

EPA Public Hearing on Draft Injection Well Permit

Public Meeting and Hearing

EPA is seeking further comments on its proposed draft permit for Wexford Water Technologies, permit number MI-165-11-0002.

March 21, 2018

Public meeting

6 to 7:30 p.m.

Public hearing

7:30 to 9 p.m.

Cadillac Senior High School
Auditorium
400 Linden Street
Cadillac, MI

How to Comment

New comments can be submitted by mail, email, or in person at the public hearing. If you already submitted a comment, you do not need to resubmit.

Send new comments to:

Andrew Greenhagen

U.S. EPA, Water Division

UIC Branch (WU-16J)

77 W. Jackson Blvd.

Chicago, IL 60604-3590

Email: greenhagen.andrew@epa.gov

New Comment Period

EPA will accept written comments until **March 23, 2018** (midnight postmark). The original comment period ended in November 2017.

Right to Appeal

You have the right to appeal any final permit decision if you make an official comment during either comment period or participate in the public hearing. The first appeal must be made to the Environmental Appeals Board. The final decision can be appealed in federal court only after all agency review procedures have been exhausted.

On the Web

To learn more about EPA's Underground Injection Control program, or to join our mailing list, visit <http://go.usa.gov/3JwFP>

Wexford Water Technologies LLC

Wexford County, Michigan

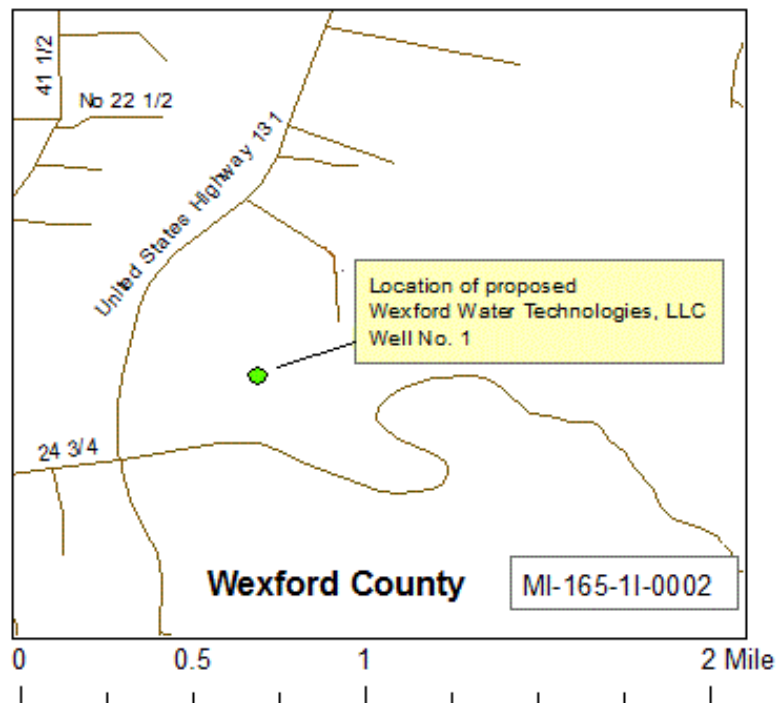
February 2018

The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency tentatively approved a request from Wexford Water Technologies LLC for one Class I nonhazardous injection well permit. Before EPA makes a final decision, the Agency is providing the public an opportunity to comment on the draft permit (*see left-hand box on how to comment*).

Wexford Water Technologies LLC plans to dispose of nonhazardous liquid waste from the Wexford County Landfill. The company wants to drill and construct one injection well at 990 N. Old US Highway 131 near Manton, Michigan.

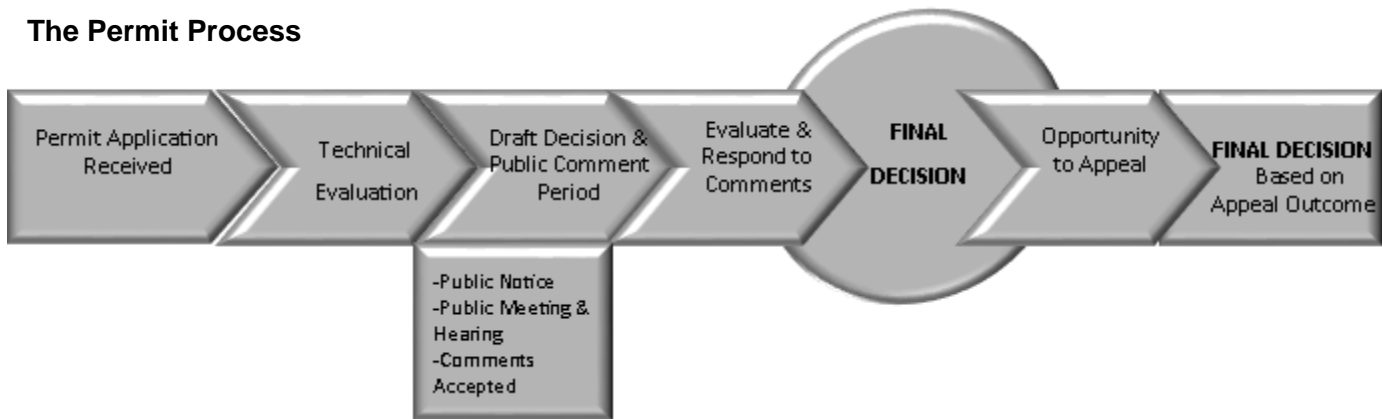
EPA received requests for a public hearing on this proposed permit approval. EPA will hold a public meeting and hearing **March 21**. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality will participate. During the hearing, you will have an opportunity to make oral comments or submit written comments about EPA's draft permit. EPA will consider all comments it receives, and then issue a final decision along with a response to the significant comments.

The new public comment period on EPA's draft permit ends **March 23**. This exceeds the required 30-day period and includes an additional three days for any delay caused by mailing.



Map shows location of the proposed injection well south of the city of Manton in Wexford County, Michigan.

The Permit Process



Legal Authority

The Safe Drinking Water Act requires EPA to regulate the underground injection of fluids through wells to protect the quality of underground sources of drinking water. Issuing permits is one way EPA does this. You can find the regulations governing underground injection wells at Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 124, 144, and 146.

EPA does not have the authority to change the surface location of the injection well.

What is the role of the EPA?

EPA must make sure that injection wells will not harm drinking water. The Safe Drinking Water Act requires companies that want to drill a well to apply for and receive a permit from EPA. The permit includes conditions to ensure that the well will not have a negative impact on drinking water.

To make sure that the well will not harm drinking water, EPA looks at a number of things, including:

- Location of underground drinking water sources,
- Rock type and suitability for injection, and
- Wells in the area that may accidentally leak.

EPA also looks at the way the well will be operated, including:

- Pressure used to inject the fluid in the well,
- Monitoring the well when it is in use, and
- Closing the well when it is no longer in use.

What is the permit process?

EPA must review the permit application and make sure it is complete. The application must meet the Safe Drinking Water Act requirements for this type of well. After reviewing the application, EPA issues a draft decision approving or denying the permit. The draft decision is announced for public comments.

Based on the comments, EPA may notify the public of a public meeting and hearing on the decision. At the public meeting EPA will provide information and answer questions about the permit. At the public hearing people can provide comments to EPA for the record. Comments can also be given in writing or by email.

EPA will review comments and then make a final decision. EPA will respond to all of the significant comments that were received. The final permit decision may be appealed to the Environmental Appeals Board by anyone who commented during either comment period or participated in the hearing.

More information available

You may view EPA's draft permit and public hearing fact sheet at:

Manton Public Library
404 W. Main St., Manton, Michigan

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

Andrew Greenhagen
312-353-7648
greenhagen.andrew@epa.gov

You may call toll-free, 800-621-8431, weekdays, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Eastern Time
Or visit <http://go.usa.gov/3JwFP>