

EXHIBIT B-14

Letter from U.S. DOI, Fish and Wildlife Service, to EPA

West Bay Exploration Company (WBEC), Haystead #9 SWD
(Permit #MI-079-2D-0010)

**Administrative Record
Item # 82**

September 4, 2013

Scott Hicks, U.S. FWS



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
East Lansing Field Office (ES)
2651 Coolidge Road, Suite 101
East Lansing, Michigan 48823-6316

IN REPLY REFER TO:

September 4, 2013

Ms. Rebecca L. Harvey
Chief, Underground Injection Control Branch
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 5
77 West Jackson Blvd
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590

Re: Draft Permit for the Haystead #9 SWD Well, Jackson County, Michigan; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Permit Number MI-075-2D-0010; Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) Permit Number 60425

Dear Ms. Harvey:

We have reviewed your consultation letter, dated August 6, 2013, for the above referenced file, concerning an application for a USEPA and MDEQ permit. We submit these comments under authority the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Mitigation Policy.

According to the information provided in your consultation letter, draft permit, and April 30, 2013 Final Public Hearing notes, West Bay Exploration Company of Traverse City, Michigan, proposes to construct and operate a new injection well to dispose of brine or oil and gas production fluids, 2,870 feet underground at an existing production well pad. The project site is located approximately 0.3 miles southeast of the Raisin River and 1.7 miles northwest of the Fay Lake Fen, a prairie fen. Proposed activities would occur in T4S, R2E, Section 9, Norvell Township, Jackson County, Michigan.

Prairie Fens

We agree with your conclusion that there are no federally listed species in the action area that would be impacted from the proposed project. However, there are several sensitive and vulnerable wetland communities within Jackson County that could potentially be impacted as a result of the proposed action. Prairie fens are globally rare groundwater-dependent wetlands that provide habitat to many rare species, including several federal and state protected species in Michigan. These systems form the headwaters of many of the region's rivers and lakes,

supporting valuable fish and wildlife habitat. They also serve as biological reservoirs, provide clean water for lakes and streams, and the slow release of storm and floodwaters.

Michigan State University has developed a groundwater flow model for many fens in southern Michigan. According to the model, the Fay Lake Fen is directly downgradient of the proposed project site. Furthermore, the groundwater in both the shallow and bedrock aquifers flow toward the fen. If the injection well should become compromised and there are leaks, spills, or leeching into the groundwater from the operations, the Fay Lake Fen and other nearby wetlands or waterways could be negatively affected.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide our comments. For further discussion, please contact Ms. Tameka Dandridge of this office at tameka_dandridge@fws.gov or 517-351-8315.

Sincerely,



Acting for Scott Hicks
Field Supervisor

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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