

STATE OF WYOMING PUBLIC NOTICE

THE PURPOSE OF THIS NOTICE IS TO INDICATE THE STATE OF WYOMING'S INTENTION TO ISSUE AN UNDERGROUND INJECTION CONTROL PERMIT AND TO CLASSIFY THE RECEIVING GROUNDWATER OF THE STATE IN THE VICINITY OF THE PERMITTED INJECTION UNDER THE WYOMING ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (35-11-101 ET. SEQ. WYOMING STATUTES 1957, CUMULATIVE SUPPLEMENT 1973), AND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY, WATER QUALITY RULES AND REGULATIONS CHAPTERS 8, 13, AND 26. THIS PERMIT WILL ALLOW THE DISPOSAL OF A MAXIMUM OF 3,600 TO 5,143 BARRELS PER DAY OF INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER INTO EACH APPLICABLE INJECTION WELL.

PERMIT NUMBER: **14-293**; PERMITTEE NAME: Cameco Resources, Attn: Jeanie Wolford, 550 North Poplar Street, Suite 100, Casper, WY 82601; PHONE: (307) 333-7644; FACILITY NAME AND LOCATION: Cameco Resources (Smith-Highlands-Reynolds Ranch), SR DDW #1 located in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 35, T36N; R74W; SR DDW #2 located in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 27; T36N; R74W; RR DDW #1 located in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 35; T37N; R74W; Morton 1-20 located in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 20; T36N; R72W; Vollman 33-27 located in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 27; T36N; R73W; SRHUP #6 located in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 17; T35N; R 74W; SRHUP #7 located in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 23; T36N; R74W; SRHUP #8 located in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 8; T35N; R74W; SRHUP #9 located in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 15; T36N; R73W; SRHUP #10 located in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 33; T36N; R74W, Sixth Principal Meridian, Converse County, Wyoming.

The purpose of the modification is to combine permit 09-054 (Smith-Highlands) with permits 04-611 (Reynolds Ranch) and 99-347 (Smith Ranch), and to amend as necessary USEPA aquifer exemptions for each well to be consistent with updated Areas of Review as described in the Statement of Basis for this new permit. The State of Wyoming intends to issue a permit modification for the combined facilities.

The wells will inject industrial wastes associated with uranium mining activities into the Lewis formation (Teckla member) and Mesaverde formation (Teapot and Parkman members). The wells covered by this permit will inject at depths between 7,811 and 9,915 feet below ground surface. The waste will contain significant amounts of total dissolved solids and other non-hazardous contaminants.

Before any other industrial waste is approved for injection, documentation will be required to show that it is non-hazardous waste as defined by 40 CFR 261.3 and Chapter 2, Section 1(c), Wyoming Solid Waste Rules and Regulations.

The proposed permit requires that the permittee monitor the injection continuously and submit periodic reports. Underground Injection Control regulations require that each permitted injection well be reviewed at least every five (5) years in addition to the normal review done quarterly. The proposed permit also requires annual pressure falloff tests required to be done on all wells as required by federal and state rules.

The groundwater within the injection zones of the Lewis and Mesaverde formations (within 1,320-1,701 feet radius of applicable wells) is Class VI (unusable/unsuitable for use) due to the following criteria:

- Permit 99-347 (Smith Ranch):

“The groundwater in this formation contains between 3,000 and 10,000 mg/L of Total Dissolved Solids, but cannot be reasonably expected to provide a source of drinking water because of its extreme depth of burial;

and/or

The groundwater in this formation is situated at such depth that recovery of this water and treatment for drinking water purposes is not practical.”

- Permit 04-611 (Reynolds Ranch):

“This classification was made because the groundwater in this formation is situated at such depth that recovery of this water and treatment for drinking water is impractical.”

- Permit 09-054 (Smith-Highlands Ranch):

1. “Regional Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) concentrations within the Teckla, Teapot, and Parkman are 12,463 mg/l, 15,552 mg/l, and 14,631 mg/l respectively.

2. The formations contain oil and gas as well as Benzene, Toluene, Ethylbenzene and Xylene (BTEX) based on their presence within adjacent, previously permitted Class I wells, as well as the proximity to oil and gas production.

3. The formations are situated at a depth or location which makes recovery of water for drinking water purposes economically or technologically impractical.”

Other determinations have been made by the State of Wyoming relative to conditions to be imposed on the permit. These conditions will assure that useable water of the State will be protected and applicable provisions of State statutes and regulations will be followed.

Financial assurance is required for this facility, and it will be posted prior to the issuance of the final permit.

PUBLIC COMMENTS on the proposed operation, the proposed groundwater classification, and the State's intent should be submitted in writing and addressed to: John Passehl, P.G., Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, Water Quality Division, Herschler Building 4W, 122 West 25th Street, Cheyenne, WY 82002 or by FAX to (307) 777-5973. Comments submitted by email will not be considered. All written comments received prior to 5:00 P.M, August 24, 2015 in the Cheyenne office will be considered.

Any person may request in writing (prior to the end of the public comment period) that a public hearing be held. Requests should indicate the name and full mailing address of the individual requesting a hearing, the interest that individual has in the project, and the grounds for holding a public hearing.

If a hearing is not warranted, the final permit will be issued at the end of the public comment period.

Public Notice for Draft UIC Permit No. **14-293**

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