

Attachment E

Plain Language Summary

Tyson Fresh Meats, Inc. WDW-120 and WDW-312 Permit Renewal Application to Dispose of Waste in Class I Injection Wells

Tyson Fresh Meats, Inc. (referred to as Tyson) requests renewal for two Class I injection well permits, which are currently permitted as one active well (WDW-120) and one proposed well (WDW-312). The waste injected in the wells will be primarily surplus brine water associated with hide processing at the beef production complex within the Tyson Amarillo facility, which is located on 5000 N. FM 1912 in Amarillo, Texas. The Amarillo facility generates various beef products.

The wastewater generated for injection into the WDW-120 and WDW-312 injection wells will consist of individual waste streams described in Table IX.A of the permit application. The principal wastes are hide processing wastewater and tannery chrome recovery system effluent. The additional permitted wastes include other associated wastes such as groundwater and rainfall contaminated by the above authorized wastes, spills of the above authorized wastes, wash waters and solutions used in cleaning and servicing the waste disposal well system equipment.

The use of underground injection is a proven and accepted technology for the disposal of nonhazardous industrial waste streams, such as those generated at Tyson. Underground injection is preferred to all other technologies presently available and associated operations are protective of human health and the environment. The liquid wastes disposed of in the injection wells are contained in the defined Injection Intervals on essentially an infinite basis. The reservoirs receiving the injectate are saturated with saline water and are geologically sealed from above with impermeable or nearly impermeable sediments which contain the injected fluids.

Surface waters will be protected through the use of Class I injection operations by continuous monitoring of operations, secondary containment systems and inspection of facility manufacturing operations. Some of the safeguards that will be employed by the Tyson facility are: 1) favorable Injection Interval geology; 2) stringent well design, installation and construction standards; 3) regulatory oversight and reporting; 4) annual mechanical integrity testing of wells per the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) regulations; 5) operational permit limitations

(pressure, volume, fluid density, pH) and 6) monitoring systems for the permitted operational limits.

Groundwater is protected from pollution by adherence to the permitting and operating requirements incorporated into the operating permits for the active and proposed injection wells. The future construction of WDW-312 will incorporate groundwater protection safeguards: completion in appropriate geologic formations, drilling mud, conservative cementing practices, casing strings, pressurized annulus system, annulus fluid monitoring program and injection tubing. The Class I injection program will ensure confinement and isolation of the injected waste from the underground source of drinking water.