NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
PUBLIC NOTICE TO
MODIFY AN UNDERGROUND INJECTION CONTROL PERMIT

May 12, 2017

PURPOSE OF PUBLIC NOTICE

THE PURPOSE OF THIS NOTICE IS TO STATE THE DEPARTMENT'S INTENTION TO MODIFY A CLASS I UNDERGROUND INJECTION CONTROL PERMIT UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF ARTICLE 33-25 OF THE NORTH DAKOTA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE.

PERMIT INFORMATION

APPLICANT NAME:	Great River Energy
MAILING ADDRESS:	12300 Elm Creek Boulevard. Maple Grove, MN 55369
FACILITY LOCATION:	Coal Creek Station 2875 Third Street SW Underwood, ND 58576
TELEPHONE NUMBER:	763-445-5000
APPLICATION NUMBER:	ND-UIC-106

Underground Injection Control Permit Modification

It is the intent of the North Dakota Department of Health (Department), Division of Water Quality, to modify Great River Energy's (GRE) Class I non-hazardous waste underground injection control permit ND-UIC-106 (Permit). GRE currently operates a Class I non-hazardous waste underground injection well (Well #1) at Coal Creek Station, a coal-fired electric generation facility located near Underwood, North Dakota. Well #1 is used for the disposal of non-hazardous plant process water into the Inyan Kara formation, at a depth between 3,531 and 3,916 feet below ground surface. The injection zone is located approximately 2,421 feet below the Fox Hills formation, which is currently identified as the lower most underground source of drinking water in the vicinity of Coal Creek Station.

Currently, the maximum permitted injection rate for Well #1 is 500 gallons per minute (gpm). Existing permit conditions also include (1) a maximum surface injection pressure of 1,200 pound per square inch (psi), (2) a minimum pressure differential of 100 psi between the injection pressure and the annulus pressure during injection activities, (3) a maximum particle travel distance, radially from the well into the formation, of 2,880 feet, and (4) a maximum cumulative injection volume of approximately 13 billion gallons.

The Permit allows GRE to operate the well continuously, as long as all Permit conditions are met; however, GRE has been operating the well on an intermittent basis. GRE has requested an increase in the injection rate from 500 gpm to 700 gpm, while continuing the intermittent operation of the well.

Fluid flow and transport modeling indicates that the proposed injection rate increase can be achieved without impacting any of the other Permit conditions. Consequently, the Department intends to modify permit ND-UIC-106 to allow an injection rate of 700 gallons per minute. All other existing Permit conditions will remain unchanged.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Draft Permit will be available for public review and comment for thirty-two (32) days following publication of the Public Notice. The public comment period begins May 15, 2017 and ends June 14, 2017. Interested persons may submit written comments to the Department on the Draft Permit during this period. Interested persons may request a public hearing by stating the nature the specific issues to be raised.

The North Dakota Department of Health will consider all comments prior to taking any action on the permit. Comments, questions, and written communication should be directed to:

Karl Rockeman, Director
North Dakota Department of Health
Division of Water Quality
918 East Divide Avenue, 4th Floor
Bismarck, ND 58501-1947

The Draft Permit, Fact Sheet, and Permit Application are available for review during the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the North Dakota Department of Health, Division of Water Quality, 918 East Divide Avenue, 4th Floor, Bismarck, North Dakota. A copy of this Public Hearing Notice is also on the Department's website at: http://ndhealth.gov

Anyone requiring special access or accommodations to review the Draft Permit may contact the Department at 701-328-5210.

PUBLIC NOTICE NUMBER: ND-2017-011