

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

# New Disposal Well Permit Near Brooklyn, Michigan

West Bay Exploration Co. Permit Application  
Jackson County

April 2013

## Comment period and public hearing scheduled

The EPA invited public comments on the West Bay Exploration Co.'s Haystead #9 SWD well draft permit. EPA will answer all comments received during the comment period and at the formal public hearing.

**The public comment period is from:  
March 29, 2013 to May 14, 2013.**

An information meeting and formal public hearing have been scheduled:

**April 30, 2013**  
**Information Session:**  
6:00 to 7:00 p.m.  
**Public Hearing:**  
7 to 9:00 p.m.

Columbia Central High School  
Brooklyn, Michigan

## How to comment

You may submit comments in writing at the public hearing and during the public comment period via standard mail or email, or orally during the formal public hearing.

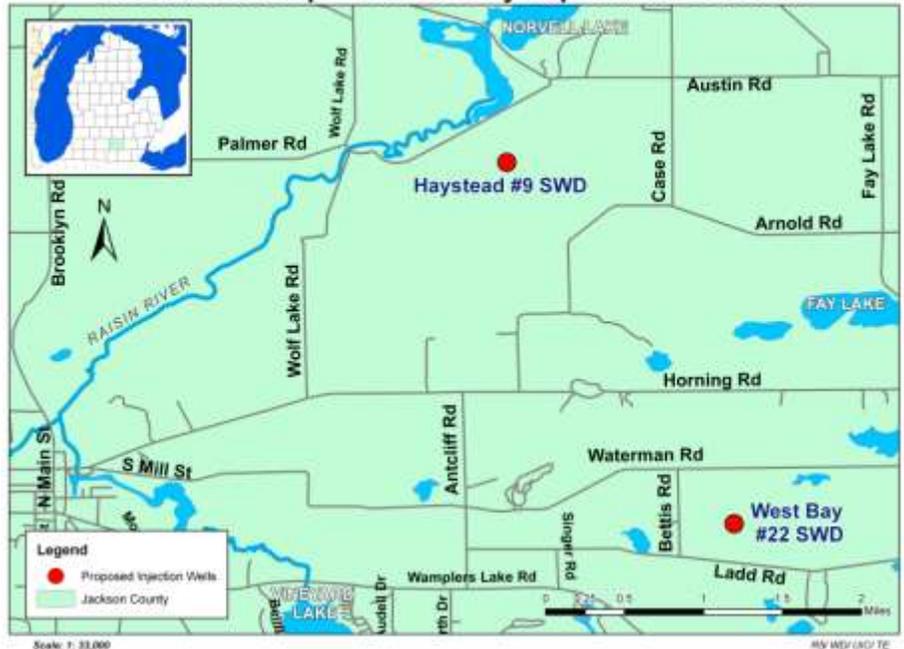
Send written comments to:

**Tim Elkins**  
U.S. EPA (WU-16J)  
77 W. Jackson Blvd.  
Chicago, IL 60604-3590  
elkins.timothy@epa.gov

## Right to appeal

You have the right to appeal a final permit decision with the Environmental Appeals Board if you made an official comment during the comment period, or commented at the public hearing. Appeal instructions will be included with EPA's response to all public comments.

Location of Proposed West Bay Exploration Co. Wells



Map shows locations of proposed saltwater disposal injection wells for West Bay Exploration Co. The Haystead #9 well near Brooklyn, Mich., is the subject of this fact sheet.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has proposed approving a permit requested by the West Bay Exploration Co. for a Class II injection well in Jackson County to dispose of salt water 2,650 feet underground. Before a final decision, EPA will consider comments on the permit application received during a public comment period and an official hearing (*see left-hand box for ways you can participate in the decision-making process*). Class II wells are typically used to inject fluids, such as salt water, that separate from oil and gas during production. There are approximately 144,000 Class II wells in the United States.

EPA reviewed West Bay's Haystead #9 SWD permit application (permit #MI-075-2D-0010) and found it meets the technical requirements for protecting underground sources of drinking water. EPA experts determined there should be no significant environmental impact from the proposed well. Last year, EPA reviewed and approved West Bay's request for the West Bay #22 well (shown on the map above).

EPA will hold an information session with the opportunity for questions regarding the proposed Haystead #9 SWD injection well. Immediately following, a formal public hearing will be conducted and comments will be entered into the administrative record. Oral statements will be recorded word for word by a court reporter.

*continued on back ...*

... continued from front

An EPA hearing officer will listen to your statements but will not respond during the proceeding. All comments received will be reviewed and answered in a document called a “responsiveness summary,” which will be added to the administrative record. EPA’s response to comments will be distributed by standard mail once the summary is completed.

### **Legal authority**

The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) authorizes EPA to regulate the underground injection of fluids through wells to protect underground sources of drinking water. Specifically, the regulations governing underground injection wells are detailed at Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (40 C.F.R.) Parts 144 and 146, and the procedure for the permit process is described at Title 40 C.F.R. §124.5.

The Federal Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program for the state of Michigan may be found in Title 40 C.F.R. §147.1151. This section was created under Part C of the SDWA and incorporates the UIC Program requirements of Part 124, 144 and 146 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

These laws and regulations do not give EPA the authority to change the surface location of the injection well. Any issues regarding surface facilities, such as the location of the proposed injection well, should be addressed to Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) at P.O. Box 30256, Lansing, MI 48909-7756 or telephone 517-241-1515.

For more information and answers to Frequently Asked Questions for this permit, please check the EPA’s website at [www.epa.gov/region5/water/uic/uicpub.htm](http://www.epa.gov/region5/water/uic/uicpub.htm).

### **More information available**

You may view the draft permit and public hearing fact sheet at:

**Jackson District Library**  
244 W. Michigan

You may also view related documents at the EPA’s Chicago office. Please contact:

**Tim Elkins**  
Permit Writer  
312-886-0263  
[elkins.timothy@epa.gov](mailto:elkins.timothy@epa.gov).

Or visit [www.epa.gov/region5/water/uic/uicpub.htm](http://www.epa.gov/region5/water/uic/uicpub.htm)

For further questions, call toll-free, 800-621-8431, weekdays, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.