



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 8**

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Denver, CO 80202-1129
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APR 05 2019

Ref: 8WP-SUI

Mr. Eric Sundberg, Environmental and Regulatory Affairs
Slawson Exploration Company, Inc.
1675 Broadway, Suite 1600
Denver, Colorado 80202

Re: Final Permits, ND22386-11597, for the Howie 1 SWD Class II Commercial Disposal Well and ND22361-11336, for the Big Bend 3-6 SWD Class II Commercial Disposal Well

Dear Mr. Sundberg:

Enclosed are your copies of the final U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 8 Underground Injection Control (UIC) Permits for the proposed Howie 1 SWD and Big Bend 3-6 SWD injection wells.

The public comment period ended on December 2, 2018, for the Howie 1 SWD and December 10, 2018, for the Big Bend 3-6 SWD. Comments on the draft Permits were received from the MHA Nation. No other public comments were received. The EPA's responses to these comments for these final Permits provides a written explanation about how the EPA Region 8 considered MHA Nation's input as part of our final action to issue these Permits. The responses to comments, along with the final Permits, are enclosed and can also be found on the EPA's website at www.epa.gov/uic/underground-injection-control-epa-region-8-co-mt-nd-sd-ut-and-wy.


Because comments were received, these final Permits become effective 30 days from the date of issuance per Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR) section 124.18, to provide a 30-day window for appeal of the final Permit decisions. If the Permit(s) is/are appealed to the Environmental Appeals Board (EAB), the effective date will be stayed pending final agency action. See 40 CFR 124.16(a). All conditions set forth herein refer to Title 40 Parts 124, 144, 146, and 147 of the CFR and are regulations that are in effect as of the effective date of these Permits.

Once the final Permits becomes effective, the Permit's terms and conditions only authorize you to construct the proposed injection wells. You must first fulfill all requirements prior to commencing injection found in Part II of the final Permits and obtain written authorization to inject from the EPA. It is your responsibility to be familiar and comply with all provisions of your final Permits. The EPA forms referenced in the Permits are available at <https://www.epa.gov/uic/underground-injection-control-reporting-forms-owners-or-operators>. Guidance documents for performing required tests and logs and other UIC guidance are available at <https://www.epa.gov/uic/underground-injection-control-epa-region-8-co-mt-nd-sd-ut-and-wy>.

These Permits are issued for the operating life of the wells unless terminated (40 CFR section 144.40). The EPA may review these Permits at least every five years to determine whether any action is warranted pursuant to 40 CFR section 144.36(a).

If you have any questions, etc. about the above action, please contact Omar Sierra-Lopez by email at sierra-lopez.omar@epa.gov or by telephone at (303) 312-7045. You may also respond in writing using the letterhead address, citing "Attention: Omar Sierra-Lopez, Mail Code 8WP-SUI.

Sincerely,

 Darcy O' Connor/

~~Darcy O' Connor~~

Assistant Regional Administrator
Office of Water Protection

Enclosures (2)

cc: Mark Fox, Chairman
Three Affiliated Tribes

Edmund Baker, Environmental Director
Three Affiliated Tribes

Carson Hood, Acting Energy Director
Three Affiliated Tribes

Kevin Shelley, Acting North Dakota Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife

Loren Wickstrom, North Dakota Field Manager
U.S. Bureau of Land Management

Kayla Danks, Superintendent
Bureau of Indian Affairs Fort Berthold Agency