

Division of Water Quality
Utah Department of Environmental Quality
Public Notice of Intent to Issue a Ground Water Discharge Permit and Related Construction Permit:
Permit No. UGW UGW070003

Purpose of Public Notice

The Utah Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is soliciting comments on the intent to issue both a ground water discharge permit and associated construction permit as described below. The ground water discharge permit is issued by the Director of the Division of Water Quality under authority of the Utah Water Quality Act, Section 19-5-106(g) Utah Code Ann. 1953, as amended and Utah Administrative Code R317-6. The construction permit is issued under authority of the Utah Water Quality Act, Section 19-5-106(2)(f), Utah Code Ann. 1953, as amended and Utah Administrative Code R317-1-2.2. Under Section 19-1-301.5, effective May 8, 2012, a person who wishes to challenge a Permit Order may only raise an issue or argument during an adjudicatory proceeding that was raised during the public comment period and was supported with sufficient information or documentation to enable the Director to fully consider the substance and significance of the issue. Utah Code Ann. 19-1-301.5 can be viewed at the following internet URL: http://le.utah.gov/~code/TITLE19/htm/19_01_030105.htm.

Permit Information

Permittee: Green River Resources, Inc.
American Sands Energy Corp.

Mailing Address: 201 South Main Street, Suite 1800
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

Facility Location: Bruin Point, in portions of Sections 2, 3 and 10, Township 14 South, Range 14 East,
Salt Lake Base and Meridian, Carbon County, Utah

Green River Resources, Inc. (GRR) proposes to mine tar sands from an underground mine and process them to extract bitumen located on private property at Bruin Point, northeast of Sunnyside, Carbon County, Utah. Details of the proposed mining operation are contained in GRR's Notice of Intent to Commence Large Mining Operations (NOI), submitted to the Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining in September, 2014. Surface disturbance for this operation will be within the area designated as the "Affected Area" shown on Figure 2 of GRR's ground water discharge permit application, revised April, 2015. The Affected Area is approximately 160 acres in size

Mined tar sands will be hauled from the underground mine to a processing facility located at Bruin Point. Bitumen will be separated from the tar sands using a proprietary solvent. No water is used in the process and most of the solvent is recovered from the tailings. GRR eventually plans to dispose of dry sand tailings from this operation in the underground mine workings; however, the tailings from the first several years of this operation will be placed into a surface tailings disposal facility located northeast of the processing plant at Bruin Point. The facility will eventually cover 109 acres and store 14 million cubic yards of tailings. This permit requires use of best available technology, appropriate to the nature of the waste, for the design of the tailings disposal facility. Containment structures will be constructed as the tailings are placed into the disposal facility. The tailings will be overlain by a cover designed to exclude precipitation from infiltrating into the tailings; they will be underlain by a weeping tile drain system on top of a 4-foot layer of clay with hydraulic conductivity of 1×10^{-7} cm/sec. This lower liner and drain will collect any precipitation that infiltrates into the tailings, particularly before the cap is fully installed. Drainage from the weeping tile system will flow into a lined pond for eventual disposal. In addition, ground water underlying the facility will be monitored for the presence of any contaminants associated with the operation. Available information suggests that shallow ground water under the facility is considered Class IA, pristine ground water, under the Utah Ground Water Protection Regulations (UAC R317-6).

Public Comments

Public comments are invited any time prior to **Thursday, May 28, 2015**. Written comments may be directed to the Division of Water Quality (DWQ), P.O. Box 144870, Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4870. All comments received prior to close of business to **Thursday, May 28, 2015**, will be considered in the formulation of final conditions to be imposed on the permit.

Additional Information

Additional information may be obtained upon request by contacting Mark Novak at (801) 536-4358 or mnovak@utah.gov or by writing to the aforementioned address. Related documents are available for review during normal business hours at DWQ, 195 North 1950 West in Salt Lake City or on the DWQ web page at: <http://www.waterquality.utah.gov/PublicNotices/index.htm>.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with special needs (including auxiliary communicative aids and services) should contact Dana Powers, Office of Human Resources at (801) 536-4413, TDD (801) 536-4414.