

PLAIN LANGUAGE SUMMARY

Permit WDW-467 & WDW-468

URI, Inc. has submitted an application to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (“TCEQ”) for authorization to inject wastewater generated from in-situ uranium mining activities into Class I injection wells.

The applicant/operator name

URI, Inc., a subsidiary of enCore Energy US Corporation

The type of application

Underground Injection Control permit application to dispose of wastewater in Class I injection wells.

The type of waste

The waste consists of wastewater generated as part of the in-situ uranium mining process. In-situ mining involves circulating native groundwater through an underground mineral rich zone and pumping this water to the surface to recover the dissolved uranium through a process known as ion exchange prior to recirculating/recycling this same water back through the mineral zone where the process is repeated until the ore body is depleted. Ion exchange is a water treatment process that is similar to the treatment method used in typical household water softener systems.

The type of facility

The facility will consist of two disposal wells, injection pumps, water filtration units and associated equipment and monitoring systems used to safely dispose water into the disposal wells.

The facility name and location

Upper Spring Creek Project, located along FM 889 and CR 135, approximately 8 miles northwest of George West, Texas.

The function of the proposed plant or facility

To provide a safe and efficient method to manage the wastewater generated from the in-situ uranium mining process.

The expected output of the proposed plant or facility

The Class I wells will not produce any product. The wells are designed, permitted and constructed to ensure safe disposal of wastewater generated from the in-situ uranium mining process.

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The expected pollutants that may be emitted or discharged by the proposed plant or facility which require an injection well permit

Wastewater generated as part of the in-situ uranium mining process is the sole component of the waste stream. TCEQ regulations require that companies pump out more water than what is recycled back to the groundwater. This excess water is typically managed through permitting of the Class I wells for use in disposing this excess water. Other possible wastewater sources can include: precipitation landing on concrete foundations associated with the facility, wastewater associated with groundwater restoration, plant wash down water and laboratory wastewater. Expected air emission include fugitive dusting and vehicle exhaust.

How the applicant will control those pollutants, so that the proposed plant will not have an adverse impact on human health or the environment

Several permits are required to allow for operation of the Class I wells associated with in situ uranium mining. These permits all contain specific requirements to ensure that the permitted activity will not have an adverse impact on employees, the public and the environment. Specific aspects of this Class I permit application that provide assurance include the fact that the wastewater is injected into brine-saturated formations which are not suitable for human use or consumption now or at any time in the future and are located thousands of feet below the land surface, where they are likely to remain confined for a long time.

All Class I wells are designed and constructed to prevent the movement of injected wastewaters into underground sources of drinking water. The wells multi-layer construction has many redundant safety features. All the materials of which injection wells are made are corrosion-resistant and compatible with the wastewater and the formation rocks and fluids into which they come in contact. A constant pressure is maintained on the wells and is continuously monitored to verify the well's mechanical integrity and proper operational conditions.

The surface facilities are situated on an engineered concrete curbed pad to contain any potential spills or leaks. Personnel performing wastewater management activities are rigorously trained in the safe operation of the facility to minimize the potential for upset conditions to occur.

URI maintains a robust radiation protection and environmental monitoring program to ensure that the permitted activities do not have an adverse impact on human health, the public or the environment. Records for each of these programs are maintained by URI and reported to TCEQ as necessary.