

JEFF LANDRY GOVERNOR

# State of Louisiana

TYLER GRAY
SECRETARY

# DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE OF CONSERVATION

MONIQUE M. EDWARDS
COMMISSIONER OF CONSERVATION

#### **MEMORANDUM**

TO: Interested Parties for Louisiana Class VI Injection Wells

FROM: Monique M. Edwards

Commissioner of Conservation

DATE: January 9, 2024

RE: Louisiana Class VI Primacy

On December 28, 2023, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved the State of Louisiana's application under the Safe Drinking Water Act to implement an underground injection control (UIC) program and granting primary enforcement authority (primacy) for Class VI geologic sequestration wells located within the state, excepting federally recognized Indian lands. The Class VI program will join the Class I-V programs, which are currently administered by the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (LDNR), Office of Conservation, Injection and Mining Division (IMD).

All Class VI applications for project sites and wells located in Louisiana that are currently under review by EPA Region 6 will be transmitted to the State of Louisiana on February 5, 2024, 30 days after <u>publication</u> in the *Federal Register*.

# **Electronic Submission of Applications**

The IMD has committed to utilize the EPA's Geological Sequestration Data Tool (GSDT), a web-based permitting system that receives, stores, and manages Class VI submittals and data. Because Louisiana will utilize the same application system, operators who have already uploaded Class VI applications to the GSDT will not be required to resubmit their application packages to IMD. Additional information may be requested as part of IMD's review for administrative completeness, and any new applications or supplemental information should continue to be submitted through the GSDT. Applicants should continue to utilize existing EPA guidance on the set up and use of the GSDT system.

Please review the following for preliminary details on supplemental information that may be required as part of Louisiana's administrative completeness review:

- Form UIC-60 CCS;
- Comparison of Federal and Louisiana Regulations for Class VI Injection Wells; and
- LAC 43:XVII.Chapter 36.

Class VI Interested Parties

January 9, 2024

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# Operators with Applications Currently Under Review by the EPA

IMD will assign State of Louisiana application numbers to each application upon the completion of the review for administrative completeness. The state issued application numbers will not necessarily be sequential and may not reflect the order of the existing EPA order of review. However, the order of state issued application numbers will not be the determining factor for IMD order of review. Additional details on the IMD order of review for Class VI applications are forthcoming.

Applicants will need to set up an OR-1: Organization Report and submit a completed Form UIC-60 CCS along with all associated attachments before they can be issued an application number. Once these submissions have been successfully processed, the IMD will issue the application number and send the operator a receipt of application.

# **Operators without Applications Currently Under Review**

Operators who have not yet submitted a complete application package to the EPA can proceed with setting up an OR-1: Organization Report and submitting a Form UIC-60 CCS and completed application on the GSDT.

# **Project Meetings**

All meeting requests from Class VI applicants should be directed to the IMD project manager for your organization. Any applicants that have not yet been assigned an IMD project manager should email <u>injection-mining@la.gov</u> for further information.

## **Fees**

The IMD is preparing to promulgate regulations for Class VI application and permit fees in accordance with La R.S. 30:1111.A.13. Additional information will be available once the Notice of Intent for the draft rules has been published in the *Louisiana Register*.

#### **Additional Information**

Please see the LDNR Class VI webpage for additional programmatic information and future updates.

### **Inquiries**

Press and Media Inquiries – <u>Patrick.Courreges@la.gov</u> Class VI Application Inquiries – the IMD project manager or <u>Injection-Mining@la.gov</u>