



Chesapeake Energy Center Public Information Meeting

June 16, 2016

Solid Waste Permit 440
VPDES Permit VA0004081

Session Agenda

- Background/Facility Overview Presentation
 - Regulatory Framework
 - Permits Highlights
- Information Table Break-out
 - Technical staff available to answer questions

Permit Background

- Stopped coal combustion operations Dec 2014
- Landfill ceased accepting Coal Combustion Residuals (CCR) Oct 2015
- DEQ is addressing safe facility closure with two permit actions
 - **Solid Waste Permit Modification**
 - Permanent closure of the landfill and bottom ash pond
 - Perimeter leachate collection system
 - **Virginia Pollution Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) Permit Modification**
 - Discharge of treated water from the ash pond, stormwater leachate, and closure of the bottom ash pond
 - Ensures discharges comply with established water quality standards

Regulatory Framework

2015 EPA Final Rule on the Disposal of Coal Combustion Residuals (CCR)

- Provides operational and closure standards for new and existing landfills /surface impoundments
- Provides closure requirements for inactive impoundments
- Inactive impoundments are those that have not accepted CCR after October 19, 2015 and contain free liquids and are on the property of the generator
- Rule provides station owner with two closure options – capping in place or removal

Virginia Solid Waste Management Regulations

- Virginia Waste Management Board adopted the EPA Final Rule
- Provides additional technical requirements for closure and post-closure of surface impoundments
- Provides permitting process and oversight

State Water Control Law

- Provides permitting process and oversight to ensure water quality standards are met



VPDES Permit - Proposed

- Eleven existing outfalls retired
- Added Outfall 207 (internal)
 - Captures dewatering for sampling prior to release through Outfall 002
 - Establishes effluent limits prior to discharge
- Outfall 002 (external) includes all constituents associated with the CCR rule
- Bottom Ash Pond Closure Plan incorporated into modification

Waste Permit - Proposed

- Final cover design for the landfill and bottom ash pond
- A perimeter collection pipe will be installed to capture leachate from the landfill
 - Discharge to stormwater/leachate collection basin A (meets VPDES requirements)
- During closure construction, basin B will be retrofitted with a geomembrane liner

Waste Permit - Proposed

- Post-closure care includes:
 - Maintenance of the final cover system
 - Management of leachate collected in the perimeter collection pipe
 - Minimum 30 year care/maintenance after completion of closure activities
 - Conducting all required groundwater, corrective action, and surface water monitoring

Waste Permit

Groundwater - Proposed

- Evaluate existing groundwater monitoring system to encompass the landfill and the bottom ash pond
 - Requires submission and approval of a revised groundwater monitoring plan
- Include all detection and assessment constituents established by the final CCR rule for semi-annual sampling
- Requires submission and approval of a revised corrective action plan

Waste Permit

Surface Water - Proposed

- Expansion of current surface water monitoring requirement for CCR parameters
- Results compared to applicable water quality standards or groundwater protection standards
 - Detections above the standard require a surface water investigation to identify and address the exceedance
- Additional surface water parameters may be added based upon groundwater monitoring data



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Coal ash management in Virginia

Coal ash, a byproduct of burning coal to produce electricity, has been stored for decades in water-filled ponds at locations across the country. Many of these ponds were created before modern environmental regulations were established to ensure the safe management of coal ash.

In April 2015, EPA announced final coal ash regulations, which established national minimum criteria for the disposal of coal ash in landfills and ponds. The Waste Management Board adopted the regulations for Virginia in December 2015.

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality is addressing the safe closure of coal ash ponds in the Commonwealth with two types of environmental permits.

The first, called a wastewater discharge permit or a Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) permit, covers the removal of treated water from the ponds. These permits are addressed under the State Water Control Law.

The second, a solid waste permit, oversees the permanent closure of these ponds. These permits are approved by DEQ under the Virginia solid waste management regulations.

- Permit limits will be calculated to ensure that discharges comply with water quality standards, which are adopted to protect water quality and aquatic life. Monitoring requirements will ensure that discharges meet water quality standards.
- A protective synthetic layer will be installed over ponds according to solid waste management regulations, including the requirements of EPA's rule. The area will be covered with soil and vegetation to protect it from rain and to help protect groundwater.
- All permits include public participation opportunities. Information is provided to the public on pending permit actions. There are public comment periods and there may be public hearings for each permit.
- Groundwater monitoring will be required to ensure that off-site water, such as surface water or private drinking water wells, are not affected by these ponds.

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[Staff presentation on Coal Combustion Residuals to the State Water Control Board 1/14/16](#)

Public Participation – How to Comment

- Water Public Comment Period
 - **June 3 – July 22, 2016**
 - Submit comments in writing to:
ChesapeakeEnergyCenterWaterPermit@deq.virginia.gov
 - Submit comments orally at:
 - Public Hearing: **July 7, 2016, 7:00 p.m.**
 - Location: Chesapeake City Council Chambers
306 Cedar Road
- Comments must include:**
- Name
 - Address

Public Participation – How to Comment

- Solid Waste Public Comment Period
 - **June 8 – July 26, 2016**
 - Submit comments in writing to:
ChesapeakeEnergyCenterWastePermit@deq.virginia.gov
 - Submit comments orally at:
 - Public Hearing: **July 11, 2016, 7:00 p.m.**
 - Location: Chesapeake City Council Chambers,
306 Cedar Road
 - **Comments must include:**
 - Name
 - Address

Information Tables

- Table 1: General Process and Information
- Table 2: Landfill/Bottom Ash Pond Closure - Solid Waste permit
- Table 3: Groundwater/Surface Water Monitoring - Solid Waste permit
- Table 4: Surface Water Discharges - VPDES permit
- Table 5: Ambient Water Quality