From:	Wendy Wiltse
To:	Nancy Rumrill
Cc:	Janet Hashimoto; Nancy Woo
Subject:	Re: FW: EPA PERMIT Lahaina Injection wells
Date:	09/01/2008 12:37 PM
Attachments:	Final Lahaina public notice.pdf

Nancy and Janet: Thanks for the PN. I will send it to DLNR, and UH.

There is new unpublished information about the algae near the Lahaina injection wells. I met with the scientists from the Botany Dept at UH a couple of weeks ago and they will send me some data, which I will share with you. Celia Smith at UH has a large Harmful alagal Bloom grant from NOAA and has been working on Maui algal blooms for about 5 years now.

One of the new pieces of info is stable N isotope data for algae in marine waters all around Maui. The N isotopes indicate sewage signals at the sites of the 3 major injection wells, incl. Lahaina, Kihei, and Kahului. Apparently some of the data for Lahaina show the highest N isotope value in the literature (high value indicates sewage as source of N).

You're right that the worst algal blooms by lahaina plant were 1989, 1991, and 2001. At Coral Reef Task Force one of the DLNR guys showed time series of photos from one coral site near Lahaina POTW and you can see that the algae comes and goes in lesser amounts, and that coral is reduced over last 10 yrs. I'll get that presentation too if i can.

When I worked in Lahaina back in mid 1990's the flow limit on the Lahaina plant was 6 mgd, and average flows were <4 mgd (if my memory is correct and it may not be). Nancy, Do you have the history on when we increased the flow limit for Lahaina to 10 mgd, and what are the current volumes??? There certainly has been alot of building there in last decade so flows have increased, I'm sure.

Wendy

Wendy Wiltse, Ph.D.
EPA-PICO
300 Ala Moana Blvd. Box 50003
Room 5-152
Honolulu, HI 96850
Phone: (808) 541-2752
FAX: (808) 541-2712

-----Nancy Rumrill/R9/USEPA/US wrote: -----

> To: Wendy Wiltse/R9/USEPA/US@EPA
> From: Nancy Rumrill/R9/USEPA/US
> Date: 08/29/2008 11:37AM
> cc: David Albright/R9/USEPA/US@EPA
> Subject: Re: FW: EPA PERMIT Lahaina Injection wells
>
> Wendy,
> I already notified Eve Clute and Robin Knox.
>
> It's Janet Hashimoto, wtr-2, that will coordinate with Chip Hunt, and I let her know to coordinate with us (and you) on the timing of the briefing. The last time I talked with Chip he was working to develop a briefing for early Sept.
>
> I know this issue keeps coming up: the Lahaina injection well and it's likely cause of algal blooms. From talking with Chauncey Hew, Shannon Fritzgeraldm (before she left), you and Eve Clute, there have not been algae blooms in that area since 2001 or 2002. Is that incorrect? What do you know

about present algae blooms (ie, where are they, and to what extent are they impacting the reef)? This is an issue that I would also like to find out what other EPA programs or the State is doing to address other sources of nutrients, such as agricultural, that are contributing to this problem. Maybe Janet is best to talk to about these issues?

Aloha and Mahola, Nancy

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Nancy Rumrill
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9
Ground Water Office, WTR-9
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
415-972-3293
415-947-3545 (FAX)

David Albright/R9/USEPA/US

David Albright/R9/USEPA/US

08/29/2008 10:32 AM

To Wendy Wiltse/R9/USEPA/US@EPA
cc DavidW Smith/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Nancy Rumrill/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Nancy Woo/R9/USEPA/US@EPA
Subject Re: FW: EPA PERMIT Lahaina Injection wells

Hi Wendy,

Here is the public notice. All the information is on our web site [http://www.epa.gov/region09/water/groundwater/uic-permits.html#cur]

A briefing with Chip would be a good idea. I don't think one has been set up yet.

Any thoughts about a good hearing location? Looks like things are headed that way.

David

Wendy Wiltse/R9/USEPA/US

Wendy Wiltse/R9/USEPA/US

08/29/2008 10:09 AM

To Nancy Rumrill/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, David Albright/R9/USEPA/US@EPA
cc Nancy Woo/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, DavidW Smith/R9/USEPA/US@EPA
Subject FW: EPA PERMIT Lahaina Injection wells

David and Nancy: I just received this email about the Lahaina permit from someone on Maui. Could you send me the electronic notice. With your permission I will circulate it to the concerned citizens, agencies, and scientists who are deeply concerned about this.

The Lahaina injection well and it's likely cause of algal blooms came up at the coral reef task force meeting this week with Wayne attending. There was a very good presentation on the decline of the coral reef in the area where the plume emerges, and description of DLNR action to ban fishing/take of herbivores in the area.

Please let me know if there is a briefing scheduled with USGS.
Mahalo,
Wendy

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-----Forwarded by Wendy Wiltse/R9/USEPA/US on 08/29/2008 09:58AM -----

To: Wendy Wiltse/R9/USEPA/US@EPA
From: Hannah Bernard <wild@aloha.net>
Date: 08/28/2008 07:32PM
Subject: FW: EPA PERMIT Lahaina Injection wells

Sure would love to talk to you about our huge movement on Maui to stop injecting and start redirecting!
:-)
------ Forwarded Message
From: Eve Clute <mauigirl555@hotmail.com>
Date: Wed, 27 Aug 2008 10:02:24 -1000
To: <wild@aloha.net>, <mauigirl555@hotmail.com>
Subject: EPA PERMIT Lahaina Injection wells

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE AN
UNDERGROUND INJECTION CONTROL (UIC) PERMIT
FOR THE LAHAINA WASTEWATER RECLAMATION FACILITY
Comment period through September 23, 2008

web address link:

http://www.epa.gov/region09/water/groundwater/uic-permits.html#cur

The EPA has reconfirmed the permit on the Lahaina sewage treatment plant.
It will go into effect if we do not oppose it.
We must oppose the permit due to its approved use of injection wells.
EPA authority is based on the "Federal Safe Drinking Water Act."
The Act includes protection of ground water and impact on reefs.

Please confirm a meeting - so we can discuss this and write GREAT
testimony based on facts using the Robin Knox study of Kaanapali reefs.

Make a request for public hearing when you mail in your testimony
and SF EPA will come to Maui.

Mail testimony and request to:
Att Nancy Rumill
EPA region 9 office
75 Hawthorne Street,
San Francisco, CA 94105,

Mahalo

Eve Clute [Doctor of Public Health]

PURPOSE

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is soliciting public comments on its proposal to reissue a federal Underground Injection Control (UIC) permit to the County of Maui for the Lahaina Wastewater Reclamation Facility (LWRF or facility) located at 3300 Honoapiilani Highway, Lahaina. The proposed permit will continue to authorize the underground injection of secondary treated municipal wastewater into four existing Class V injection wells at the facility.

BACKGROUND

The County of Maui owns and operates the Lahaina Wastewater Reclamation Facility located at 3300 Honoapiilani Highway, Lahaina, Hawaii. The LWRF reclaims approximately 5.5 million gallons per day (mgd) of wastewater to R-1 quality, which means it processes wastewater through secondary treatment with advanced treatment to sufficiently filter and disinfect the wastewater of bacteria and viruses for it to be used safely to water areas frequented by people (such as lawns, parks, and golf courses). The LWRF sends approximately 1 mgd of treated wastewater to be reused by customers for irrigation purposes. The rest of the treated effluent is gravity fed into the four (4) Class V injection wells.

Based on our review of the area and the geology of the site, EPA believes the injection of treated wastewater allowed under the proposed permit is protective of underground sources of drinking water as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act. The injection zone is approximately 85 to 225 feet below the ground surface (bgs). The proposed permit contains requirements for monitoring injection rate and volume, and sets maximum daily and weekly injection rates. The proposed permit also sets conditions on the injectate for Total Nitrogen, Suspended Solids, and Biological Oxygen Demand. The proposed permit requires sampling of the injected fluids weekly to determine total nitrogen and semi-annually to monitor the treated wastewater quality.

The injection wells are also subject to a state UIC permit issued by the Hawaii Department of Health. The State's permit requires monitoring of injectate, as well as injection well performance monitoring on a semi-annual basis. 2

EPA has made a preliminary determination to approve the renewal of the Class V UIC permit as provided by Part C of the Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended, and by UIC regulations in Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Parts 124, 144, and 146

DOCUMENTS

Copies of the proposed permit, the Statement of Basis, this public notice and the County of Maui's application are available for review at:

Lahaina Public Library
680 Wharf Street

Lahaina, Hawaii
(808) 662-3950

The aforementioned documents, with the exception of the County of Maui's

application, are also available on EPA's Region 9 web page at:
http://www.epa.gov/region09/water/groundwater/uic-permits.html
Copies of EPA's documents and the County of Maui's application can also be obtained by contacting: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Ground Water Office (WTR-9)
75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105, Attn: Nancy Rumrill; phone (415) 972-3293 ; fax (415) 947-3549; or e-mail rumrill.nancy@epa.gov.

The EPA San Francisco office also contains the administrative record for the proposed permit which is available for public inspection from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday. All data submitted by the applicant is available as part of the administrative record

FINAL PERMIT DECISION AND APPEALS PROCESS

EPA will make a final decision regarding the proposed federal permit renewal after all comments and recommendations have been considered. EPA will send a response to comments and a notice of our final decision to each person who submitted comments or requested such notice. Within thirty (30) days after the final permit decision has been issued, any person who filed comments on the draft permit, participated in any Public Hearing on this matter, or takes issue with any changes in the draft permit, may petition the Environmental Appeals Board to review any condition of the permit decision. Commenters are referred to 40 CFR Section 124.19 for procedural requirements of the appeal process. If no comments request a change in the draft permit, the permit shall become effective immediately upon issuance (40 CFR §124.15)

. **PUBLIC COMMENT** Interested persons are invited to make comments and recommendations on the draft UIC permit renewal and the County of Maui's UIC permit renewal application. The thirty (30) day public comment period will end on September 23, 2008 (see 40 CFR §124.13). All comments must be received or postmarked by that date and must be in writing (e-mail is acceptable) to be considered. Please send comments to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Ground Water Office (WTR-9), 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105, Attn: Nancy Rumrill, phone (415) 972-3293 , fax (415) 947-3549, or e-mail rumrill.nancy@epa.gov. During the public comment period, persons may also request a public hearing regarding EPA's proposed issuance of this UIC permit (see 40 CFR §§124.11 and 124.12). Any request for a public hearing must be in writing and state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised in the hearing. EPA will only hold a hearing if significant interest 3 is expressed, and will provide a minimum of 30 days notice prior to any hearing.

FINAL PERMIT DECISION AND APPEALS PROCESS

EPA will make a final decision regarding the proposed federal permit renewal after all comments and recommendations have been considered. EPA will send a response to comments and a notice of our final decision to each person who submitted comments or requested such notice. Within thirty (30) days after the final permit decision has been issued, any person who filed comments on the draft permit, participated in any Public Hearing on this matter, or takes issue with any changes in the draft permit, may petition the Environmental Appeals Board to review any condition of the permit decision. Commenters are referred to 40 CFR Section 124.19 for procedural requirements of the appeal process. If no comments request a change in the draft permit, the permit shall become effective immediately upon issuance (40 CFR §124.15).

Be the filmmaker you always wanted to be—learn how to burn a DVD with Windows®. Make your smash hit <http://clk.atdmt.com/MRT/go/108588797/direct/01/>

------ End of Forwarded Message