

NOTICE OF DRAFT PERMIT FOR CLASS V GEOTHERMAL WELL

The Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) hereby gives NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON A DRAFT PERMIT prepared after review of the application filed by Blue Cedar Energy (BC) in coordination with the University of Oklahoma (OU) on April 27, 2023; and revisions submitted on August 02, September 13, and October 23, 2023.

The draft permit, if made final, would authorize Blue Cedar Geothermal, LLC to operate, maintain, and monitor a Class V Geothermal injection well with appurtenances described in the permit application and all subsequent revisions and submissions incorporated by reference. This permit allows the testing and operation of an injection well that will be converted / repurposed from an existing retired oil and gas (O&G) well, as part of the operation of an open circuit geothermal well project. A separate retired O&G well, regulated by the Oklahoma Corporation Commission (OCC), will be utilized as an extraction well. The two wells will be operated together for geothermal energy recovery from the Haskell geologic unit for use at public schools. The project will be developed near Tuttle, Oklahoma, in Section 11-T09N-R06W. This non-profit research project to transform / repurpose abandoned and retired O&G wells into geothermal wells to provide direct-use geothermal energy to public schools in Oklahoma is being funded by a Department of Energy Grant (#DEEE0009962) to the University of Oklahoma.

DEQ has tentatively found that the application meets the requirements of Oklahoma Environmental Quality Act (27A O.S. § 1-1-101, *et seq.*), the Oklahoma Environmental Quality Code (27A O.S. § 2-1-101, *et seq.*), the federal Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 300f-300j-26), and rules promulgated thereunder at 40 Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) Parts 144, 145 and 146, and Oklahoma Administrative Code (OAC) Title 252, Chapters 4 and 652. DEQ has determined the geothermal injection well is a Class V underground injection control (UIC) well and has established project criteria that include conditions DEQ deems necessary or appropriate for protection of the underground source of drinking water (USDW) aquifer quality, and is issuing this *Draft Permit* following the state Tier II process and federal procedures.

The Draft Permit may be reviewed during normal business hours at the following locations:

1. Tuttle Public Library, 305 W Main St., Tuttle, OK 73089
2. Tuttle City Hall, 221 W Main St, Tuttle, OK 73089
3. Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Central Records, 2nd Floor, 707 North Robinson, Oklahoma City, OK 73102. The DEQ contact person is:

Hillary Young, P.E.,
Chief Engineer
Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality, Land Protection Division
P.O. Box 1677
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73101-1677
Telephone: 405-702-5100

The draft permit and application may also be viewed in the Grady County folder in the “Draft Permit” section under the Underground Injection Control tab at <https://www.deq.ok.gov/land-protection-division/permit-public-participation-process/>.

Persons wishing to comment on the *Draft Permit* should submit their comments in writing to the DEQ address above or email to the link above. Also, any person may request in writing a formal public meeting to present oral and written statements and data concerning the *Draft Permit*. A request for a public meeting must identify the nature of the issues to be raised in the meeting. If a public meeting is requested, DEQ will schedule the meeting and provide notice of the date, time and place.

Written comments and requests for a public meeting must be received by DEQ within thirty (30) days after the date of this publication at the DEQ address given above. More specific information may be obtained by contacting the applicant or the DEQ contact listed above. The applicant contact persons are:

For OU: Jeff McCaskill
Well Construction Technology Center
1101 Lexington Ave.
Norman, OK 73069
Telephone: 405-818-4988

For Blue Cedar: Jon Goss
PO Box 7506
Edmond, OK 73083
Telephone: 405-510-0917