

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
PUBLIC NOTICE
UNDERGROUND INJECTION WELL PERMIT TERMINATION

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) hereby gives notice of intent to terminate Equistar Chemicals, LP's (Equistar) non-hazardous waste Class 1 Underground Injection Control (UIC) permit for the injection well (Well No. 1). Equistar is located at 625 E. U.S. Highway 36, Tuscola, Illinois. The facility mailing address is 625 E. U.S. Highway 36, P.O. Box 378, Tuscola, Illinois 61953. Equistar's Tuscola plant manufactured ethanol, ethyl ether, and Microthene F (a polyethylene powder), which were used in the cosmetics and health care markets, as laboratory reagents, and in the automotive and plastics industries. Since 1970 Equistar disposed of several non-hazardous wastes from their manufacturing processes utilizing waste disposal Well No. 1.

This draft UIC permit decision is in response to Equistar's request to terminate their Class I UIC permit due to the plant ceasing operations and the completion of plugging and abandonment of Well No. 1 in accordance with the requirements of Equistar's UIC permit. Equistar's request to terminate their permit is considered to be a major permit modification.

The interested public is invited to review copies of the draft UIC permit decision, fact sheet, and administrative record, at:

City of Tuscola Public Library
112 East Sale Street
Tuscola, Illinois 61953

Written comments on the draft UIC permit decision may be submitted during the 30-day comment period. Send comments to the Illinois EPA contact listed at the end of this notice postmarked by 11:59pm, April 22, 2024. In response to public requests or at the discretion of the Illinois EPA, a public hearing can be held to clarify technical issues concerning the draft UIC permit decision. A public hearing request must be made in writing, express opposition to the draft UIC permit decision and state the nature of the issue(s) to be raised at the hearing. Written hearing requests should be sent to the Illinois EPA contact listed below by the end of the comment period. Public notice will be issued 30 days before any hearing.

All comments received will become part of the Administrative Record (AR) and will be evaluated by the Illinois EPA in making the final UIC permit decision. The Illinois EPA will respond to comments on the draft permit decision and indicate whether additional documents have been included in the AR. Commenters will be notified of the final UIC permit decision and the permit decision appeal process.

The AR, including the permit application, draft UIC permit decision, fact sheet, related information and all data submitted by the applicant, is now available for public inspection by appointment only Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Please telephone the Illinois EPA contact below for an appointment to view the documents at Illinois EPA's offices in Springfield.

Sarah Brubaker, Public Involvement Coordinator (#5), Sarah.Brubaker@illinois.gov
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
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The Safe Drinking Water Act of 1976 established the federal UIC program in order to protect groundwater resources. UIC program requirements were designed to prevent contamination of underground sources of drinking water resulting from wastewater injection. The Illinois EPA is authorized to administer certain aspects of the UIC program in Illinois.