

EPA Seeks Comments on Injection Well Permit

Permit Number(s):
CO50923-00000

How to Comment:

The public notice and comments due date is posted at EPA Region 8 UIC program's website:

<https://www.epa.gov/node/99201#public-notices>.

The public will have 30 days from the start of the public notice to provide comments on the proposed permit action.

Submit your comments in writing or by phone to the EPA contact listed below during the comment period. Please reference the applicant's name and permit number(s). You may also comment during a public hearing if one is held.

EPA Contact:

Craig Boomgaard
Boomgaard.craig@epa.gov
Phone: 303-312-6794

Public Hearing

No public hearing is planned at this time. During the comment period, you may ask EPA, using the methods described in the "How to Comment" section of this fact sheet, to hold a formal public hearing. Your request must identify issues to be raised. When there is significant public interest, EPA will hold a hearing to receive public comments and will publish a notice at least 30 days prior.

Additional Information

For additional information, please consult the EPA contact listed above. To learn more about EPA's Underground Injection Control program, or to join our mailing list, visit <https://www.epa.gov/uic/underground-injection-control-epa-region-8-co-mt-nd-sd-ut-and-wy>.

Applicant: Schlage Lock, Inc.

Site Location: El Paso, County, Colorado

FACT SHEET

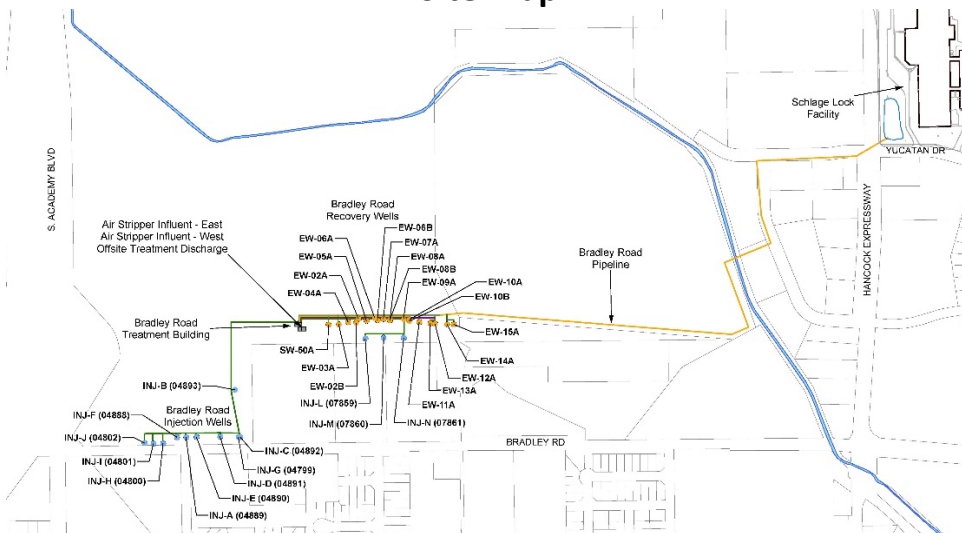
Summary

EPA proposes to approve Schlage Lock, Inc.'s request to operate thirteen (13) Class V wells under an area permit. Injection will occur into the Widefield Aquifer at depths between 35 feet and 105 feet below ground surface.

Basis for Draft Permit Conditions

The proposed permit conditions are based on the applicable regulatory provisions of 40 CFR parts 2, 124, 144, 146 and 147, which are designed to protect public health and drinking water from unsafe underground injection practices. Well specific restrictions are derived, in accordance with these provisions, from an evaluation of data gathered from pertinent sources. This information is outlined in the administrative record, which includes data that the applicant was required to submit as part of the permit application process. EPA considered the adequacy of the minimum or standard monitoring and testing requirements in the draft permit. These requirements are important for detecting potential endangerment given the well construction, local geology, identification of available Underground Sources of Drinking Water (USDWs) water quality data, characterizations of the injected fluid, and operator compliance history.

Site Map



Final Decision and Right to Appeal

EPA will consider all comments received during the comment period and any hearing held, and then issue a final decision. You have the right to appeal the decision if you make an official comment during the comment period or participate in a public hearing. If you have this right to appeal, the first appeal must be made to the Environmental Appeals Board within 30 days after the final permit decision has been issued. The final decision can be appealed in federal court only after all agency review procedures have been exhausted. Please refer to 40 CFR §124.19, which outlines the appeal process.

Principal Facts Considered

Background Information: In the 1980s, Schlage Lock discovered a perchloroethylene (PCE) plume on their property and began treating PCE using a pump and treat method. The treated water comes from a remediation system used to treat an onsite plume of PCE and later nitrates captured from another plume during PCE treatment. The treated water is reinjected into the Widefield Aquifer. The treated water is tested for PCE on a quarterly basis and nitrates are tested annually, when the system is actively injecting. The system operates on an as needed basis as determined by monitor well sampling. The system has not operated since 2018 due to lack of need. The Colorado Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) oversees this project and is the primary regulatory oversight agency.

Well Construction and P&A Requirements: The injection wells constructed at Schlage Lock have been constructed to meet the requirements of Colorado State Engineer's Office (SEO) Rule 9. The injection wells are required to follow SEO Rule 16 for plugging and abandonment. The Permittee shall supply all information associated with the plugging and abandonment of the permitted Class V injections wells listed and as required in the Permit to EPA.

Site Geology: The Widefield Aquifer is the injection zone, between the depths of 35 feet and 105 feet below ground surface. The base of the Widefield Aquifer is underlain by the Pierre Shale, which is the lower confining layer. The Pierre Shale is approximately 2,000 feet thick in the permit area.

Sampling and Monitoring Requirements: The injectate is sampled and analyzed for PCE (quarterly) and nitrates (annually). The permit requires demonstration that injected fluids do not exceed the maximum concentration levels (MCLs) prior to injection. If detection of exceedances of MCLs occur, injection is no longer permitted.

Historical Property: EPA considered its obligations under the National Historic Preservation Act and found its proposed permit action will have no impacts on or related to historical properties within the area of potential effect.

Endangered Species: EPA considered its obligations under Endangered Species Act and found its proposed permit action will not affect any listed species or critical habitat.