.org <gcgcd@goliadcogcd.org>
Sent: Monday, July 26, 2021 4:04 PM
To: PUBCOMMENT-OCC <PUBCOMMENT-OCC@tceq.texas.gov>
Subject: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075

REGULATED ENTY NAME GOLIAD PROJECT

RN NUMBER: RN105304802

PERMIT NUMBER: UR03075

DOCKET NUMBER:

COUNTY: GOLIAD

PRINCIPAL NAME: URANIUM ENERGY CORP

CN NUMBER: CN603228461

FROM

NAME: Heather Rae Sumpter

E-MAIL: gcgcd@goliadcogcd.org

COMPANY: Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District

ADDRESS: PO BOX 562
GOLIAD TX 77963-0562

PHONE: 3616451716

FAX:

COMMENTS: Please see attached letter requesting a contested case hearing.



GOLIAD COUNTY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

118 S. Market St., P.O. Box 562, Goliad, Texas 77963-0562

Telephone: (361) 645-1716 Facsimile: (361) 645-1772

website: www.goliadcogcd.org | email: gcgcd@goliadgcd.org

Board of Directors:

President – Wilfred Korth

Vice-President – Art Dohmann

Secretary – Carl Hummel

Directors – Wesley Ball, Gary Bellows, Barbara Smith, Terrell Graham

July 23, 2021

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Office of the Chief Clerk MC-105

P.O. Box 13087

Austin, TX. 78711-3087

Re: Notice of Receipt of Application and Internet to Obtain a Class III Injection Well Area Permit
Renewal – Permit No. UR03075

Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District (GCGCD) has received the above notice and is requesting a contested case hearing for the permit.

GCGCD is charged with the protection, preservation and conservation of the groundwater within its jurisdiction. The above permit area resides within GCGCD jurisdiction and GCGCD believes the permit facility area would adversely be affected by the potential contamination of the aquifer and the loss of water supplies. Water wells in this area are used for domestic, livestock, and crop watering uses, and contamination and loss of water supplies would be detrimental and devastating to the property owners.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather Sumpter".

Heather Sumpter

GCGCD General Manager

Lori Rowe

From: PUBCOMMENT-OCC
Sent: Wednesday, August 25, 2021 1:56 PM
To: PUBCOMMENT-OCC2; PUBCOMMENT-OPIC; PUBCOMMENT-ELD; PUBCOMMENT-WPD
Subject: FW: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075
Attachments: TCEQ UR03075 Request for Public Meeting Aug 2021.pdf

UR
123334

PM

From: hsumpter@goliadcogcd.org <hsumpter@goliadcogcd.org>
Sent: Wednesday, August 25, 2021 9:09 AM
To: PUBCOMMENT-OCC <PUBCOMMENT-OCC@tceq.texas.gov>
Subject: Public comment on Permit Number UR03075

REGULATED ENTY NAME GOLIAD PROJECT

RN NUMBER: RN105304802

PERMIT NUMBER: UR03075

DOCKET NUMBER:

COUNTY: GOLIAD

PRINCIPAL NAME: URANIUM ENERGY CORP

CN NUMBER: CN603228461

FROM

NAME: Heathet Sumpter

E-MAIL: hsumpter@goliadcogcd.org

COMPANY: Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District

ADDRESS: PO BOX 562
GOLIAD TX 77963-0562

PHONE: 3616451716

FAX:

COMMENTS: Request for public meeting attached.



GOLIAD COUNTY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

118 S. Market St., P.O. Box 562, Goliad, Texas 77963-0562

Telephone: (361) 645-1716 Facsimile: (361) 645-1772

website: www.goliadcogcd.org | email: gogcd@goliadgcd.org

Board of Directors:

President – Wilfred Korth

Vice-President – Art Dohmann

Secretary – Carl Hummel

Directors – Wesley Ball, Gary Bellows, Barbara Smith, Terrell Graham

August 25, 2021

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Office of the Chief Clerk MC-105

P.O. Box 13087

Austin, TX. 78711-3087

Re: Notice of Receipt of Application and Internet to Obtain a Class III Injection Well Area Permit
Renewal – Permit No. UR03075

Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District (GCGCD) has received the above notice and is requesting a public meeting to be held.

GCGCD is charged with the protection, preservation and conservation of the groundwater within its jurisdiction. The above permit area resides within GCGCD jurisdiction and believes the permit facility would adversely be affected by the potential contamination of the aquifer and the loss of water supplies.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather Sumpter".

Heather Sumpter

GCGCD General Manager