Location Restrictions Demonstration Report - Aquifer Separation Bottom Ash Settling Area

Jeffrey Energy Center

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1.0 INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

The Disposal of Coal Combustion Residuals (CCR) from Electric Utilities Final Rule (CCR Rule) 40 CFR 257.60 through 257.64 requires owner/operators of existing CCR units to make demonstrations in the event a unit is located in certain areas. The purpose of this report is to demonstrate whether the Bottom Ash Settling Area (Unit), an existing CCR surface impoundment, meets the requirements of §257.60 for placement above the uppermost aquifer.

The Unit is located at the Jeffrey Energy Center (JEC) in Pottawatomie County, Kansas approximately 5.3 miles north-northeast of Belvue, Kansas as indicated in Figure 1.

Haley & Aldrich, Inc. (Haley & Aldrich) has reviewed sufficient documentation provided in Section 3, related available resources, and completed site visit(s) to develop this report. This report provides the demonstrations documenting whether or not the Unit is constructed:

□ with a base that is located no less than 1.52 meters (five feet) above the upper limit of the uppermost aquifer (40 CFR §257.60).

The CCR Rule requirement for the above is stated in the following section in italics followed by an explanation of the review and determination completed by Haley & Aldrich.

2.0 PLACEMENT ABOVE THE UPPERMOST AQUIFER (§257.60(a))

New CCR landfills, existing and new CCR surface impoundments, and all lateral expansions of CCR units must be constructed with a base that is located no less than 1.52 meters (five feet) above the upper limit of the uppermost aquifer, or must demonstrate that there will not be an intermittent, recurring, or sustained hydraulic connection between any portion of the base of the CCR unit and the uppermost aquifer due to normal fluctuations in groundwater elevations (including the seasonal high water table). The owner or operator must demonstrate by the dates specified in paragraph (c) of this section that the CCR unit meets the minimum requirements for placement above the uppermost aquifer.

Haley & Aldrich evaluated the location of the base of the Unit with respect to the upper limit of the uppermost aquifer as defined in §257.53. Documentation of the conditions listed in §257.60(a) were evaluated and are discussed below.

Based on this review, Haley & Aldrich determined the base of the Unit is greater than five feet above the upper limit of the uppermost aquifer as defined in §257.53. Consequently, no additional demonstration is necessary.

2.1 Base of Unit

Haley & Aldrich reviewed available information provided by Westar and determined construction documentation was not available to accurately locate the base of the Unit. Therefore, Haley & Aldrich completed a field investigation to locate the base of the Unit. Pre-construction quadrangle maps (U. S. Geologic Survey, 1964) of the area were reviewed to determine the lowest original topographic elevations within the Unit. Using this available information, Haley & Aldrich sited and supervised the drilling of six borings within the Unit in the likely area of lowest base elevations to determine the location of the existing base of the Unit. Based on the field investigation results, Haley & Aldrich determined the lowest base of Unit elevations range from approximately 1212.8 feet to 1220.9 feet in lowest areas of the Unit.

2.2 Upper Limit of Uppermost Aquifer

Haley & Aldrich evaluated groundwater conditions to identify the upper limit of the uppermost aquifer based on previously completed reports (Haley & Aldrich, 2018). Based on the evaluation, the upper limit of the uppermost aquifer is a gradually sloping surface ranging from elevation 1194+/- feet on the western side to elevation 1222+/- feet on the eastern side of the Unit. For elevations within the impoundment footprint, observed elevation data information in the surrounding monitoring wells was interpolated.

2.3 Conclusion/Separation Between Uppermost Aquifer and Base of Unit

When separation distances were estimated between the upper limit of the uppermost aquifer elevations (with associated interpolated elevations provided in the Table 1 column titled "Uppermost Aquifer Elevations") and the base of Unit elevations as determined by the 2018 borings shown in Figure 2, the following minimum separation distances were calculated:

Boring	Base of Unit Elevation	Uppermost Aquifer Elevation	Separation (ft.)
HA-BAA-01	1215.5	1200.6	14.9
HA-BAA-02	1212.8	1199.5	13.3
HA-BAA-03	1216.2	1200.3	15.9
HA-BAA-10	1213.0	1205.3	7.7
HA-BAA-11	1213.3	1201.3	12.0
HA-BAA-12	1220.9	1201.7	19.2

 Table 1: Bottom Ash Settling Area Calculated Minimum Separation Distances

Based on these critical points within the Unit, the resulting minimum separation was determined to be approximately 7.7 feet and therefore greater than the 5.0 feet separation criteria of §257.60(a) of the Rule that would require additional demonstration.

3.0 REFERENCES

- 1. Haley & Aldrich, Inc., 2017 Annual Groundwater Monitoring and Corrective Action Report for the Bottom Ash Area 1 Impoundment/Bottom Ash Area 1 Landfill. January 2018.
- 2. U.S. Geologic Survey (1964), Emmett, Kansas Quadrangle, 7.5 minute series (topographic).

4.0 QUALIFIED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER CERTIFICATION (§257.60(b))

The undersigned registered professional engineer is familiar with the requirements of the CCR Rule and has visited and examined the Unit and/or has supervised examination of the Unit and development of this report by appropriately qualified personnel. I hereby certify based on a review of available information and observations, that this demonstration report and the Unit meets the requirements of paragraphs §257.60(a).

Name of Professional Engineer:	Steven F. Putrich, P.E.	
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PE Registration State:	Kansas	
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