



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION III  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029**

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region III, announced on October 31st, 2016, the issuance of two new final permits and three permit major modifications under the authority of the federal UIC regulations at 40 CFR Parts 124, 144, 145, 146 and 147 to Bear Lake Properties, LLC of Wexford, Pennsylvania. The two new permits authorize the conversion and operation of two former gas wells for use as UIC Class II-D commercial brine disposal injection wells, Bittering No. 3, and Smith-Ras No. 1, located in Columbus Township, Warren County, Pennsylvania. The three modified permits authorize the creation of an expanded monitoring network for three Bear Lake UIC Class II-D commercial disposal wells already in operation, Bittering Nos. 1, 2, and 4, also located in Columbus Township, Warren County, Pennsylvania.

EPA Region III previously issued draft permits for these wells on February 12, 2016 and held a public hearing on this proposed permit on March 16, 2016, at the Columbus Volunteer Fire Department in Columbus, Pennsylvania. A public comment period was provided between February 12, 2016, and additional public comment period was provided for additional information beginning March 16, 2016 and ending March 23, 2016.

EPA Region III is announcing the final permit issuance for UIC permits PAS2D215BWAR, PAS2D216BWAR, PAS2D217BWAR, PAS2D218BWAR, and PAS2D219BWAR which will be effective on October 31st, 2016. The provisions governing the procedures for an appeal of an EPA permitting decision are specified at 40 CFR Part 124.19 and detailed at the end of the Response to Comments. A written petition for review must be filed within thirty (30) days of the date of the notice announcing EPA's permit decision to the Clerk of the EPA Environmental Appeals Board (EAB). The final permit and the Response to Comments is available for review at the following EPA Region III website:

<https://www.epa.gov/pa/epa-public-notice-pennsylvania>

Individuals interested in further information regarding this permit decision may contact Grant Scavello by email at [scavello.grant@epa.gov](mailto:scavello.grant@epa.gov), by telephone at 215-814-5498, or through regular mail at the above address.

