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.

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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)