

IDAHO OIL AND GAS CONSERVATION COMMISSION
December 7, 2017
Information Agenda

SUBJECT

Class II Underground Injection Control Program

BACKGROUND

The Idaho Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (Commission) is authorized in Idaho Code § 47-315 to regulate the exploration for and production of oil and gas, prevent waste of oil and gas and to protect correlative rights. Idaho Code § 47-315(6)(e) reads “Without limiting its general authority, and without limiting the authority of other state agencies or local government as provided by law, the commission shall have the specific authority to regulate:” “(e) The disposal of produced water and oil field wastes.”

Produced water is a common byproduct resulting from the development of hydrocarbon resources in Idaho. Currently, this produced water is disposed of through a surface waste processing facility in Kuna, Idaho at considerable cost to the Operator. As a result, the Operator is exploring other options to dispose of the produced water.

The Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR) is working in partnership with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) and the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) to develop a Class II Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program in the state of Idaho. A Class II UIC Program could be a viable option to reduce overall development cost and increase production from the field.

DISCUSSION

This informational item is to inform the Commission of the current steps being taken by the IDWR, EPA, IDL and IDEQ to enable a Class II UIC Program in the state of Idaho.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Idaho Code § 47-315
2. PowerPoint – “Produced Water from Willow Field; Payette County, Idaho”
James Thum, Idaho Department of Lands
3. PowerPoint – “Transferring Class II in Idaho”
Evan Osborne, Environmental Protection Agency
4. PowerPoint – “Current Status of the Class II UIC Program”
Tom Neace, Idaho Department of Water Resources
5. Flowchart – “Application of Idaho Ground Water Quality Rule, Class II Injection Well Process Overview”
Ed Hagan, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality