

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5 77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

APR 8 2013

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

WU-16J

Re:

Withdrawal of Permit by Regional Administrator

West Bay Exploration Company, Jackson County, Michigan

Permit Number: MI-075-2D-0009 UIC Appeal Nos. 13-01, 13-02

Dear Sir or Madam:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is withdrawing the final underground injection permit that it issued for the West Bay #22 well, Permit No. MI-075-2D-0009. EPA is withdrawing this permit in its entirety. EPA will prepare a new draft permit for this well, pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 124.6. EPA is taking this action under 40 C.F.R. § 124.19(j), which allows EPA to withdraw a permit and prepare a new draft permit before a certain stage of the permit appeal proceedings regarding a well's permit.

You are receiving this letter because you 1) are on EPA's mass mailing list for draft permits in the State of Michigan; 2) provided comments regarding the draft permit for this well; 3) petitioned the Environmental Appeals Board to review the permit for this well; 4) are the Environmental Appeals Board; or 5) are the permit applicant, West Bay Exploration Company. This letter and decision do not require any action on your part regarding the new draft permit for this well. When EPA issues the new draft permit for this well, EPA will provide you and the general public with notice of this event and the opportunity to provide public comment regarding that draft permit.

The Safe Drinking Water Act authorizes EPA to regulate the underground injection of fluids through wells, to protect underground sources of drinking water. EPA classifies the proposed West Bay #22 well as a Class II non-hazardous brine disposal well. Class II wells are typically used to inject fluids that result from oil and gas production into the ground. West Bay Exploration Company proposed to use this well to dispose of brine deep beneath the earth's surface.

For more information and for answers to Frequently Asked Questions about this permit, please check EPA's website at www.epa.gov/region5/water/uic/uicpub.htm. You may also contact Anna Miller, permit writer, at (312) 886-7060.

Sincerely,

Tinka G. Hyde, Director

Water Division

cc: Environmental Appeals Board

Tim Baker, West Bay Exploration Company

Mass mailing list

Public commenter list (MI-075-2D-0009)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Appeal Nos. UIC 13-01, 13-02

West Bay Exploration Company West Bay 22 SWD UIC Permit MI-075-2D-0009

I hereby certify that on this <u>8th</u> day of <u>April</u>, 2013, I: 1) electronically filed the foregoing Notice of Permit Withdrawal with the Environmental Appeals Board, via Central Data Exchange; and 2) caused to be mailed a true and correct copy to persons including the Petitioners and the permittee, by certified mail, return receipt requested, addressed as follows:

Peter Bormuth 142 W. Pearl St. Jackson MI 49201

Certified Mail No. 7009 1680 0000 7661 7048

Sandra K. Yerman 6600 Riverside Rd. Brooklyn MI 49230

Certified Mail No. 7009 1680 0000 7661 7055

West Bay Exploration Company 13685 West Bay Shore Dr Ste 200 Traverse City MI 49684

Certified Mail No. 7001 0320 0006 1453 7601

Kris P. Vezner

Associate Regional Counsel

U.S. EPA, Region 5