January 16, 2013

RE: Permitting and Compliance for Major Injection Well Facilities in Florida

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection would like to take this opportunity to inform you of organizational changes within the Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program. These changes are being made to promote increased consistency and efficiency in the program.

The primary changes will be in the permitting of injection wells. Applications for Class I or Major Class V injection well permits will be processed in the Tallahassee office. Non-major Class V wells will continue to be processed in the District offices. A Major Class V injection well is defined in Rule 62-528.200(43), F.A.C. Essentially, it includes aquifer storage and recovery (ASR), aquifer recharge, exploratory, reverse osmosis (other than Class I), and other miscellaneous wells covered by the definition. The majority of non-major Class V wells are domestic wastewater wells below the underground source of drinking water, closed loop heat pump/air conditioning return flow wells, and stormwater wells. Aquifer remediation wells are also not Major Class V wells but are normally exempt from permitting (Rule 62-528.630(2)(c), F.A.C.).

Potential applicants for new major injection projects are encouraged to arrange for a pre-application meeting or teleconference with the Tallahassee UIC staff prior to submitting an application. This will increase the Department’s understanding of the project prior to permit application and can decrease the time needed to process an application.

Injection well applications and fees submitted after January 1, 2013 for projects in the Southwest District of the Department should sent to the Tallahassee office. That date corresponds to the change in District boundaries which affects selected counties. For the other Districts, the state-wide target date for the change in UIC permitting is April 1, 2013. An update on the state-wide effective date will be provided in the future.

Compliance will continue to be handled through the District offices, with the exception of Class I and Major Class V well construction. The Tallahassee office will be the point of contact for construction progress reports, approvals, and modifications during the well construction phase.

Mechanical integrity test plans and results (including 5-year and interim tests) will also be submitted to the Tallahassee office. Monthly operation reports should continue to be sent to both the appropriate District office and the Tallahassee office. Inspections will continue to be performed by the District staff.

www.dep.state.fl.us
Submittal of applications, plans, and reports to the Tallahassee office should be made electronically whenever possible. A pdf or equivalent document is preferred; a compact disc can be sent if document size is a problem. The monthly operation report submittals are specified in the UIC permits and through approval by the UIC staff, and should be submitted in the normal manner.

For non-major Class V well permit applications and UIC compliance or enforcement issues at any facility, the following applies for facilities located in the counties affected by the change in District boundaries:

*Any pending permit application matters or compliance assistance and enforcement issues will be handled by the previous District office. Effective Jan. 1, 2013, any permit applications, inspections and compliance assistance and enforcement actions will be handled by the new District office.*

A map showing the new district boundaries can be seen on the Department’s website at [http://www.dep.state.fl.us/secretary/dist/default.htm](http://www.dep.state.fl.us/secretary/dist/default.htm).

Please call me at 850/245-8655 or contact me at [Joe.Haberfeld@dep.state.fl.us](mailto:Joe.Haberfeld@dep.state.fl.us) if you have any questions or need assistance.

Sincerely,

Joseph Haberfeld, P.G.
Program Manager, Underground Injection Control Program
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
2600 Blair Stone Road
Mail Station 3530
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2400
Phone 850-245-8655
[Joe.Haberfeld@dep.state.fl.us](mailto:Joe.Haberfeld@dep.state.fl.us)

/jh