



NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION

The Administrator, Division of Environmental Protection, Carson City, Nevada is issuing the following notice of proposed action under the Nevada Revised Statutes and/or the Clean Water Act, where applicable. The Administrator has received an application for a Groundwater Discharge , permit number NS0097023 from the following applicant:

NV ENERGY
PO BOX 10100
RENO, NV - 89520

Permit NS0097023, TRACY POWER STATION:

The Permittee, NV Energy, has applied for renewal of existing permit NS0097023. NV Energy (NVE) operates the Tracy Power Generation Station (TPGS). The total TPGS generating capacity is approximately 950 megawatts (MW), with all units operating on natural gas, and some units having the ability to also operate on diesel. Electric generators are driven by combustion and steam turbine units. The power station's current power production consists of the Tracy Unit III, built in 1974, produces 108 MWs, and the Clark Mountain 3 and 4 combustion turbines which were added in 1994 and individually produce 72 MW of power each. The Piñon Pine (unit #4) combined cycle power plant, dedicated in 1996, generates 102 MWs combining steam and gas turbines, and the Tracy combined cycle units 8, 9, and 10 generate approximately 550 MWs. There are two operational cooling towers. The Piñon Waste Concentration Tower has been removed and replaced by the new reverse osmosis (RO) system which provides purified water which can be reused in several of the facility's cooling towers or other water using systems. This recycling of water reduces the quantity of waste water, thus reducing the quantity sent to the evaporation pond. The cooling tower for Tracy Units 1 and 2 was retired with the associated combustion units at the end of 2014.

The Permittee has applied for renewal of permit NS0097023 to continue discharges of the facility waste streams to either the evaporation ponds for disposal via evaporation, or the non-contact cooling waters and waters of similar chemistry that are discharged into the cooling water pond for future reuse/recycling; river water and/or groundwater from wells are used to supplement the cooling pond as need dictates. Cooling water is authorized for use in dust suppression on site. Monitoring wells have been installed for water quality monitoring and the evaporation ponds each have a leak detection system installed.

On the basis of preliminary review of the requirements of the Nevada Revised Statutes, as amended, and implementing regulations, the Administrator proposes to issue Permit NS0097023 to discharge for a five (5) year period, subject to certain effluent limitations.

Persons wishing to comment upon or object to the proposed determinations by the Administrator regarding permit issuance, or request a hearing pursuant to the Nevada Administrative Code, Water Pollution Control, should submit their comments or request, in writing, within thirty (30) days of the date of newspaper publication, hand delivered or postmarked no later than 5:00 P.M. on 05/27/2016 , either in person or by mail to:

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Division of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Water Pollution Control
901 South Stewart Street, Suite 4001
Carson City, NV 89701

The request must be filed within the comment period and must indicate the interest of the person filing the request and the reasons why a hearing is warranted. All comments or objections received

within the thirty (30) day period will be considered in the formulation of final determination(s) regarding the application. If written comments indicate a significant degree of public interest in the proposed permit, the Administrator shall hold a public hearing. A public notice of such hearing will be issued not less than thirty (30) days prior to the hearing date.

If no hearing is held and 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 applications, proposed permits, comments received, and other information are on file and may be copied or copies may be obtained by writing to the above address or by contacting Robert E. Wimer, Jr., Bureau of Water Pollution Control, at (775) 687-9458 or at rwimer@ndep.nv.gov. The office facsimile number is (775) 687-4684. For further information, the fact sheet for this project can be viewed at the following website: <http://ndep.nv.gov/admin/public.htm>.

Please bring the forgoing notice to the attention of all persons whom you know would be interested in this matter.