

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND HEARING CONCERNING
THE DRAFT UNDERGROUND INJECTION CONTROL (UIC) PERMIT
FOR THE LAHAINA WASTEWATER RECLAMATION FACILITY**

Comment period extended through August 20, 2009

PUBLIC MEETING AND HEARING

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will hold an informational public meeting and a public hearing on August 20, 2009 concerning the draft Underground Injection Control (UIC) permit for the Lahaina Wastewater Reclamation Facility (LWRF). The public meeting and hearing will be held at:

Lahaina Civic Center
Social Hall Meeting Area
1840 Honoapiilani Hwy
Lahaina, Maui, HI 96761

The public meeting is scheduled from 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm. The purpose of the meeting is to allow EPA to explain the terms and conditions of the draft permit, and give interested parties an opportunity to ask the EPA questions regarding the permit. Representatives from the County of Maui and the Hawai'i Department of Health will also attend the meeting.

After the meeting, the public hearing will begin at 7:00 pm and end at 9:00 pm. EPA invites interested persons to attend the hearing and provide the Agency with comments and recommendations on the draft UIC permit for the County of Maui's LWRF. The purpose of the hearing is for the public to submit oral or written statements and data concerning the draft permit. The proceedings of the hearing will be recorded by a court reporter. We request that oral comments provided during the public hearing be limited to five (5) minutes per person; this limit may be extended if time allows.

Persons who are physically disabled and require special accommodation to participate in the public meeting or hearing should contact Dean Higuchi in EPA's Honolulu office at (808) 541-2710, no later than August 6, 2009.

EPA issued the public notice for the revised draft UIC permit on May 24, 2009. The public comment period was scheduled to close on June 23, 2009. However, the public comment period is hereby extended to the close of the public hearing on August 20, 2009.

Written comments on the draft permit must be received or postmarked no later than

August 20, 2009 to be considered. You can send written comments to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Ground Water Office (WTR-9), 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105, Attn: Nancy Rumrill, phone (415) 972-3293, fax (415) 947-3549, or via e-mail at rumrill.nancy@epa.gov. As noted, written comments may also be provided to EPA at the public hearing.

BACKGROUND

The County of Maui owns and operates the Lahaina Wastewater Reclamation Facility located at 3300 Honoapiilani Highway, Lahaina, Hawaii. The LWRF treats approximately 4 to 6 million gallons per day (mgd) of wastewater through secondary treatment. Treatment of the wastewater includes processes to settle out the sludge and to remove dissolved organic matter and residual suspended matter. The LWRF further disinfects approximately 1 mgd of wastewater by ultraviolet light to be reused by customers for irrigation purposes. Approximately 3 to 5 mgd of the treated effluent is gravity fed into the four (4) Class V injection wells.

EPA has made a preliminary determination that the injection of treated wastewater allowed under the revised draft permit is protective of underground sources of drinking water, as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act. The draft permit contains new requirements for biochemical oxygen demand and suspended solids that are the same as the conditions imposed by the State of Hawai'i Department of Health (DOH), a reduction in the injection volumetric rate limits and a nitrate concentration limit. The draft permit also imposes new mass loading limits for total nitrogen, which become more stringent over the course of the 10-year permit term, and a requirement for the injection fluid to be treated to the same level as the reuse waste water by a future compliance date. To ensure the County complies with the new conditions, the draft permit requires additional monitoring and reporting.

EPA has made a preliminary determination to approve the draft Class V UIC permit as provided by Part C of the Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended, and by UIC regulations in Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Parts 124, 144, and 146.

DOCUMENTS

Copies of the draft permit, the Statement of Basis, this public notice, and the County of Maui's application are available for review at:

Lahaina Public Library
680 Wharf Street
Lahaina, Hawaii
(808) 662-3950

These documents are also available on EPA's Region 9 web page at:

<http://www.epa.gov/region09/water/groundwater/uic-permits.html>

Copies of EPA's documents and the County of Maui's application can also be obtained by contacting: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Ground Water Office (WTR-9) 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105, Attn: Nancy Rumrill; phone (415) 972-3293; fax (415) 947-3549; or via e-mail at rumrill.nancy@epa.gov.

The EPA San Francisco office also has the administrative record for the proposed permit available for public inspection from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday. All data submitted by the applicant is available as part of the administrative record.

FINAL PERMIT DECISION AND APPEALS PROCESS

EPA will make a final decision regarding the draft UIC permit after all comments and recommendations have been considered. EPA will send a response to comments from the current and the prior public comment period and a notice of our final decision to each person who submitted comments, including testimony at any hearing, or requested such notice. Within thirty (30) days after the final permit decision has been issued, any person who filed comments on the draft permit, participated in the public hearings on this matter, or takes issue with any changes in the draft permit, may petition the Environmental Appeals Board to review any condition of the permit decision.

Commenters are referred to 40 CFR Section 124.19 for procedural requirements of the appeal process.