Message

From: O'Connor, Darcy [oconnor.darcy@epa.gov]
Sent: 5/2/2017 2:58:49 PM
To: Minter, Douglas [Minter.Douglas@epa.gov]; Bahrman, Sarah [Bahrman.Sarah@epa.gov]
CC: Garcia, Bert [Garcia.Bert@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Wagner Visit - Energy/Oil & Gas Discussion - Part A and Part B

Thanks everyone – I feel like I've made your jobs harder by screwing up several of these write ups – thanks for helping me correct the record!

D

From: Minter, Douglas
Sent: Tuesday, May 2, 2017 8:49 AM
To: Bahrman, Sarah <Bahrman.Sarah@epa.gov>; O'Connor, Darcy <oconnor.darcy@epa.gov>
Cc: Garcia, Bert <Garcia.Bert@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Wagner Visit - Energy/Oil & Gas Discussion - Part A and Part B

Thanks Sarah: your comment is also captured in what I provided to Darcy earlier today.

Darcy: here are some edits to the DB paragraph (with an unmarked version included below).

Active mining continues in Region 8, with most of these operations obtaining environmental permits through state environmental agencies. However, one example of a proposed mining operation that will require EPA-issued Underground Injection Control (UIC) permits is for the Dewey-Burdock uranium in-situ recovery (ISR) site located near the Black Hills in South Dakota. As South Dakota has not received authorization to implement the Class III/V injection well program that regulates this type of mining, EPA is responsible for developing and issuing these permits. A draft area Class III permit for injection into the uranium ore deposit to mobilize and extract the uranium, an associated aquifer exemption to allow this injection and a draft Class V area permit for deep well disposal of the treated wastewater from the ISR process were public noticed on March 6, 2017, and EPA is taking comment on these permits through May 19, 2017. These permits represent the first proposed EPA-issued UIC permits for uranium ISR in the nation.

Douglas

From: Bahrman, Sarah
Sent: Tuesday, May 02, 2017 8:43 AM
To: O'Connor, Darcy <oconnor.darcy@epa.gov>; Minter, Douglas <Minter.Douglas@epa.gov>
Cc: Garcia, Bert <Garcia.Bert@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Wagner Visit - Energy/Oil & Gas Discussion - Part A and Part B

Thanks, Darcy! Just one comment – it's the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes on Fort Peck (you have CSKT).

Sarah E. Bahrman | Director, Safe Drinking Water Program | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region 8
(p) 303.312.6243 | (c) 303.903.8515 | (f) 877.876.9101

From: O'Connor, Darcy
Sent: Tuesday, May 2, 2017 8:19 AM
To: Minter, Douglas <Minter.Douglas@epa.gov>; Bahrman, Sarah <Bahrman.Sarah@epa.gov>
Cc: Garcia, Bert <Garcia.Bert@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Wagner Visit - Energy/Oil & Gas Discussion - Part A and Part B

To add insult to injury, I attached the wrong paper before I left yesterday! Here is what I really provided.....

1) **UIC Class II (underground injection of O&G produced water)**

– Class II wells are used to inject fluids, primarily brines, that are brought to the surface while producing oil and gas.
– Outside of Indian country, all states in R8 have authorized Class II programs. With the exception of South Dakota, the Class II programs are operated by the state oil and gas commissions.
– R8 is responsible for oversight of these programs as well as review and approval/disapproval of aquifer exemptions associated with the programs.
– R8 is responsible for implementing the Class II program in Indian country, with the exception the Fort Peck reservation where the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes have obtained authority to implement the program.
– R8 permits and inspects about 1,400 Class II UIC wells in Indian country.

In R8 only Wyoming, with nearly 5,000 injection wells, has more Class II wells in its program than EPA Region 8.

I also was asked to add something to the mining paper on Dewey – I'm attaching the paper - again if you have suggestions for changes, shoot me an email.

Thanks!
D

From: Minter, Douglas
Sent: Tuesday, May 2, 2017 7:53 AM
To: O'Connor, Darcy <oconnor.darcy@epa.gov>; Bahrman, Sarah <Bahrman.Sarah@epa.gov>
Cc: Garcia, Bert <Garcia.Bert@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Wagner Visit - Energy/Oil & Gas Discussion - Part A and Part B

No worries Darcy: this document helps inform how brief we need to be given the scope of what Cindy is expected to cover and I'm sorry we could not have been more prompt with our input yesterday. I have attached my edited version of the Class II overview which is also included below:

1) **Underground Injection Control (UIC) Class II Overview**

• Class II injection wells are used for the enhanced recovery of oil and gas and disposal of brines brought to the surface while producing oil and gas.
• All states in R8 have authorized Class II programs, and most of these programs are operated by the state oil and gas commissions.
• R8 is responsible for oversight of these state programs as well as review and approval/disapproval of aquifer exemptions associated with state UIC programs.
• States regulate an average of 1,568 Class II wells, which include both disposal and enhanced recovery wells.
• R8 is responsible for implementing the Class II program in Indian country, with the exception of the Fort Peck reservation where the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes have been implementing the program since 2008.
• R8 regulates and inspects approximately 1,450 Class II injection wells

Douglas

From: O'Connor, Darcy
Sent: Monday, May 01, 2017 3:57 PM
To: Minter, Douglas <Minter.Douglas@epa.gov>; Bahrman, Sarah <Bahrman.Sarah@epa.gov>

Cc: Garcia, Bert <Garcia.Bert@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Wagner Visit - Energy/Oil & Gas Discussion - Part A and Part B

Douglas – sorry I didn't see your response you provided to my narrative questions. I sent this up to Cindy – if there are errors/items we need to fix I can do that tomorrow. Please make any changes you think are necessary to the attached and send it back to me as early as you can tomorrow am.

Thanks!
D

From: O'Connor, Darcy
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 3:49 PM
To: Beeler, Cindy <Beeler.Cindy@epa.gov>; Jenkins, Laura Flynn <Jenkins.Laura@epa.gov>; Opekar, Kimberly <Opekar.Kimberly@epa.gov>; Hestmark, Martin <Hestmark.Martin@epa.gov>; Strobel, Philip <Strobel.Philip@epa.gov>; Smidinger, Betsy <Smidinger.Betsy@epa.gov>
Cc: Chalfant, Mark <Chalfant.Mark@epa.gov>; Daly, Carl <Daly.Carl@epa.gov>; Morales, Monica <Morales.Monica@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Wagner Visit - Energy/Oil & Gas Discussion - Part A and Part B

Thanks Cindy – I've added in a few bullets for UIC – let me know if this is the level of detail we need.

Thanks!
D

From: Beeler, Cindy
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 2:15 PM
To: Jenkins, Laura Flynn <Jenkins.Laura@epa.gov>; Opekar, Kimberly <Opekar.Kimberly@epa.gov>; Hestmark, Martin <Hestmark.Martin@epa.gov>; Strobel, Philip <Strobel.Philip@epa.gov>; O'Connor, Darcy <oconnor.darcy@epa.gov>; Smidinger, Betsy <Smidinger.Betsy@epa.gov>
Cc: Chalfant, Mark <Chalfant.Mark@epa.gov>; Daly, Carl <Daly.Carl@epa.gov>; Morales, Monica <Morales.Monica@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Wagner Visit - Energy/Oil & Gas Discussion - Part A and Part B
Importance: High

Thanks you all for your input. I discussed with Suzanne Bohan and Laura Jenkins approaches proposed by you, Phil, and the level of detail to provide in the briefing package. Suzanne wants us to cover the agenda topics originally conceived by her and Deb. She also thinks we should provide enough detail in the briefing package to give Ken Wagner an opportunity to review to be best prepared for questions and follow-up discussion during our one-hour meeting.

Therefore – we will have two briefing papers that we submit for oil &gas –

Part A –
1) Oil & Gas Resources in Region 8
2) EPA Region 8 Roles
3) A Case Study: Uinta Basin Ozone

Part B –
1) State relations in compliance and enforcement activities
2) UIC Class II (underground injection of O&G produced water)

See attachments – thank you ALL for your input.

Missing pieces –

- Part A – Emergency Response – can we put some #s in there, or would you rather not?
- Part B - UIC Class II

Cindy Beeler
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From: Beeler, Cindy
Sent: Monday, May 01, 2017 8:21 AM
To: Jenkins, Laura Flynn <Jenkins.Laura@epa.gov>; Opekar, Kimberly <Opekar.Kimberly@epa.gov>; Hestmark, Martin <Hestmark.Martin@epa.gov>; Strobel, Philip <Strobel.Philip@epa.gov>; O'Connor, Darcy <oconnor.darcy@epa.gov>; Smidinger, Betsy <Smidinger.Betsy@epa.gov>
Cc: Chalfant, Mark <Chalfant.Mark@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Wagner Visit - Energy/Oil & Gas Discussion
Importance: High

Hi all –

We have one hour from 11:00-12:00 to discuss oil & gas in Region 8. From 1:00-2:00, Carl and Martin will be discussing NAAQS nonattainment -which will include the Uinta Basin – I tee that topic up in the oil & gas agenda item, but trust you two will expand upon in your time slot.

Thanks for contributions to-date. As you'll see, so far we're at 3-1/2 pages rather than our prescribed 2-pages – Laura advised that we should not sacrifice preparedness on Mr. Wagner's side for meeting a 2-page limit.

We need this doc to Laura/Suzanne/Deb by COB today.

TO-DOs:

1. Betsy – Could your EPR folks please edit the suggested bullets within Wagner_OilGas_Briefing_050817_r0.docx

2. Darcy – Could you please provide your UIC Class II briefing content within Wagner_OilGas_Briefing_050817_r0.docx

3. Kim/Mark – If there's a way to reduce your enforcement/compliance contribution, go ahead and edit within Wagner_OilGas_Briefing_050817_r0.docx, otherwise we'll go with what we have.

4. ALL – Any edits, suggestions you have, go ahead and Mark-Up within Wagner_OilGas_Briefing_050817_r0.docx.

Thanks,

Cindy Beeler
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From: Jenkins, Laura Flynn
Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 2:40 PM
To: Opekar, Kimberly <Opekar.Kimberly@epa.gov>; Hestmark, Martin <Hestmark.Martin@epa.gov>; Strobel, Philip <Strobel.Philip@epa.gov>; O'Connor, Darcy <oconnor.darcy@epa.gov>; Smidinger, Betsy <Smidinger.Betsy@epa.gov>
Cc: Chalfant, Mark <Chalfant.Mark@epa.gov>; Beeler, Cindy <Beeler.Cindy@epa.gov>
Subject: Wagner Visit - Energy/Oil & Gas Discussion
Importance: High

Kim, Martin, Phil, Darcy, & Betsy:

Cindy, Mark, and I met yesterday with Deb and Suzanne, so Cindy has volunteered to develop the background 1-pager on Energy/Oil & Gas for Ken Wagner's visit. The template HQ provided is attached as an FYI only – as Cindy *may* modify to better present your info.

The areas Deb would like to cover relative to Energy/Oil & Gas are embedded below. The idea is to explain – at a very high level – the nature of R8's energy-related activities, environmental impacts associated with different types of energy production in different types of environments; and the complexity of federal, state, and Tribal partners involved in energy development, production, response, and regulation.

Since Cindy and Mark were privy to yesterday's discussions, and I've subsequently talked with Cindy and Darcy, I'm relying on Cindy/Mark/Darcy to coordinate your efforts. I understand Cindy plans to take a 1st cut at framing the issues and will reach back to you for input and review.

Please contact Cindy if you have any questions related to the substance of the issue paper; but please give me a call if you have any questions regarding the overall process and/or logistics for Ken's visit.

*Issue papers – as well as any visual aids you plan to use – need to be to by **NLT COB on Monday (5/1)**. Unfortunately, this is a hard deadline as I need to vet through Deb and Suzanne and transmit to HQ by Tuesday.*

Thanks in advance for your assistance and my apologies for the quick turn-around – timing is beyond my control.

Regards,

Laura Flynn Jenkins
Chief of Staff
USEPA Region 8
1595 Wynkoop, 8RA
Denver, CO 80202
Land Line: 303-312-6256
Cell: 720-519-5504
Email: Jenkins.Laura@epa.gov

11:00 – 12:00 Oil & Gas

Cindy Beeler, Senior Energy Advisor
Kim Opekar, ARA for ECEJ
Martin Hestmark, ARA for OPRA
Phil Strobel, NEPA Program Director
Darcy O'Connor, ARA for OWP
Betsy Smidinger, ARA for EPR

Cindy to begin with map of Region 8 states; layered with Indian Country, Federal Lands; layered with locations of major energy extraction operations.

Cindy to talk about environmental issues and impacts in the various locales, e.g., produced water spills, oil spills, air emissions, ozone; and overview of efforts to address issues/ impacts.

Presentation will also address the following: (1) State relations w/focus on CO and ND enforcement activities (air & OPA?), (2) Uintah Basin, (3) Complexities associated with our NEPA roles/responsibilities, as well as successes working w/federal partners, discuss one example, (4) Overview of UIC Class II Program, and (5) Response actions related to O&G.