

NPDES authorization to discharge to waters of the United States, Permit No. TX0092827
The applicant's mailing address is:

U.S. Department of Energy
Strategic Petroleum Reserve
Big Hill SPR Oil Storage
24784 Big Hill Road
Winnie, TX 77665

The effluent from the crude oil reserves facility is discharged as follows:

Outfall Reference Number	Discharge Coordinates Latitude Deg° Min' Sec'' Longitude Deg° Min' Sec''	Type of Discharge	Discharge Flow MGD	Receiving Water	Water Body Segment
001	29° 33' 56" N 094° 11' 52" W	Brine diffuser for saltwater from cavern depressuring, non-contact bearing cooling, raw water pipeline pigging, seal flush return flow	2.05	Gulf of Mexico (approx. 5 miles offshore)	2501

This is the reissuance of a permit issued December 13, 2019, with an effective date of February 1, 2020, and an expiration date of January 31, 2024.

The facility plans to perform maintenance work through a project called Life Extension 2 (LE2) that will make the recommended improvements to extend the life of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR). The Big Hill outage is scheduled for March 2024 to February 2025, meaning there will be no Brine Line Integrity Testing (BLIT) for 2024 and potentially 2025.

Changes to the draft permit from the previous permit are:

1. Outfalls 002 through 009 are being issued by Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) following approval of the State of Texas' application for the State to implement a Major Category Partial Permit Program under Clean Water Act (CWA) Sections 402(b) and 402 (n)(3) of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1342 (b) and (n)(3) for discharges of produced water, hydrostatic test water, and gas plant (oil & gas) effluent in Texas.
2. EPA has included the PFAS monitoring requirements based on the memo from EPA headquarters addressing PFAS discharges in NPDES Permits and through the Pretreatment Program and Monitoring Programs.
3. Oil & Grease is changed from monthly to quarterly monitoring requirements based on good compliance history.

A Statement of Basis is available and describes the rationale for permit conditions. Under the standard industrial classification (SIC) code 5171, the facility is a Petroleum Bulk Station and Terminal.