This permit covering the well operator and well location shown above is evidence of permission granted to conduct activities in accordance with the Oil and Gas Act, the Oil and Gas Conservation Law, if the well is subject to that act, and the Clean Streams Law, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder, subject to the conditions contained herein and in accordance with the application submitted for this permit. This permit does not convey any property rights.

This permit and the permittee’s authority to conduct the activities authorized by this permit are conditioned upon operator’s compliance with applicable law and regulations.

Notification must be given to the district oil and gas inspector, the surface landowner and political subdivision of the date well drilling, if any, will begin at least 24 hours prior to commencement of drilling activities.

The permittee hereby authorizes and consents to allow, without delay, employees or agents of the Department to have access to and to inspect all areas upon presentation of appropriate credentials, without advance notice or a search warrant. This includes any property, facility, operation or activity governed by the Oil and Gas Act, the Oil and Gas Conservation Law, the Coal and Gas Resource Coordination Act, the Clean Streams Law and other statutes applicable to oil and gas activities administered by the Department. The authorization and consent shall include consent to the Department to collect samples of wastewaters or gases, to take photographs, to perform measurements, surveys, and other tests, to inspect any monitoring equipment, to inspect the methods of operation and disposal, and to inspect and copy documents required by the Department to be maintained. The authorization and consent includes consent to the Department to examine books, papers, and records pertinent to any matter under investigation pursuant to the Oil and Gas Act pertinent to a determination of whether the operator is in compliance with the above referenced statutes. This condition in no way limits any other powers granted to the Department under the Oil and Gas Act and other statutes, rules and regulations applicable to these activities as administered by the Department.

Special Permit Conditions:

Seismic Monitoring and Mitigation

The permittee shall prepare and implement a seismic Monitoring and Mitigation Plan. The seismic Monitoring and Mitigation Plan shall be submitted to the Department of Environmental Protection (“Department”) at least 30 days prior to the anticipated start date of disposal activities in an existing well. This Plan, or the Plan as modified by the Department, shall be fully implemented at the time disposal activities begin and thereafter and shall include the following components:

(1) Installation of a seismometer that, at minimum, includes the following:
   a. One 3-component velocity sensor (X, Y, and Z axes), high-frequency seismometer or a local network consisting of a minimum of four high-frequency seismometers that have 3-component velocity sensors.
   b. For purposes of this seismic Monitoring and Mitigation Plan, a “seismic event” shall mean circumstances which reflect tectonic seismic activity above the thresholds and within the distances set forth in Paragraphs (11) or (12) below.
   c. For purposes of this seismic Monitoring and Mitigation Plan, an “Injection-Induced Seismic Event” shall mean circumstances which reflect seismic activity that may be directly attributable to the permitted injection activities. Raw seismic data gathered by the seismometer(s) described in (1) a. will be processed to calculate event location (epicenter/hypocenter) and magnitude. Events attributable to surface activities (such as, but not limited to, mining or blasting) or system noise will not be considered potential Injection-Induced Seismic Events.
   d. If one sensor option is chosen, and an Injection-Induced Seismic Event occurs at or above the thresholds specified in (11) c. and d. below, the operator will mobilize a local network consisting of a minimum of four (4) high-frequency seismometers that have 3-component velocity sensors within 48 hours of the event.
   e. All seismometers shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions prior to operation of the disposal well.
(2) A description of and specifications sheet for the seismometer installed at the disposal well site.
(3) The installation of a recorder that, at minimum, continuously records 100 samples per second using a data logger with 24-bit digitizer and Global Positioning System (GPS) timing, in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions prior to operation of the disposal well.
(4) A description of and specifications sheet for the seismic recorder installed at the disposal well site.
The permittee shall maintain all calibration, maintenance and repair records for the seismometer for at least five (5) years.

Verifications that tectonic seismic event data will be captured at the disposal well site electronically and in a manner that is suitable for tectonic seismic event monitoring, recording and analysis.

Verification that seismic data will be provided to the Incorporated Research Institutions for Seismology (IRIS) Network in real time and that the continuous, real time data conforms to the data format required by IRIS for archiving under PASBSE’s network code (PE) and open distribution. If data transmission is interrupted, notification will be provided to the Department verbally within 24 hours and in writing within seven (7) days.

A description of measures that will be taken to install the seismometer in a manner that will minimize interference from background sources and allow for optimal seismic event identification and location (epicenter and hypocenter). This shall include a plan view map of proposed seismometer location(s).

Contact information for the responsible person in charge of conducting seismic monitoring activities at the disposal well site.

If the one sensor option is chosen, a tectonic seismic event contingency plan that includes monitoring, reporting and mitigation provisions consistent with the following:

a. Immediate electronic notification to the Department and the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources’ Bureau of Topographic and Geologic Survey (BTGS) of detection of any measurable event, within six (6) miles measured radially from the disposal well.

b. Notification within 10 minutes via email to the Department and 1 hour via telephone to the Department’s statewide toll-free number in the case of seismic activity referenced in a. above will include filtering/processing of raw seismic data to identify and remove non-tectonic events (e.g. mine blasts or system noise).

c. Should an Injection-Induced Seismic Event occur (i.e., not a surface-related event or system noise), the Operator will reduce the well’s operating injection rates. Reduction of the disposal well’s operating injection rates in use at the time of the Injection-Induced Seismic Event by 50% within 48 hours of the occurrence of 3 or more consecutive Injection-Induced Seismic Events greater than 1.0 and less than 2.0 on the Richter Scale over a seven (7) day period occurring within three (3) miles measured radially from the disposal well. The seven (7) day period is defined as starting with the occurrence of any Injection-Induced Seismic Event of magnitude 1.0 or greater. Reduced operating injection rates shall be maintained until the Department provides written notice addressing injection rates.

d. Termination of all injection activities within 48 hours of the occurrence of an Injection-Induced Seismic Event of magnitude 2.0 or greater within three (3) miles measured radially from the disposal well until receipt of a written notice from the Department addressing continued well usage and operating conditions. The assessment of continued usage will include, but not limited to, the following criteria:
   i. Magnitude and frequency of events detected;
   ii. Operational history prior to the event and operating conditions at the time of the event (rates, volumes, pressures);
   iii. Any mitigation/intervention attempts made prior to termination of activities;
   iv. Ability of permittee to identify another potential source for the event based on data processing and analysis of conditions.

If the network option is chosen, a tectonic seismic event contingency plan that includes monitoring, reporting and mitigation provisions consistent with the following:

a. Immediate electronic notification to the Department and the BTGS of detection of any measurable event, within three (3) miles measured radially from the disposal well.

b. Notification within 10 minutes via email to the Department and 1 hour via telephone to the Department’s statewide toll-free number in the case of seismic activity referenced in a. above will include filtering/processing of raw seismic data to identify and remove non-tectonic events (e.g. mine blasts or system noise).

c. Should an Injection-Induced Seismic Event occur (i.e., not a surface-related event or system noise), the Operator will reduce the well’s operating injection rates. Reduction of the disposal well’s operating injection rates in use at the time of the Injection-Induced Seismic Event by 50% within 48 hours of the occurrence of 3 or more consecutive Injection-Induced Seismic Events greater than 1.0 and less than 2.0 on the Richter Scale over a seven (7) day period occurring within three (3) miles measured radially from the disposal well. The seven (7) day period is defined as starting with the occurrence of any Injection-Induced Seismic Event of magnitude 1.0 or greater. Reduced operating injection rates shall be maintained until the Department provides written notice addressing injection rates.

d. Termination of all injection activities within 48 hours of the occurrence of an Injection-Induced Seismic Event of magnitude 2.0 or greater within two (2) miles measured radially from the disposal well until receipt of a written notice from the Department addressing continued well usage and operating conditions. The assessment of continued usage will include, but not limited to, the following criteria:
   i. Magnitude and frequency of events detected;
   ii. Operational history prior to the event and operating conditions at the time of the event (rates, volumes, pressures);
   iii. Any mitigation/intervention attempts made prior to termination of activities;
   iv. Ability of permittee to identify another potential source for the event based on data processing and analysis of conditions.

The permittee shall submit an updated seismic Monitoring and Mitigation Plan as needed or as may be required by the Department. Updates may be necessary in cases where the risk profile associated with injection activities changes. A signed and certified statement by a qualified professional person responsible for preparing the seismic Monitoring Plan that the plan is true and accurate and includes the components outlined above. The certification shall provide: “I, (insert name), hereby certify, under penalty of law as provided in 18 Pa.C.S. § 4904 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities) that prepared the seismic Monitoring Plan for (insert facility name) and the information provided is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.”

Upon commencement of disposal activities at the disposal well, the permittee shall record tectonic seismic event data electronically in an appropriate format for analysis (event location and magnitude) and maintain daily records of tectonic seismic event data electronically for review at the request of the Department. Tectonic seismic event records must be maintained for one (1) year.

The permittee shall maintain all calibration, maintenance and repair records for the seismometer for at least five (5) years.

The permittee shall maintain all calibration, maintenance and repair records for the seismometer for at least five (5) years.
The operator may submit a summary report and plan for modification or discontinuation of the seismic Monitoring Plan five (5) years after injection activities commence. The Department's review will be completed as soon as practicable after receipt of the summary report and a written response will be provided to the operator. DEP's assessment of the report will be dependent on, but not limited to, the following criteria:

a. Magnitude and frequency of any events during the monitoring period;
b. Operational history during the monitoring period (rates, volumes, pressures);
c. Planned operational conditions moving ahead (rates, volumes, pressures);
d. Demonstration through pressure fall-off that system is at equilibrium and behaving in as a homogenous reservoir;
e. Need for any mitigation/intervention during the monitoring period.

Mechanical Integrity Special Permit Conditions

(18) Permittee shall submit/provide a stimulation & treatment plan to the Department for review thirty (30) days prior to implementation of stimulation or treatment.

(19) The permittee shall provide to the Department, on a monthly basis, an electronic and graphical record of injection pressures, annular pressures, injection volumes and cumulative volumes in a format acceptable to the Department. All pressures and rates shall be monitored continuously with digital devices. The permittee shall maintain records of this information for review at the request of the Department on a 12-month rolling basis.

(20) The permittee shall provide notice to the Department prior to the initial injection of fluids into the disposal well, so the Department can conduct an inspection of the well site, seismometer and recorder.

(21) Documentation shall be provided to the Department demonstrating compliance with Part II, D.2.b. of the EPA UIC Permit, prior to commencing injection when the documentation is submitted to the EPA.

(22) Permittee shall notify the Department's Oil & Gas Inspector verbally within twenty-four (24) hours and the Department's Program Manager in writing within seven (7) days when conditions indicate mechanical integrity problems that call for injection to cease under Part II.C of the EPA UIC Permit.

Other Conditions

(23) This permit is conditioned upon the existence of the Class II-D brine disposal Injection Well U.S. EPA permit #PAS2D701BALL, issued March 7, 2018 (“EPA UIC Permit”) and any revision or modification to this permit, and the well's operation as a disposal well. Permittee shall submit to the Department a copy of any EPA revised or modified permit and the approved application materials submitted to EPA for the revision or modification.

(24) Permittee shall submit the annual monitoring report to the Department pursuant to 25 PA Code §78.125 when the reports are submitted to the EPA.

(25) Prior to initiating injection procedures, the permittee shall obtain a permit to change the use of the Sedat #1 Well (#003-21210) to a monitoring well. The Sedat #1 shall be plugged back and open to the Murrysville to allow for monitoring of injected fluid. Permittee shall monitor fluid levels in the Sedat #1 Well on a monthly basis and submit the monitoring data to the Department the month after it is obtained. Permittee shall stop disposal operations immediately and notify the Department's Oil & Gas Inspector verbally within twenty-four (24) hours and the Department's Program Manager in writing within seven (7) days if fluid levels are observed to rise to the levels specified in Part II.C.4 of the EPA UIC Permit.

NOTE: WELL MAY PENETRATE OPEN MINE (U. Freeport Coal Seam)

This permit expires 4/15/2021 unless drilling is commenced on or before that date and prosecuted with due diligence.

Brian Babb
Subsurface Permitting Environmental Program Manager

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Oil & Gas Inspector

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