



North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Division of Water Quality

Beverly Eaves Perdue  
Governor

Charles Wakild, P. E.  
Director

Dee Freeman  
Secretary

April 23, 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO: NC Division of Waste Management  
Environmental Consulting Firms  
Other Interested or Affected Parties

FROM: Thomas Slusser, L.G. *TS*  
Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program Manager

SUBJECT: Impact of Injection Well Rule Revisions on *In Situ* Remediation Activities  
Criteria and Standards Applicable to Injection Wells (15A NCAC 02C .0200)

On April 19, 2012, the North Carolina Rules Review Commission approved revisions of the criteria and standards applicable to injection wells, which will become effective on May 1, 2012. *In situ* remediation activities permitted by the non-discharge rules (15A NCAC 02C .1600) to inject onsite contaminated groundwater are not affected by these rules.

One of the rule revisions was to consolidate all *in situ* remediation injection well types and regulations into a single rule (15A NCAC 02C .0225). Regulatory changes in this rule include:

- Air sparge wells require notification to DWQ within 30 days of construction, abandonment, or other status change
- The following injection activities are permitted by rule and require 2 weeks' prior notification:
  - Passive in-well systems (ORC socks, iSOC systems, ozone and other gas infusions)
  - Small-scale injections (plumes located entirely within a 10,000 ft<sup>2</sup> area)
  - Pilot Tests (limited to 5% land surface area of plume and may involve multiple wells, injectants, injection events)
- Hydraulic or pneumatic fracturing is allowed but will require an individual permit and demonstration of fracture control

The new rules can be found online at <http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/wq/aps/gwpro/rules-statutes> and notification forms can be found at <http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/wq/aps/gwpro/permit-applications>.

Please contact me by email at [thomas.slusser@ncdenr.gov](mailto:thomas.slusser@ncdenr.gov) or by telephone at 919-807-6412 if you have any questions about the new rules, injection wells, or the UIC Program.

AQUIFER PROTECTION SECTION  
1636 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1617  
Location: 512 N. Salisbury St. Raleigh, North Carolina 27604  
Phone: 919-807-6464 \ FAX: 919-807-6496  
Internet: [www.ncwaterquality.org/web/wq/aps](http://www.ncwaterquality.org/web/wq/aps)

An Equal Opportunity \ Affirmative Action Employer

One  
North Carolina  
*Naturally*