



STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Jim Gibbons, Governor

Allen Biaggi, Director

Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Administrator

Web posting 4/28/10

Notice of Public Hearing

by the

State of Nevada

The Administrator of the Division of Environmental Protection gives notice that a public hearing regarding the proposed re-issuance of Water Pollution Control Permit NEV91022 for the Power Generating Facility, NV Energy –Reid Gardner Station, has been scheduled for 1:00 pm June 3, 2010 at the Marley P. Robinson Justice Court and Community Center, 1340 E. State Highway 168, Moapa, Nevada.

Public notice for the draft permit was given October 23, 2009 in the Las Vegas Review-Journal and October 28, 2009 in the Moapa Valley Progress. The Administrator has determined that there is sufficient public interest in this draft permit to warrant a public hearing.

The Applicant for the re-issuance of Water Pollution Control Permit NEV91022 is:

NV Energy
6226 W. Sahara Ave.
Las Vegas, Nevada 89146

The Applicant proposes to continue to operate Reid Gardner Station, located on Wally Kay Road in Moapa Valley, 60 miles northeast of Las Vegas, in Clark County, Nevada. The plant is surrounded by BLM land to the north and south, agricultural land and residences on the west, and an inactive dairy farm on the east. The proposed permit will regulate the discharge of power plant generated wastewater streams to HDPE double-lined, with leak detection, evaporation ponds, thus allowing the retirement of certain existing ponds. Beginning in 1997 the Division has required the originally unlined or clay lined ponds to be dried, cleaned and either reconstructed with double liners and leak detection and collection, or removed from service. Since then, all ponds have either had double HDPE liners installed or have been removed from service. No unlined ponds used for storage and evaporation under previous permits are permitted for discharge under this permit. Ponds solids removal and remediation of the formerly used unlined ponds are being addressed by the Division's Bureau of Corrective Actions (BCA). Since the ponds are double-lined with a leak detection system, this is essentially a zero discharge permit. Three additional ponds are proposed for construction in the upland Mesa area, on a 555-acre grant of BLM-leased land. The advantages of the Mesa-area ponds are: they are newly constructed with double liners and leak detection systems, they are located out of the Muddy River floodplain, and they are located in an area where the depth to groundwater is significantly deeper.

On the basis of preliminary review of the requirements of the Nevada Revised Statutes, as amended, and implementing regulations, the Administrator proposes to re-issue Permit NV0023027 to discharge for a five (5) year period, subject to certain effluent limitations.

Members of the public wishing to comment upon the proposed permit and/or to recommend terms and conditions for consideration of incorporation in the permit are invited to attend the hearing meeting and provide comments and information that are pertinent to the discharge permit. Comments not related to water quality issues cannot be considered during this Public Hearing. The Division may set a time limit for oral statements based on the number of people in attendance who would like to comment. Comments and information may be submitted by interested persons through the close of the Public Hearing.

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All comments or objections received within the thirty (30) day public notice period or submitted at the Public Hearing will be considered in the formulation of final determinations regarding the application. If the determinations of the Administrator are substantially changed from the tentative determinations, the Administrator will give public notice of the revised determinations. Additional comments and objections will be considered at that time.

The application and all documents subsequent thereto are on file at the Division's office in Carson City and are available for public inspection and copying pursuant to NRS 239.010 and NRS 445A.665. For additional information please contact Jeryl R. Gardner, P.E., Bureau of Water Pollution Control at (775) 687-9423, or via e-mail at: jgardner@ndep.nv.gov. The office fax number is (775) 687-4684.

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