BEFORE THE ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

ELECTRIC ENERGY, INC.

Petitioner **PCB** 2023-

v.

ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Respondent.

NOTICE OF FILING

To: Pollution Control Board, Attn: Clerk Division of Legal Counsel James R. Thompson Center 1021 N. Grand Avenue East Suite 11-500 P.O. Box 19276
Chicago, Illinois 60601-3218 Springfield. Illin PCB.Clerks@illinois.gov epa.dlc@illinois.gov

100 West Randolph Street Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that I have today filed with the Office of the Clerk of the Pollution Control Board the attached **PETITION FOR REVIEW OF ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY'S NON-CONCURRENCE WITH ALTERNATIVE SOURCE DEMONSTRATION UNDER 35 ILL. ADM. CODE PART 845 AND MOTION FOR STAY**; **APPEARANCES OF JOSHUA MORE, BINA JOSHI, AND SAMUEL RASCHE**; and a **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**, copies of which are herewith served upon you.

> /s/ *Samuel A. Rasche* Dated: December 22, 2023

Joshua R. More Bina Joshi Samuel A. Rasche 233 South Wacker Drive, Suite 7100 Chicago, Illinois 60606 (312) 258-5500 Joshua.More@afslaw.com Bina.Joshi@afslaw.com Sam.Rasche@afslaw.com

Attorneys for Electric Energy, Inc.

BEFORE THE ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

ELECTRIC ENERGY, INC.

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Respondent.

APPEARANCE OF JOSHUA R. MORE AND CONSENT TO E-MAIL SERVICE

I, Joshua R. More, hereby enter my appearance on behalf of ELECTRIC ENERGY, INC.

and authorize the service of documents on me by email in lieu of receiving paper documents in the

above-captioned proceeding. My email address to receive service is as follows:

Joshua.More@afslaw.com

/s/ *Joshua R. More*

Joshua R. More

Dated: December 22, 2023

Joshua R. More 233 South Wacker Drive, Suite 7100 Chicago, Illinois 60606 (312) 258-5500 Joshua.More@afslaw.com

Attorney for Electric Energy, Inc.

BEFORE THE ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

ELECTRIC ENERGY, INC.

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ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Respondent.

APPEARANCE OF BINA JOSHI AND CONSENT TO E-MAIL SERVICE

I, Bina Joshi, hereby enter my appearance on behalf of ELECTRIC ENERGY, INC. and

authorize the service of documents on me by email in lieu of receiving paper documents in the

above-captioned proceeding. My email address to receive service is as follows:

Bina.Joshi@afslaw.com

/s/ *Bina Joshi*

Bina Joshi

Dated: December 22, 2023

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Attorney for Electric Energy, Inc.

BEFORE THE ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

ELECTRIC ENERGY, INC.

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ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Respondent.

APPEARANCE OF SAMUEL A. RASCHE AND CONSENT TO E-MAIL SERVICE

I, Samuel A. Rasche, hereby enter my appearance on behalf of ELECTRIC ENERGY,

INC. and authorize the service of documents on me by email in lieu of receiving paper documents

in the above-captioned proceeding. My email address to receive service is as follows:

Sam.Rasche@afslaw.com

/s/ *Samuel A. Rasche*

Samuel A. Rasche

Dated: December 22, 2023

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Attorney for Electric Energy, Inc.

BEFORE THE ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

ELECTRIC ENERGY, INC.

Petitioner **PCB** 2023-

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ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Respondent.

PETITION FOR REVIEW OF ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY'S NON-CONCURRENCE WITH ALTERNATIVE SOURCE DEMONSTRATION UNDER 35 ILL. ADM. CODE PART 845 AND MOTION FOR STAY

Petitioner Electric Energy, Inc. ("EEI" or "Petitioner"), pursuant to Sections 105.200 *et seq.* and 845.650(e) of Title 35 of the Illinois Administrative Code, 35 Ill. Adm. Code §§ 105.200 *et seq.* and § 845.650(e), appeals the final decision of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency ("IEPA" or the "Agency") that did not concur with the Alternative Source Demonstration for the Joppa East Ash Pond submitted to the Agency on October 21, 2023 (the "Joppa ASD"). IEPA's non-concurrence is stated in a letter from IEPA Bureau of Water Groundwater Section Manager Michael Summers to EEI dated November 16, 2023, and served upon EEI on November 20, 2023, via U.S. Mail, which is attached as **Exhibit A** (the "IEPA Denial"). As detailed in Section II below, IEPA's Denial is contrary to the applicable regulations and arbitrary and capricious. For the reasons set forth in Section III below, Petitioner also requests a partial stay of Part 845 requirements as they apply to the exceedances at issue in this Petition.

In support of this Petition and Motion for Stay, EEI states as follows:

I. BACKGROUND

A. Regulatory Background

1. IEPA regulates coal combustion residual ("CCR") surface impoundments under 35 Ill. Adm. Code Part 845 ("Part 845").^{[1](#page-5-0)} Part 845 includes requirements for regular groundwater monitoring. 35 Ill. Adm. Code § 845.650.

2. If, during groundwater monitoring, one or more constituents are detected and confirmed to be in exceedance of the groundwater protection standards in Section 845.600 ("GWPS"), a series of additional steps are triggered.

3. Within 60 days after detecting an exceedance of a GWPS, an owner or operator may submit an Alternative Source Demonstration ("ASD") to IEPA demonstrating "that a source other than the CCR surface impoundment caused the contamination and the CCR surface impoundment did not contribute to the contamination, or that the exceedance of the GWPS resulted from error in sampling, analysis, statistical evaluation, natural variation in groundwater quality, or a change in the potentiometric surface and groundwater flow direction." 35 Ill. Adm. Code § 845.650(e).

4. The ASD must "include a report that contains the factual or evidentiary basis for any conclusions and a certification of accuracy by a qualified professional engineer." *Id.*

5. IEPA must send a public notice of the ASD, and members of the public may submit written comments to IEPA within 14 days of the notice. *Id.*

6. Within 30 days after receiving an ASD, IEPA must provide a written response to the owner or operator of the CCR surface impoundment either concurring or not with the ASD. If IEPA concurs, the owner or operator must continue groundwater monitoring, but is not required to take additional actions in connection with the identified exceedance, including initiating an

¹ Subsequent references in this petition to "Section 845.xxx" or "§ 845.xxx" shall be to 35 Ill. Adm. Code, Part 845, unless otherwise specified.

assessment of corrective measures. If IEPA does not concur, the owner or operator may petition the Board for review of the non-concurrence. *Id.*

7. Other requirements are prompted in the absence of an ASD, or in the event an ASD is denied and a stay is not granted. For example, within 90 days after detecting an exceedance of a GWPS, the owner or operator of the CCR surface impoundment must initiate an assessment of corrective measures. 35 Ill. Adm. Code § 845.660(a). The owner or operator must, within 90 days of initiating its assessment of corrective measures (or up to 60 days longer if an extension is requested and granted), submit to the Agency an assessment of corrective measures. *Id.* at § $845.660(a)(2)$. Within a year of completing the assessment of corrective measures, an owner or operator must submit a construction permit application and corrective action plan to IEPA identifying the selected remedy. *Id* at § 845.670(b).

B. EEI's Alternative Source Demonstration

8. EEI owns the now retired Joppa Power Plant ("Joppa") located in Massac County, Illinois, west of the Village of Joppa, northeast of the Ohio River in Section 15 South, Range 3 East. Joppa includes the East Ash Pond ("EAP"), a CCR surface impoundment regulated under Part 845.

9. On August 22, 2023, groundwater monitoring at Joppa identified GWPS exceedances at multiple monitoring wells. Specifically, EEI identified GWPS exceedances for (1) cobalt at well G05 (the "Cobalt Exceedance"), and (2) pH at wells G11 and G51D (the "pH Exceedances").^{[2](#page-6-0)} EEI notified IEPA of its groundwater monitoring results, including these

 2 EEI also detected GWPS exceedances for Boron at multiple wells. EEI concluded the EAP may have caused or contributed to these exceedances and, therefore, did not address these exceedances in the Joppa ASD. EEI is addressing these exceedances by taking additional steps in accordance with Part 845, including 35 Ill. Adm. Code § 845.660.

exceedances, placed the information in its operating record, and contracted with an environmental consultant to further investigate the cause of the GWPS exceedances. Joppa Power Plant, East Ash Pond; IEPA ID # W1270100004-02, Groundwater Monitoring data and Detected Exceedances Quarter 2 2023 (Aug. 22, 2023), available at [https://www.luminant.com/documents/ccr/il](https://www.luminant.com/documents/ccr/il-ccr/Joppa/2023/2023-Joppa%202023%20Q2%2035%20IAC%20845%20GW%20rpt-W1270100004-02-Joppa-East%20Ash%20Pond-W1270100004%E2%80%9002.pdf)[ccr/Joppa/2023/2023-Joppa%202023%20Q2%2035%20IAC%20845%20GW%20rpt-](https://www.luminant.com/documents/ccr/il-ccr/Joppa/2023/2023-Joppa%202023%20Q2%2035%20IAC%20845%20GW%20rpt-W1270100004-02-Joppa-East%20Ash%20Pond-W1270100004%E2%80%9002.pdf)[W1270100004-02-Joppa-East%20Ash%20Pond-W1270100004%E2%80%9002.pdf.](https://www.luminant.com/documents/ccr/il-ccr/Joppa/2023/2023-Joppa%202023%20Q2%2035%20IAC%20845%20GW%20rpt-W1270100004-02-Joppa-East%20Ash%20Pond-W1270100004%E2%80%9002.pdf)

10. On October 21, 2023, EEI submitted the Joppa ASD to IEPA. The Joppa ASD concluded that sources other than the EAP were responsible for the Cobalt Exceedance and the pH Exceedances and that the EAP did not contribute to the Cobalt Exceedance or the pH Exceedances. The Joppa ASD is attached as **Exhibit B**.

1. The Cobalt Exceedance

11. The Joppa ASD identified three lines of evidence to demonstrate that the EAP is not the cause of or contributing to the Cobalt Exceedance. First, the Joppa ASD demonstrated that cobalt concentrations at monitoring well G05 are consistent with cobalt mobilization from native soils due to reductive dissolution of manganese oxides. **Exhibit B** at 7-9. The ASD explained that "[c]obalt sorbs strongly to manganese oxides and is thus often associated with manganese" in soils. *Id.* at 7. As manganese oxides in soil naturally dissolve into groundwater (through a process known as reductive dissolution) "the cobalt previously sorbed to the manganese oxide surface is also released" into the groundwater. *Id.*

12. The Joppa ASD explained that, if reductive dissolution of manganese oxides is responsible for the presence of cobalt in groundwater, "cobalt and manganese concentrations in both soils and groundwater will be correlated with one another." *Id.* The Joppa ASD compiled evidence and analyzed nearby solid phase data and groundwater data and further identified additional groundwater wells with comparable geochemical signatures to G05 to evaluate the

relationship between cobalt and manganese using a regression analysis. *Id.* The Joppa ASD concluded that the "strong association between cobalt and manganese in both the soil and groundwater, in addition to groundwater conditions in the area of G05 favoring manganese reduction, supports the conclusion that reductive dissolution of manganese oxides in native soil is occurring and is strongly influencing the cobalt concentrations in the groundwater rather than the EAP." *Id.* at 9.

13. Second, the Joppa ASD demonstrated that the cobalt concentrations in G05 are greater than the concentrations in the EAP. *Id.* at 10. The Joppa ASD explained that, if "the EAP were the source of cobalt in downgradient groundwater, EAP porewater would be expected to be higher than the groundwater concentrations." *Id*. Because there were no detections of cobalt above the reporting limit of 0.001 mg/L in EAP porewater samples, the Joppa ASD concluded that "cobalt concentrations [in G05] are not related to the EAP." *Id.*

14. Third, the Joppa ASD demonstrated that the cobalt concentrations observed in G05 are not correlated with other constituents that typically indicate contamination from CCR. *Id.* The Joppa ASD explained that boron and sulfate are "Site-specific key indicators for CCR" at the EAP, meaning that "if an exceedance is identified for a monitored CCR parameter but concentrations of boron and sulfate are not correlated with that parameter, it is unlikely that the CCR unit is the source of the GWPS exceedance." *Id.* Because there is no correlation between cobalt and the CCR indicators (boron and sulfate) at G05, the indication is that "the EAP is not the source of the cobalt exceedance." *Id.*

15. For the above reasons, the Joppa ASD concluded that the evidence "demonstrated that sources other than the EAP (the CCR unit) caused the cobalt exceedance at G05." *Id.* at 14.

2. The pH Exceedances

16. The Joppa ASD additionally identified three lines of evidence demonstrating that "sources other than the EAP (the CCR unit) caused the pH exceedances at G11 and G51D." *Id.* at 12. First, the Joppa ASD demonstrated that both G11 and G51D are upgradient of the EAP, and "[t]herefore, it is unlikely that porewater from the EAP would flow in the direction of G11 and G51D" and further "it is unlikely that the EAP is the source of the exceedances." *Id.*

17. Second, "wells G11 and G51D exhibit a high degree of similarity" with upgradient groundwater from wells located to the west of G11 and G51D. *Id.* Conversely, EAP porewater (located to the east of G11 and G51D) is "distinctly separate from the groundwater samples." *Id.* Accordingly, the Joppa ASD concluded that "the EAP does not influence the groundwater at G11 and G51D and therefore is not the source of the pH exceedances." *Id.*

18. Third, the Joppa ASD demonstrated the pH Exceedances are consistent with iron oxidation that occurs due to changes in local redox conditions. *Id.* The Joppa ASD evaluated the surrounding groundwater and identified a "distinct redox transition . . . shifting from more reducing conditions in upgradient waters to more oxidizing conditions in downgradient wells, including the exceedance wells." *Id.* at 13. The Joppa ASD explained that the "oxidation of dissolved iron to iron oxides is known to produce acidity" and thus "upgradient waters from the northwest provide the constituent (*i.e.*, reduced iron) necessary to cause a drop in pH (*i.e.*, through iron oxidation) in G11 and G51D." *Id.* As a result, the Joppa ASD concluded that the "oxidized environment in wells G11 and G51D likely results from mixing with the upgradient oxidized background groundwater" and therefore "mixing of groundwater resulting in natural variability in the groundwater conditions is the likely driver of the pH exceedances in G11 and G51D." *Id.*

19. For the above reasons, the Joppa ASD concluded "that sources other than the EAP caused the pH exceedances at G11 and G51D." *Id.* at 14.

B. IEPA's Review of the Joppa ASD

20. On October 23, 2023, IEPA provided notice to its listserve regarding the posting of the Joppa ASD submittal, triggering a 14-day period for written comments on the Joppa ASD submittal pursuant to Section 845.650(e)(3).

21. After submittal of the Joppa ASD, EEI and IEPA engaged in communications regarding the Joppa ASD submittal. On November 6, 2023, within the 14-day period for written comments, EEI submitted a written comment regarding the Joppa ASD in the form of a letter to IEPA (the "Comment Letter"). The Comment Letter was delivered to IEPA via email and is attached as **Exhibit C.**

22. In response to requests from IEPA, the Comment Letter provided hydraulic conductivity and boring log data, all of which "was previously provided or referenced in the Joppa EAP operating permit application and/or construction permit application" or the October 2017 Hydrogeologic Monitoring Plan for the Joppa EAP. The Comment Letter also notified IEPA that "EEI (with this letter) is incorporating by reference the entirety of its April 2023 supplemental site investigation report, October 25, 2021 operating permit application and July 28, 2022 construction permit application for the Joppa EAP into its Joppa EAP ASD submittal." **Exhibit C** at 1.[3](#page-10-0)

23. The Comment Letter also included a detailed explanation of why IEPA's requests for "source characterization that includes total solids sampling, analysis and reporting in accordance with SW-846 testing methods and [] sampling and analysis in accordance with 25 Ill. Admin. Code 845.640 of the alternative source" were impractical and unfounded. The Comment

³ These documents or portions of them were also referenced in the original Joppa EAP ASD submittal. **Exhibit B** at 15.

Letter attached an additional letter from EEI's qualified professional engineer detailing why IEPA's requests were unnecessary. *Id.* at Attachment 2.

C. The IEPA Denial

24. On November 16, 2023, ten days after receiving the Comment Letter, IEPA sent a two-page letter notifying EEI of IEPA's non-concurrence with the Joppa ASD (the "IEPA Denial"). The IEPA Denial states that "IEPA does not concur" due to two "data gaps." **Exhibit A**. The two listed data gaps according to IEPA are:

25. First, "[s]ource characterization of the CCR at the East Ash Pond must include total solids sampling in accordance with SW846" ("Data Gap 1"). *Id.* IEPA cited to the requirement of § 845.650(e) that an ASD demonstrate the CCR surface impoundment "did not contribute to the contamination" and asserted that "[IEPA] cannot concur with ASDs that do not include source characterization of the CCR with adequate sampling and analysis of the CCR horizontally and vertically within the [CCR surface impoundment]." *Id.* The IEPA Denial does not discuss, analyze, or explain why the porewater-based source characterization conducted by EEI was insufficient.

26. Second, "[c]haracterization to include sample and analysis in accordance with 35 IAC 845.640 of alternative source must be provided with ASD" ("Data Gap 2"). *Id.* Specifically, IEPA referenced the groundwater monitoring requirements of § 845.640(a) and asserted that "evidence of field collection methods and field and laboratory quality control and quality assurance" was required by that section, but does not provide a basis for § 845.640(a)'s application to an alternative source. *Id.* IEPA further asserts that § 845.650(e) requires "alternative source data as evidence of the alternative source" but does not explain why the data provided by EEI was insufficient. *Id.*

27. These two "Data Gaps" are similar to the issues discussed in EEI's Comment Letter. However, the IEPA Denial does not respond to or acknowledge the existence of the Comment Letter.

II. Discussion

28. IEPA's bases for its non-concurrence, the two "Data Gaps," are each arbitrary and capricious and not supported by IEPA's regulatory authority under Section 845.650.

A. There are no data gaps in the ASD

29. IEPA's Denial unreasonably demands data and analysis that is not required by Section 845.650. The regulation requires only that EEI submit a "demonstration . . . that a source other than the CCR surface impoundment caused the contamination and the CCR surface impoundment did not contribute to the contamination." 35 Ill. Adm. Code § 845.650(e). In support of the demonstration, the regulations require that an ASD "include a report that contains the factual or evidentiary basis for any conclusions and a certification of accuracy by a qualified professional engineer." *Id.* The Joppa ASD report does just that through a scientifically supported analysis that contains multiple lines of evidence. **Exhibit B**; *See also*, **Exhibit C** at Attachment 2, pg. 1; *See also*, Declaration of Mindy Hahn at 2-10 (December 22, 2023), attached as **Exhibit D**. The information identified by IEPA's "Data Gaps" is not necessary to form a "factual and evidentiary basis" for the conclusions reached in an ASD. The information would not lead to a different result, and the fact that the data was not submitted is inadequate to support the Agency's nonconcurrence with the Joppa ASD.

1. "Data Gap 1"

30. "Data Gap 1" demands that the Joppa ASD should have included a "source characterization of the CCR at the East Ash Pond" including "total solids sampling in accordance with SW846." **Exhibit A**. However, there is no requirement in Part 845 that source

characterization of CCR for an ASD be conducted "in accordance with SW846" and "characterize the CCR horizontally and vertically within the [CCR surface impoundment]" and IEPA's Denial provides no justification for its demand. *Id*. Further, from a technical basis, the porewater analysis conducted in the Joppa ASD is a more appropriate and accurate method to characterize the EAP's source material than SW846.

31. There is no legal requirement that a source characterization for purposes of an ASD conducted under Section 845.650(e) utilize SW846. Method SW846 is incorporated by reference into Part 845 by Section 845.150. However, inclusion in the general "incorporations by reference" section of Part 845 does not create an affirmative obligation to use SW846 in all circumstances. The Board has explained that where Illinois rules incorporate analytical methods by reference via a "centralized listing of incorporations by reference" such as Section 845.150, "Illinois rules further indicate where each method is used *in the body of the substantive provisions*." *See In the Matter of: SDWA Update, USEPA Amendments (January 1, 2013 through June 30, 2013)*, R 14- 8, slip op. at 24-25 (Jan. 23, 2014) (emphasis added). Further, Chapter 2 of SW846 states that the methods in that document are not "mandatory" unless specifically specified as such by regulation. United States Environmental Protection Agency ("USEPA"), *SW-846 Update V*, (July 2014) at 1. [4](#page-13-0) USEPA guidance also makes clear that SW846 is only legally required where "explicitly specified" in a regulation. USEPA, *Disclaimer for Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Waste, Physical/Chemical Methods (SW-846)*, (July 2014), at 1.^{[5](#page-13-1)} The only substantive provision of Part 845 specifically requiring analysis using SW846 is Section 845.640(e), which applies to analyzing groundwater monitoring samples under a groundwater monitoring program and is not at issue here

⁴ Available at [https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2015-10/documents/chap2_1.pdf.](https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2015-10/documents/chap2_1.pdf)
⁵ Available at [https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2015-10/documents/disclaim.pdf.](https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2015-10/documents/disclaim.pdf)

where IEPA is referencing solids sampling. 35 Ill. Adm. Code \S 845.640(e). There is no requirement to use SW846 under Section 845.650(e). The plain language of the rules does not require the utilization of SW846 for purposes of an ASD, and IEPA has provided no justification for any alternative interpretation.

32. Additionally, source characterization of the EAP was conducted using the best scientifically available procedure. As detailed in the November 6, 2023, letter from Ramboll to IEPA included with the Comment Letter, laboratory leach tests such as those prescribed by SW846 are used "to predict the potential concentration of chemicals under laboratory controlled conditions . . . which may or may not represent conditions observed in the field." **Exhibit C** at Attachment 2*,* pp. 2-3. Because "ASDs are prepared to evaluate the potential of *actual porewater* leaking from a CCR [surface impoundment] to be the cause of a detected exceedance observed," SW846's "use of leach test results performed under variable conditions collected from any number of locations within the CCR [surface impoundment] to estimate a total potential for chemical leaching from CCR into groundwater under a variety of different conditions is irrelevant to an ASD." *Id.* (emphasis added). The porewater analysis used for the Joppa ASD is the best and most accurate scientifically available information for source characterization of the EAP and demonstration that the EAP did not contribute to the cobalt contamination in well G05 and pH contamination in wells G11 and G51D. *Id.*; **Exhibit D** at 13-16. That analysis provided evidence that cobalt was nondetect in EAP porewater and that EAP porewater is "distinctly separate" from and does not influence the groundwater collected at wells G11 and G51D. **Exhibit B** at 10, 12.

33. The IEPA Denial is not clear regarding what procedure under SW846 IEPA believes should have been utilized for source characterization including total solids sampling in accordance with SW846. **Exhibit A**. However, no method under SW846 would have been

preferable to or provide better information than the source characterization methodology utilized for the Joppa ASD. **Exhibit D** at 13-15. That sampling would have included laboratory simulated and/or indirect analysis of potential leaching from material in the EAP, while the methodology utilized for the Joppa ASD included a direct analysis of porewater to determine what constituents are actually leaching from the EAP. **Exhibit C** at Attachment 2, p. 2; *see also* **Exhibit D** at 5-7, 9, 13-15.

34. If source characterization of CCR at the EAP did include total solids sampling in accordance with SW846, it would not be expected to change the results of the Joppa ASD. **Exhibit D** at 15.

35. IEPA's denial of the Joppa ASD based on "Data Gap 1" is accordingly arbitrary and capricious.

2. "Data Gap 2"

36. "Data Gap 2" demands that the Joppa ASD should have provided a characterization "in accordance with 35 IAC 845.640 of [the] alternative source . . ." including "evidence of field collection methods and field and laboratory quality control and quality assurance." **Exhibit A**. However, there is no requirement to conduct groundwater sampling of an alternative source in accordance with Section 845.640 as part of an ASD as suggested by IEPA.

37. IEPA suggests that such monitoring is required because SW846 guides the Agency to make its regulatory decisions based on "environmental data." *Id.* As explained above in Section II.A.1., there is no requirement that SW846 apply to an ASD under § 845.650(e). Nonetheless, the Joppa ASD was prepared using quality environmental data as contemplated by SW846, and nothing in Chapter 1 of SW846 supports IEPA's conclusion that groundwater sampling under § 845.640 is an appropriate (let alone required) means of collecting environmental data for purposes of an ASD. Chapter 1 of SW846 states that its guidance is intended to "ensure data are of sufficient

quality *for their intended use.*" USEPA, *SW-846 Update V, Chapter 1* at 1 (July, 2014) (emphasis added).^{[6](#page-16-0)} However, SW846 acknowledges that "[d]ue to the diversity of data collection efforts, it is not possible to provide all details necessary to meet the needs of all members of the intended audience." *Id.* There is no specific guidance under SW846 for preparing an ASD. EEI prepared the Joppa ASD in accordance with industry guidance and standards to ensure that the data presented was the best available for the intended use. *See* **Exhibit C** at Attachment 2, pp. 1-2; **Exhibit D** at 2-4.

38. Further, IEPA's assertion that the regulations require direct groundwater sampling of an alternative source ignores the reality that exceedances may be caused by dynamic geochemical processes (such as the "release of naturally occurring cobalt from manganese oxides" or the "mixing of oxidizing and reducing waters" the Joppa ASD identified as the likely sources of the Cobalt Exceedance and pH Exceedances) which cannot be directly sampled as contemplated by IEPA. *See* **Exhibit C** at Attachment 2, pg. 3. Section 845.640 provides groundwater monitoring requirements for a specific *physical* source of groundwater contaminants (namely, a CCR surface impoundment) which allows for the collection of direct groundwater samples. By contrast, in situations such as here, where the source of the contamination is a geochemical process the "closest approximation of direct sampling would involve using collected materials in complex laboratory simulations which would attempt to replicate field conditions." *Id.* Rather than attempting to conduct an artificial laboratory replication, the Joppa ASD relied upon facts and evidence consisting of "*site-specific* hydrogeologic, groundwater composition, and solid phase data" to support the conclusions that the Cobalt Exceedance and pH Exceedances were caused by other

⁶ Available at https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2015-10/documents/chap1_1.pdf.

sources and that the EAP did not contribute to that contamination. *Id*. (emphasis added). For pH specifically, there is no feasible solution to sample the source of pH exceedances because they are a result of complex chemical reactions within the aquifer. Any attempt to collect materials for evaluation of reactions in a laboratory would alter the geochemical conditions and provide unrepresentative results. The Joppa ASD demonstrated the pH Exceedances are consistent with iron oxidation and a geochemical analysis was performed using site-specific data.

39. The Joppa ASD included a detailed explanation of how each conclusion was reached and the evidence supporting each conclusion, and provided significant data as attachments as well as references to any report or other document referred to or relied on. This is more than sufficient to provide the "factual and evidentiary basis" required by Section 845.650(e). No provision of Part 845 requires that an ASD be supported by a characterization of the alternative sources "in accordance with" the groundwater monitoring requirements of § 845.640, and IEPA has provided no justification or support for its one-size-fits-all interpretation of the precise data required.

40. The facts and evidence provided with the Joppa ASD are supportive of a conclusion that "the East Ash Pond is not the source of the cobalt exceedance at G05 or the low pH at G11 and G51D (and did not contribute to these exceedances) and that the likely source is natural variability in groundwater due to water-solid interactions and groundwater mixing, respectively," and any "additional lines of evidence" based on sampling and leach test data requested by IEPA would not "change the conclusion of the full body of evidence presented in the [Joppa] ASD. . ." **Exhibit C** at Attachment 2, p. 4; *see also,* **Exhibit D** at 13-16.

41. As noted above in Section II.A., the Joppa ASD was prepared using a multiple lines of evidence approach in accordance with guidance for the development of ASDs at CCR sites.

Exhibit C at Attachment 2, p. 2; **Exhibit D** at 2-4. Following such guidance, the Joppa ASD reviewed and analyzed "site specific hydrogeologic, groundwater composition, and solid phase data . . . using industry-standard geochemical and statistical methods" including principal component analysis ("PCA"). **Exhibit C** at Attachment 2, pp. 3, 7-8. The Joppa ASD used these data sets and analytical methods to develop evidence supporting the conclusions that (1) regarding the Cobalt Exceedance at G05, cobalt is naturally associated with manganese in the area and that the hydrogeologic conditions are favorable for the reductive dissolution of manganese oxides that would release cobalt into the groundwater; and (2) regarding the pH Exceedances at G11 and G51D, a "distinct redox transition" between the groundwater at G11 and G51D and upgradient groundwater that would result in lower iron concentrations at G11 and G51D that are the likely cause of the low pH. **Exhibit B** at 7, 13.

42. The Joppa ASD's use of site-specific information and identification of specific geochemical reactions is more than sufficient to provide the "demonstration" required by § 845.650(e). IEPA's request for a complete characterization of the alternative sources in accordance with the groundwater monitoring requirements of § 845.640 is unfounded and unexplained. Further, as detailed below in Section II.B., IEPA's request is practically infeasible, particularly in a situation like this one where the exceedances are the result of dynamic geochemical reactions rather than a stationary "source." Accordingly, IEPA's use of "Data Gap 2" as a grounds for nonconcurrence is arbitrary and capricious.

B. IEPA's Denial imposes practically infeasible requirements.

43. IEPA's interpretation of Section 845.650(e) is further unreasonable because "Data Gaps" 1 and 2 demand complex sampling and analysis that cannot feasibly be completed within the timeframes contemplated by the regulations, if at all. Section 845.650(e) requires owners and operators to submit an ASD within 60 days after detecting a GWPS exceedance. The regulations

further require IEPA to reach a final decision within 30 days after receiving an ASD. 35 Ill Adm. Code $§ 845.650(e)(4)$.

44. "Data Gap 1" requests that EEI provide source characterization of the CCR at the EAP that includes "total solids sampling in accordance with SW846." **Exhibit A**. Such a characterization could take approximately 21-42 weeks to complete. **Exhibit E**, Declaration of Cynthia Vodopivec at 1. Thus, even if EEI anticipated IEPA's request for this data and began the CCR source characterization at the exact moment the GWPS exceedance is detected, the characterization could not reasonably be completed until months *after* IEPA's deadline to reach a final decision on the Joppa ASD (let alone EEI's deadline to submit an ASD).

45. "Data Gap 2" requests a full characterization of the alternative sources "in accordance with 35 IAC 845.640[.]" **Exhibit A**. As explained above, the direct sampling contemplated by Section 845.640 is not feasible where an exceedance is caused by local geology and geochemistry and the "closest approximation" would involve complex laboratory simulations "which would attempt to replicate field conditions." **Exhibit C** at Attachment 2, p. 3; **Exhibit E** at 1. Such simulations would likely take at least 10-15 weeks and would not be expected to provide representative results. **Exhibit E** at 1-2.[7](#page-19-0) Again, there is no regulatory requirement that EEI conduct such analysis, and thus there would have been no reason for EEI to begin any such characterization until a GWPS exceedance is detected. Once again, even if EEI had fully anticipated IEPA's requests, it would not have been able to complete the analysis until months

⁷ Undertaking the steps required to provide the information IEPA seeks through "Data Gaps" 1 and 2 would also be costly: collecting the information requested by "Data Gap 1" would likely cost approximately \$325,000-\$680,000, while "Data Gap 2" would cost approximately \$55,000 for cobalt and \$35,000-\$45,000 for pH. **Exhibit E** at 1-2. While cost is not the driver of actions taken for completing an ASD, as Dr. Hahn explains, accepted scientific practice is to not develop costly additional lines of evidence when sufficient evidence exists from other, accessible and solid lines of evidence to support a conclusion. **Exhibit D** at 2-4.

past the deadline to submit an ASD. Even then, it is unclear whether such analysis could be done "in accordance with" § 845.640's groundwater monitoring requirements because those requirements do not contemplate "sources" such as those identified by the Joppa ASD.

46. The data the IEPA Denial categorizes as "gaps" in the Joppa ASD could not feasibly be completed before the prescribed deadline for submitting an ASD, if at all. IEPA's interpretation that Section 845.650 requires these characterizations would thus make the entire ASD provision meaningless, as it would be impossible for any owner or operator to submit a sufficient ASD.

47. Accordingly, IEPA's Denial is arbitrary and capricious and also ignores reality.

48. Furthermore, even if the data requested was required to be collected elsewhere under Part 845, there is no requirement in Section 845.650 that such data be used in connection with an ASD. Here, qualified professionals used best available information to develop an ASD within the regulatory deadline and in conformance with regulatory requirements. Certainly, additional lines of evidence could be added to the ASD analysis; however, professional judgment and practicality dictate that every possible line of evidence need not and cannot be developed. **Exhibit D** at 2-4. Doing so would take an unreasonable amount of time. Additionally, doing so is unnecessary when existing information is sufficient to support the conclusion that an alternative source caused the contamination detected and that the CCR surface impoundment at issue did not contribute to that contamination. *Id*.

C. IEPA's Denial was not based on a reasonable review of the data presented.

49. Finally, IEPA simply failed to fully evaluate the information presented to it before issuing its nonconcurrence. As noted above, EEI submitted its Comment Letter via email on November 6, 2023, 14 days after IEPA provided public notice of the Joppa ASD and thus within

the period for written comments required by Section 845.650 $(e)(3)$. The Comment Letter included significant information regarding the "Data Gaps" identified in the IEPA Denial.

50. However, the IEPA Denial, dated November 16, 2023 (ten days *after* IEPA received the Comment Letter), makes no reference to the Comment Letter whatsoever.

51. IEPA's failure to address or consider data and arguments provided to it well within the prescribed comment period was arbitrary and capricious.

III. MOTION FOR PARTIAL STAY

52. Because Part 845 does not authorize an automatic stay, EEI asks the Board to stay the requirements of Sections 845.650(d), 845.660, 845.670, and 845.680 for the Cobalt Exceedance and pH Exceedances at issue in this Petition until the later of (a) the Board's final resolution of this Petition, or (b) if this Petition is granted, IEPA's issuance of a concurrence.

A. The Board has authority to issue a stay.

53. The Board has long recognized its authority under Illinois law to issue discretionary stays. *See Community Landfill Co. and City of Morris v. IEPA*, PCB 01-48, PCB 01-49 (consol.), slip op. at 4 (Oct. 19, 2000); *see also, e.g.*, *Ill. Power Generating Co. v. IEPA*, PCB 16-60, slip op. at 1 (Dec. 17, 2015). Section 845.650(e)(7), which authorizes a petition for review of an IEPA nonconcurrence with an ASD, "would be rendered meaningless" if the Board had no authority to stay the associated regulations. *See Id.* An IEPA nonconcurrence with an ASD triggers corrective measure requirements that must be initiated within a short timeframe, likely far before the Board reaches a final resolution of this petition.^{[8](#page-21-0)}

⁸ Section 845.660(a) requires: "The assessment of corrective measures must be initiated within 90 days after finding [of any GWPS exceedance]" and the "assessment of corrective measures must be completed and submitted to the Agency within 90 days after initiation of assessment of corrective measures . . ."

54. Further, the rules specifically contemplate that the Board may stay certain regulatory requirements pending resolution of a petition for review: "The filing of a petition for review under subsection (e)(7) does not automatically stay any requirements of this Part as to the owner or operator, including the 90-day deadline to initiate an assessment of corrective measures (see Section 845.660(a)(1))." Section 845.650(e)(7). If the Board had no authority to stay the corrective measure requirements, there would have been no need for the rules to specify that the stay is not automatic.

B. A partial stay is appropriate under Illinois law.

55. The Board considers four factors^{[9](#page-22-0)} when determining whether to grant a discretionary stay of a final Agency decision:

- **a.** a certain and clearly ascertainable right needs protection;
- **b.** irreparable injury will occur without injunction;
- **c.** adequate remedy at law exists;
- **d.** a probability of success on the merits.

PCB 16-60, slip op. at 2 (Dec. 17, 2015), citing *Community Landfill Co. and City of Morris v. IEPA*, PCB 01-48, PCB 01-49 (consol.), slip op. at 4 (Oct. 19, 2000). The Board need not find that all of these factors exist in order to grant a discretionary stay. *Id.* The Board will also consider the likelihood of environmental harm should stay be granted. *Id.*, citing *Motor Oils Refining Co. v. IEPA*, PCB 89-116, slip op. at 2 (Aug. 31, 1989).

⁹ When reviewing a request for a discretionary stay in the context of a permit appeal or appeal of final agency decision, the Board has held that "although there are no specific standards set by the Board for issuing stays, Illinois law provides for standards under which such equitable relief is appropriate." *Motor Oils Refining Co. v. IEPA*, PCB 89-116, slip op. at 1 (Aug. 31, 1989), *citing Junkunc v. S.J. Advanced Technology & Mfg.*, 101 Ill. Dec. 671, 498 N.E.2d 1179 (Ill. App. 1 Dist. 1986).

56. For the reasons stated in this Petition, a stay is necessary to protect EEI's right to appeal the IEPA Denial and to prevent EEI from being unlawfully and unreasonably required to comply with costly and potentially unnecessary corrective measure requirements before it is able to exercise its right to appeal and be heard by the Board. Accordingly, EEI has an ascertainable right that needs protection.

57. EEI will suffer irreparable injury if it is subject to the corrective measure requirements of Sections 845.650(d), 845.660, 845.670, and 845.680 for the Cobalt Exceedance and pH Exceedances at issue in this Petition. Compliance with these requirements would require EEI to expend resources to complete assessments of corrective measures, prepare corrective action plans and take other steps under Part 845 for alleged discharges that, as explained in detail in the Joppa ASD and this Petition, likely never occurred. The assessments of corrective measures alone would likely cost approximately \$35,000. **Exhibit E** at 2. Selecting an appropriate remedy and developing a corrective action plan could cost an additional \$400,000. *Id*. at 2. These expenditures would further divert resources from the corrective measures EEI is currently conducting in response to GWPS exceedances not at issue in this Petition. *Id.* If EEI complied with the corrective measure requirements for cobalt and pH at the Joppa EAP and then succeeded on the merits of this Petition, costs, as well as time and other resources, would be lost. *Id*. Thus, EEI would suffer irreparable injury.

58. EEI has no other adequate remedy at law to prevent these injuries or to contest the IEPA Denial.

59. It is also likely that EEI will succeed on the merits of this Petition. EEI has demonstrated by a preponderance of the evidence that an alternative source other than the EAP is responsible for the Cobalt Exceedance and the pH Exceedances and that the EAP did not contribute

to that contamination as evidenced through the thorough analysis of a qualified professional engineer, and EEI is prepared to demonstrate that IEPA's nonconcurrence was arbitrary and capricious and/or inconsistent with applicable laws and regulations. *See, e.g.,* **Exhibit C**; **Exhibit**

D.

60. Finally, no harm to human health or the environment will result from a stay of these requirements. The Cobalt Exceedance is limited to a single monitoring well and the pH Exceedances to two monitoring wells located upgradient to the EAP. As demonstrated in the Joppa ASD and this Petition, the Joppa EAP is not the source of the Cobalt Exceedance or the pH Exceedances. Notably, the IEPA Denial does not suggest that IEPA believes the EAP is the cause of or is contributing to the GWPS exceedances – rather, the IEPA Denial is based on alleged "data gaps." **Exhibit A**. Moreover, the corrective measure requirements of Sections 845.650(d), 845.660, 845.670, and 845.680 include an assumption that the impoundment under assessment is at least a partial cause of the exceedances.^{[10](#page-24-0)} It is impossible to complete a corrective action assessment or to determine the optimal corrective action for a source that is not the cause of the exceedances, and to do so would provide no benefit to human health and the environment. Further, EEI has conducted a human health and risk assessment for the EAP demonstrating that even the worst-case exposure scenario through direct consumption of contaminated groundwater would be below levels that cause adverse health effects. Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment, East Ash Pond, Joppa Power Plant, Joppa, Illinois at 22, 31 (Jul. 28, 2022), available at https://www.luminant.com/documents/ccr/Illinois/Joppa/2022/Joppa%20EAP%20Construction% 20Permit%20Application.pdf. Furthermore, as of July 2022, there was no indication of any

¹⁰ *See, e.g.*, Section 845.660(a) ("... the owner or operator must initiate an assessment of corrective measures to prevent further releases, to remediate any releases, and to restore the affected area.").

residential use of groundwater for drinking water that could be impacted by the Joppa EAP, and no other exposure pathway presented a significant risk. *Id.* at 32. Lastly, the EAP has and will continue to be subject to the groundwater monitoring requirements of Section 845.650, which ensures that any changes in circumstances during the stay that could pose a risk to human health or the environment will be quickly identified.

IV. CONCLUSION

61. For the above reasons, EEI respectfully requests that the Board stay the requirements of Sections 845.650(d), 845.660, 845.670, and 845.680 relating to the Cobalt Exceedance and pH Exceedances at issue in this Petition until the later of (a) the Board's final resolution of this Petition, or (b) if this Petition is granted, IEPA's issuance of a concurrence. Moreover, EEI respectfully requests that the Board grant this Petition for Review and remand to IEPA to issue a new final written response concurring with the Joppa ASD.

Respectfully submitted,

 /s/ Joshua R. More Joshua R. More

ARENTFOX SCHIFF LLP Joshua R. More Bina Joshi Samuel A. Rasche 233 South Wacker Drive, Suite 7100 Chicago, Illinois 60606 (312) 258-5500 Joshua.More@afslaw.com Bina.Joshi@afslaw.com Sam.Rasche@afslaw.com

Attorneys for Electric Energy Inc.

BEFORE THE ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

ELECTRIC ENERGY, INC.

Petitioner **PCB** 2023-

v.

ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Respondent.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, the undersigned, certify that on this 22nd day of December, 2023:

I have electronically served a true and correct copy of the attached Petition for Review of Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's Non-Concurrence with Alternative Source Demonstration Under 35 Ill. Admin. Code Part 845 and Motion for Stay and Appearances of Joshua R. More, Bina Joshi, and Samuel A. Rasche by electronically filing with the Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board and by e-mail upon the following persons:

Pollution Control Board, Attn: Clerk Division of Legal Counsel Suite 11-500 P.O. Box 19276 Chicago, Illinois 60601-3218 Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276 PCB.Clerks@illinois.gov epa.dlc@illinois.gov

My e-mail address is sam.rasche@afslaw.com

100 West Randolph Street Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
James R. Thompson Center 1021 N. Grand Avenue East 1021 N. Grand Avenue East

The number of pages in the e-mail transmission is X.

The e-mail transmission took place before 5:00 p.m.

/s/ Samuel A. Rasche Samuel A. Rasche

Dated: December 22, 2023

ARENTFOX SCHIFF LLP

Joshua R. More Bina Joshi Samuel A. Rasche 233 South Wacker Drive, Suite 7100 Chicago, Illinois 60606 (312) 258-5500 Joshua.More@afslaw.com Bina.Joshi@afslaw.com Sam.Rasche@afslaw.com

Attorneys for Electric Energy, Inc.

BEFORE THE ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

ELECTRIC ENERGY, INC.

Petitioner **PCB** 2023-

v.

ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Respondent.

INDEX OF EXHIBITS

- Exhibit A Letter from Michael Summers, P.G., Manager, Groundwater Section, Division of Public Water Supplies, Bureau of Water, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency to Dianna Tickner, Electric Energy, Inc. (November 16, 2023)
- Exhibit B Ramboll, 35 I.A.C. § 845.650(e): Alternative Source Demonstration, East Ash Pond, Joppa Power Plant, Joppa, Illinois, IEPA ID: W1270100004-02 (October 21, 2023)
- Exhibit C Letter from Dianna Tickner, Sr. Director Decommission and Demolition, Electric Energy, Inc. to Lauren Martin, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (November 6, 2023)
- Exhibit D Declaration of Melinda W. Hahn, PhD (December 22, 2023)
- Exhibit E Declaration of Cynthia Vodopivec on behalf of Electric Energy, Inc. (December 22, 2023)

Exhibit A

ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY 1021 NORTH GRAND AvENUE EAST, P.O. Box 19276, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62794-9276 • (217) 782-3397 **JB PRITZKER,** GOVERNOR **JOHN J. KIM,** DIRECTOR Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

217-782-1020

November 16, 2023

Dianna Tickner Electric Energy, Inc. 1500 Eastport Plaza drive Collinsville. Illinois 62234

Re: Joppa Power Plant East Ash Pond; Wl270100004-02 Alternative Source Demonstration Submittal

Dear Ms. Tickner:

The purpose of this correspondence is to notify you that the lllinois Environmental Protection Agency (11linois EPA) does not concur with the Joppa East Ash Pond Alternative Source Demonstration (ASD) dated October 21. 2023. The Illinois EPA does not concur due to the following data gaps:

- l. Source characterization of the CCR at the East Ash Pond must include total solids sampling in accordance with S W846.
	- a. 35 IAC 845.650(e) states "the owner or operator of a CCRSI may ... submit a demonstration to the Agency th at a source other than the CCRSI caused the contamination and the CCRSI did not contribute to the contamination... Either type of ASD must include a report that contains the factual or evidentiary basis for any conclusions ..."
		- 1. The Illinois EPA cannot concur with ASDs that do not include source characterization of the CCR with adequate sampling and analysis of the CCR which must characterize the CCR horizontally and vertically within the CCRSI.
- 2. Characterization to include sample and analysis in accordance with 35 IAC 845.640 of alternative source must be provided with the ASD.
	- a. 35 IAC 845.640(a) requires evidence of field collection methods and field and laboratory quality control and quality assurance.
	- b. 35 TAC 845.650(e) requires alternative source data as evidence of the alternative source, see item $1(a)(i)$ above. SW846 chapter 1, incorporated by reference in 35 lAC 845, states that regulatory decisions must be made with environmental data.

2125 S. First Street, Champaign, IL61820 (217) 278-5800 1101 Eastport Plaza Dr., Suite 100, Collinsville, IL 62234 **(618)** 346-5120 9511 Harrison Street, Des Plaines, IL 60016 (847) 294-4000 595 s. State Street, Elgln, IL 60123 (847) 608-3131

2309 W. Main Street, Suite 116, Marion, ll 62959 (618) 993-7200 412 SW Washington Street, Suite D, Peoria, IL 61602 (309) 671-3022 4302 N. Main Street. Rockford, IL 61103 (815) 987-7760

lfyou have any questions. please contact: **Lauren Hunt** Illinois EPA. Bureau of Water, WPC # 15. P.O. Box 19276, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276. If you have any questions concerning the investigation described above, please call 217-782-1020.

Sincerely,

anyst

Michael Summers. P.G. Manager, Groundwater Section Division of Public Water Supplies **Bureau of Water**

cc: Lauren Hunt Keegan MacDonna Records Files 06M Jenny Cassel. EARTHJUSTICE

Exhibit B

's Offic Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk<mark>'s O</mark>ffice 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

Electric Energy, Inc. 1500 Eastport Plaza Drive Collinsville, IL 62234

October 21, 2023 Illinois Environmental Protection Agency DWPC – Permits MC#15 Attn: 35 I.A.C. § 845.650(e) Alternative Source Demonstration Submittal 1021 North Grand Avenue East P.O. Box 19276 Springfield, IL 62794-9276

Re: Joppa Power Plant East Ash Pond; IEPA ID # W1270100004-02

Dear Mr. LeCrone:

In accordance with Title 35 of the Illinois Administrative Code (35 I.A.C.) Section (§) 845.650(e), Electric Energy, Inc. (EEI) is submitting this Alternative Source Demonstration (ASD) for exceedances observed from the Quarter 2 2023 sampling event at the Joppa Power Plant East Ash Pond, identified by Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) ID No. W1270100004-02.

This ASD is being submitted within 60 days from the date of determination of an exceedance of a groundwater protection standard (GWPS) for constituents listed in 35 I.A.C. § 845.600. As required by 35 I.A.C. § 845.650 (e)(1), the ASD was placed on the facility's website within 24 hours of submittal to the agency.

One hard copy is provided with this submittal.

Sincerely,

Dianna Sichner

Dianna Tickner Sr. Director – Decommission and Demolition

Enclosures

Alternate Source Demonstration, Quarter 2 2023, East Ash Pond Joppa Power Plant, Joppa Illinois

Intended for **Electric Energy, Inc.**

Date **October 21, 2023**

Project No. **1940103649-011**

35 I.A.C. § 845.650(e): ALTERNATIVE SOURCE DEMONSTRATION EAST ASH POND JOPPA POWER PLANT JOPPA, ILLINOIS IEPA ID: W1270100004-02

35 I.A.C. § 845.650(e): Alternative Source Demonstration Joppa Power Plant East Ash Pond (IEPA ID: W1270100004-02)

CERTIFICATIONS

I, Anne Frances Ackerman, a qualified professional engineer in good standing in the State of Illinois, certify that the information in this report is accurate as of the date of my signature below. The content of this report is not to be used other than for its intended purpose and meaning, or for extrapolations beyond the interpretations contained herein.

 $\sqrt{2}$

Anne Frances Ackerman Qualified Professional Engineer 062-060586 Illinois Ramboll Americas Engineering Solutions, Inc. Date: October 21, 2023

I, Brian G. Hennings, a professional geologist in good standing in the State of Illinois, certify that the information in this report is accurate as of the date of my signature below. The content of this report is not to be used other than for its intended purpose and meaning, or for extrapolations beyond the interpretations contained herein.

 \sim

Brian G. Henning Professional Geologist 196-001482 Illinois Ramboll Americas Engineering Solutions, Inc. Date: October 21, 2023

Ramboll 234 W. Florida Street Fifth Floor Milwaukee, WI 53204 USA T 414-837-3607 F 414-837-3608 https://ramboll.com
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- Figure 2 Sampling Locations and Potentiometric Surface Map May 1, 2023

APPENDICES (ATTACHED)

- Appendix A Supporting Solid Phase Analytical Data
- Appendix B Supporting Analysis for Reductive Dissolution of Manganese Oxides as a Likely Source of Cobalt Concentrations at G05
- Appendix C Supporting Groundwater and Porewater Analytical Data
- Appendix D Geochemical Analysis of Joppa East Ash Pond Groundwater in Support of An Alternative Source Demonstration (Life Cycle Geo, LLC, 2023)

35 I.A.C. § 845.650(e): Alternative Source Demonstration Joppa Power Plant East Ash Pond (IEPA ID: W1270100004-02)

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

35 I.A.C. § 845.650(e): Alternative Source Demonstration Joppa Power Plant East Ash Pond (IEPA ID: W1270100004-02)

1. INTRODUCTION

Under Title 35 of the Illinois Administrative Code (35 I.A.C.) § 845.650(e), within 60 days from the date of determination of an exceedance of a groundwater protection standard (GWPS) for constituents listed in 35 I.A.C. § 845.600, an owner or operator of a coal combustion residuals (CCR) surface impoundment (SI) may complete a written demonstration that a source other than the CCR SI caused the contamination and the CCR SI did not contribute to the contamination, or that the exceedance of the GWPS resulted from error in sampling, analysis, statistical evaluation, natural variation in groundwater quality, or a change in the potentiometric surface and groundwater flow direction (Alternative Source Demonstration [ASD]).

This ASD has been prepared on behalf of Electric Energy Inc. by Ramboll Americas Engineering Solutions, Inc (Ramboll), to provide pertinent information pursuant to 35 I.A.C. § 845.650(e) for the Joppa Power Plant (JPP) East Ash Pond (EAP) (*i.e.,* Site) located near Joppa, Illinois.

The most recent quarterly sampling event (Event 1 [E001]) was completed on May 3, 2023, and analytical data were received on June 23, 2023. In accordance with 35 I.A.C. § 845.610(b)(3)(C), comparison of statistically derived values with the GWPSs described in 35 I.A.C. § 845.600 to determine exceedances of the GWPS was completed by August 22, 2023, within 60 days of receipt of the analytical data (Ramboll, 2023). The statistical comparison identified the following GWPS exceedances at compliance groundwater monitoring wells:

- x Boron at wells G06, G07, G08, G09, G10
- Cobalt at well G05
- pH at wells G11 and G51D

Pursuant to 35 I.A.C. § 845.650(e), the lines of evidence (LOE) presented in **Section 3** and **Section 4** demonstrate that sources other than the EAP are the cause of the cobalt and pH GWPS exceedances (respectively) listed above. Cobalt is believed to be naturally occurring and pH is associated with iron oxidation. This ASD was completed by October 21, 2023, within 60 days of determination of the exceedances (August 22, 2023), as required by 35 I.A.C. § 845.650(e).

Boron GWPS exceedances at the EAP will be addressed in accordance with 35 I.A.C. § 845.660.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Site Location and Description

The JPP is west of the Village of Joppa in Massac County, Illinois, northeast of the Ohio River in Section 14, Township 15 South, Range 3 East. The JPP property is bordered by LaFarge North America cement plant to the west, Trunkline Gas Company-Joppa Compressor Station to the north and west, the Village of Joppa to the east, and the Ohio River to the south. The EAP is located in the west half of Section 14 directly north of the JPP and is bounded immediately to the east by the railway right-of-way, which is adjacent to forested portions of residential property in the Village of Joppa.

2.2 Description of East Ash Pond CCR Unit

The JPP operated the EAP for management of CCR waste streams between 1973 and 2022. Another inactive SI, referred to as the West Ash Pond (WAP), is present in the western portion of the JPP property, and a permit exempt landfill is present in the northwestern portion of the JPP property. The landfill and the WAP are not the subject of this ASD but are relevant to the discussion of the LOEs presented below.

The EAP is an unlined CCR SI which was used to manage both fly ash and bottom ash. The EAP perimeter embankment height varies from approximately 15 to 45 feet above the outboard toe of slope and the crest is at an approximate elevation of 380 feet North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD88) (O'Brien and Gere Engineers, Inc. [OBG], 2010).

2.3 Geology and Hydrogeology

The information used to describe the hydrogeology is based on the local geology obtained from published sources, hydrogeologic investigation data, and boring data collected during site investigations conducted from 1997 to 2022 (Natural Resource Technology, an OBG Company [NRT/OBG], 2017; Ramboll, 2021a; Geosyntec, 2023).

Quaternary deposits in the Joppa area consist mainly of diamictons and lacustrine/alluvial deposits that were deposited during Illinoian and Pre-Illinoian glaciations (Lineback, 1979; Willman et al., 1975). The unconsolidated deposits include the following units (beginning at the ground surface):

- **Upper Confining Unit (UCU):** The uppermost hydrostratigraphic unit is comprised of the Equality Formation, the Silt Unit, and Metropolis Formation deposits. The average thickness of this unit is approximately 40 feet with a range of 8 to 58 feet. The UCU underlies the CCR fill in all locations and is thinnest in the southeast portion of the unit. These deposits are predominantly fine-grained, comprised of clay, silt, and silty clay with limited intervals of sandy material. This hydrostratigraphic unit was encountered at all locations and extends down to the McNairy Formation.
- **Uppermost Aquifer (UA):** The UA consists of the McNairy Formation and Mounds Gravel which are composed of highly permeable sands and gravels with isolated lenses of finer grained material. The Mounds Gravel has been interpreted as a braided river deposit, located within eroded portions of the McNairy Formation (Nelson and Masters, 2008). The McNairy formation, underlying the Mounds Gravel, at the site is mostly composed of medium to fine grained sand with mica and lenses of silt and clay. At the EAP, this unit has been further divided into the Upper McNairy Formation consisting of relatively thick fine to medium grained

> sand with some gravel while the Lower McNairy exhibits more variability including lenses and zones with higher silt and clay content.

A northwest to southeast trending stratigraphic high in the UA is present through the center of the EAP and bifurcates near the eastern extent of the unit. This stratigraphic high (elevations higher than 305 ft) is illustrated on **Figure 1** where the UA is bounded by the UCU which is shaded purple where elevations extend below 305 feet. Wells screened within the UA along the southern fork of the stratigraphic high (G07, G08, G12S/D, G13S/D) generally encountered thicker gravel layers at higher elevations and reported higher hydraulic conductivities (Ramboll, 2021a; Geosyntec, 2023). The thicker gravels at higher elevations also extend east and southeast of the EAP (G12S/D, G13S/D, G16S/D) and connect to the Ohio River as illustrated in **Figure 1**. The UA was encountered at a thickness of up to 58 feet thick, with elevations ranging from 215 to 316.6 feet, and is underlain by the lower confining unit (LCU).

- **Lower Confining Unit (LCU):** Clay, silt, or chert gravel residuum in on-Site wells (Nelson, 1997) has been interpreted and characterized as part of the Lower McNairy Formation, Post Creek (Tuscaloosa) Formation, or weathered limestone residuum. This material has been encountered in all borings advanced to bedrock. Based on material descriptions (high clay and/or silt content, and partial cementation), continuous lateral extent, and vertical gradients observed between the UA and the lower aquifer unit (LAU), this unit is identified as the LCU.
- **Lower Aquifer Unit (LAU):** The LAU, composed of the Salem Limestone bedrock, is the lowermost hydrostratigraphic unit identified and is considered a potential migration pathway (PMP). The limestone bedrock is encountered at an elevation of approximately 200 feet NAVD88 below the EAP, slopes towards a syncline to the east (Nelson and Masters, 2008), and has a reported thickness of 200 to 500 feet. The Salem Limestone is used to supply water for various uses in the region and provides non-potable water for the JPP and potable water for the Village of Joppa.

Groundwater elevations in the UA (referenced to NAVD88) across the EAP ranged from approximately 312 to 322 feet during E001 (**Figure 2**). Historically they have ranged from approximately 305 feet near the Ohio River to 330 feet near the northern property boundary. Depth to groundwater measurements used to generate the groundwater elevation contours shown on **Figure 2** were collected on May 1, 2023. Groundwater elevations vary seasonally and may fluctuate by about 10 feet within a well.

Groundwater flow directions are largely a result of the aquifer geology described above. The shallow highly permeable gravels present a path of least resistance (preferential flow pathway) for groundwater migrating toward the Ohio River which is the receiving body of water in the region (**Figure 1**). Wells located to the north of the UA stratigraphic high, such as G05, were terminated shortly after penetrating the UA and did not encounter significant gravel layers indicating gravel may be at a lower elevation or not present, and flow through this area may not be as significant. Interpreted groundwater flow directions are illustrated on **Figure 1** with flow to the southeast, generally parallel to the UA stratigraphic high across the EAP, and then south toward the Ohio River.

2.4 Groundwater and EAP Monitoring

The monitoring system for the EAP is shown on **Figure 2** and consists of two background monitoring wells (G01D and G02D) and 12 compliance monitoring wells (G03, G05, G06, G07, G08, G09, G10 G11, G51D, G52D, G53D, and G54D) screened within the UA. The monitoring system also includes two temporary water level only surface water staff gage (XSG01 and SG02) to monitor potential impacts from the EAP (Ramboll, 2021b). Porewater samples are collected from locations XPW01 and XPW02 on the northern side of the EAP, and from XPW03 on the southern side of the EAP (**Figure 2**). To further delineate potential boron exceedances, 10 monitoring wells were installed in September 2021 (nests G12 through G16) and 21 wells (10 off-Site) were installed between May 2022 and September 2023 (nests G17 through G24, and G13; Geosyntec Consultants [Geosyntec], 2023).

3. ALTERNATIVE SOURCE DEMONSTRATION: LINES OF EVIDENCE FOR COBALT

As allowed by 35 I.A.C. § 845.650(e), this ASD demonstrates that sources other than the EAP (the CCR unit) caused the cobalt exceedance at G05. LOEs supporting the ASD for the pH exceedances at G11 and G51D are presented in **Section 4**. This section presents the LOEs supporting the ASD for cobalt at G05, which include the following:

- 1. Cobalt concentrations at G05 are consistent with cobalt mobilization from native soils due to reductive dissolution of manganese oxides.
- 2. Cobalt concentrations at G05 are greater than source concentrations.
- 3. Cobalt concentrations at G05 are not correlated with concentrations of CCR indicator parameters.
- **3.1 LOE #1: Cobalt Concentrations at G05 are Consistent with Cobalt Mobilization from Native Soils Due to Reductive Dissolution of Manganese Oxides**

Cobalt and manganese are often closely associated with each other in soils due to their similar chemical properties (Uren, 2013). Under oxidizing conditions, manganese is present in the solid phase as manganese oxides. Cobalt sorbs strongly to manganese oxides and is thus often associated with manganese in the solid phase. When solid-phase manganese oxides in soils are dissolved by reduction of manganese to a more soluble species (a process called reductive dissolution), the cobalt previously sorbed to the manganese oxide surface is also released. If cobalt concentrations in groundwater are primarily controlled by the reductive dissolution of manganese oxides, cobalt and manganese concentrations in both soils and groundwater will be correlated with one another. This LOE demonstrates that cobalt concentrations at G05 are consistent with reductive dissolution of manganese, and the cobalt exceedance at G05 is therefore likely due to natural variation in groundwater quality. Solid phase data were used to determine if cobalt and manganese are associated in the solid phase. Groundwater redox potential and pH were assessed to determine if reductive dissolution of manganese oxides is thermodynamically favorable under observed groundwater conditions. To inform further analysis of groundwater data, wells with a geochemical signature similar to G05 were identified using principal component analysis (PCA). The relationship between cobalt and manganese in similar groundwater was then evaluated using regression analysis.

Figure A on the following page shows the relationship between total cobalt and total manganese in soil samples from the UA at five soil boring locations (data tabulated in **Appendix A**). The strong correlation between cobalt and manganese in these data ($R²$ of 0.99) indicates that they are likely physically associated in soils, consistent with literature data (Uren, 2013). It is possible that cobalt released from CCR porewater could become associated with naturally occurring manganese oxides in the downgradient environment and accumulate in the soils; however, this is not likely at the site based on the following observations: 1) Cobalt is not present in CCR porewater (described further in **Section 3.2**), indicating that the EAP could not be a source of cobalt to the downgradient solid phase; 2) The ratio of cobalt to manganese is consistent across five different samples, some of which are from areas of the site with no known influence from

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CCR porewater (*i.e.*, have had no reported exceedances). Therefore, the cobalt present in the UA soil is likely naturally occurring.

Figure A. Scatter Plot and Linear Regression Results of Cobalt and Manganese in UA Solids mg/kg = milligrams per kilogram

The thermodynamic favorability of manganese oxide reductive dissolution depends on the oxidation reduction potential (ORP) and pH of the groundwater. The pH and ORP of the groundwater samples collected from the EAP monitoring network all indicate that manganese is expected to exist in the reduced Mn²⁺ form in groundwater (see Appendix B), supporting the conclusion that reductive dissolution of manganese oxides can occur in the groundwater.

To determine if cobalt and manganese are correlated in groundwater, locations with a similar groundwater signature to G05 were identified for appropriate inclusion in the correlation analysis. PCA, a multivariate statistical approach, was used to evaluate how the groundwater composition at G05 related to the groundwater composition of EAP porewater, background groundwater, and downgradient groundwater north versus south of the UA stratigraphic high (**Section 2.3**). Details about the PCA analysis are included in **Appendix B**. The PCA results indicate that the geochemical signatures of the UA wells located on either side of the northwest to southeast trending stratigraphic high in the UA that extends through the EAP are largely distinct from one another, with wells to the north of the stratigraphic high being more similar to background. This difference may be related to the differences in stratigraphic conditions, with wells to the north of the stratigraphic high having less gravel beds, while the wells to the south of the stratigraphic high have shallow highly permeable gravels which create a preferential flow pathway to the south. Groundwater from well G05 is most like other northeast wells, suggesting similar geochemical influences.

Figure B on the following page shows the relationship between total cobalt and total manganese in wells to the north of the stratigraphic high (data tabulated in **Appendix C**). To avoid potential confounding effects due to the presence of suspended solids in the groundwater sample, only samples with a turbidity less than 50 nephelometric turbidity units (NTU) were used in the

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> correlation analysis. The strong (\mathbb{R}^2 of 0.77) statistically significant ($p < 0.001$) correlation between total cobalt and total manganese in the groundwater suggests similar controls on concentrations.

Figure B. Scatter Plot and Linear Regression Results of Total Cobalt and Total Manganese in Groundwater

The strong association between cobalt and manganese in both the soil and groundwater, in addition to groundwater conditions in the area of G05 favoring manganese reduction, supports the conclusion that reductive dissolution of manganese oxides in native soil is occurring and is strongly influencing the cobalt concentrations in the groundwater rather than the EAP.

3.2 LOE #2: Cobalt Concentrations at G05 are Greater Than Source Concentrations

Table A on the following page provides the range of cobalt concentrations detection in G05 between March 2021 and May 2023. Porewater samples collected from XPW01, XPW02 and XPW03 between March 2021 and May 2023 did not have cobalt concentrations above the reporting limit. A summary of the laboratory data is included in **Appendix C**.

Table A. Cobalt Concentration Ranges in G05 and EAP Porewater (March 2021 to May 2023).

¹ Composite Porewater includes summary statistics of data collected at EAP porewater locations XPW01, XPW02, and XPW03

mg/L = milligrams per liter

The following observations can be made from **Table A**:

- The concentration of cobalt in compliance monitoring well G05 ranged from 0.0057 mg/L to 0.0103 mg/L.
- Cobalt was not detected in EAP porewater, with reporting limits ranging from 0.0001 mg/L to 0.001 mg/L.
- The minimum cobalt concentration observed at G05 is five times the highest reporting limit for cobalt in porewater.

If the EAP were the source of cobalt in downgradient groundwater, EAP porewater concentrations of cobalt would be expected to be higher than the groundwater concentrations. Cobalt was not detected above the reporting limit in any porewater samples, indicating that cobalt concentrations are not related to the EAP.

3.3 LOE #3: Cobalt Concentrations at G05 Are Not Correlated with Concentrations of CCR Indicator Parameters

Boron is commonly used as an indicator parameter for contaminant transport of CCR because: (i) it is commonly present at elevated concentrations in coal ash leachate; (ii) it is mobile and typically not very reactive but conservative (*i.e.*, low rates of sorption or degradation) in groundwater; and (iii) it is less likely than other constituents to be present at elevated concentrations in background groundwater from natural or other anthropogenic sources. Porewater in the EAP is elevated in both boron and sulfate (**Appendix C**), indicating that these parameters are Site-specific key indicators for CCR. If an exceedance is identified for a monitored CCR parameter but concentrations of boron and sulfate are not correlated with that parameter, it is unlikely that the CCR unit is the source of the GWPS exceedance.

A scatter plot of cobalt versus boron and sulfate concentrations for G05 between March 2021 and May 2023 is presented in **Figure C** on the following page and laboratory data is included in **Appendix C.** The p-value of a Kendall correlation test for non-parametric data are also included on **Figure C**. Typically, a p-value greater than 0.05 is considered to be a statistically insignificant relationship.

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Figure C. Scatter Plot of Cobalt Versus Boron and Sulfate Concentrations at Monitoring Well G05

Calculated p-values greater than 0.05 indicate that cobalt is not correlated with boron and sulfate at monitoring well G05. A lack of correlation between cobalt and CCR indicators in the compliance monitoring well indicates the EAP is not the source of the cobalt exceedance.

4. ALTERNATIVE SOURCE DEMONSTRATION: LINES OF EVIDENCE FOR pH

As allowed by 35 I.A.C. § 845.650(e), this ASD demonstrates that sources other than the EAP (the CCR unit) caused the pH exceedances at G11 and G51D. This section presents the LOEs supporting the ASD for pH at G11 and G51D, which include the following:

- 1. G11 and G51D are upgradient of the EAP.
- 2. Groundwater chemistry at G11 and G51D is aligned with the groundwater signature observed west of the monitoring wells.
- 3. pH exceedances at G11 and G51D are consistent with iron oxidation.

These LOEs are summarized below and described in greater detail in **Appendix D**.

4.1 LOE #1: G11 and G51D are Upgradient of the EAP

As described in **Section 2.3** dominant UA groundwater flow direction at the EAP is to the southeast, generally parallel to the UA stratigraphic high across the EAP, and then south toward the Ohio River (**Figure 1**). Wells G11 and G51D are located on the western edge of the EAP and are upgradient of the EAP. Therefore, it is unlikely that porewater from the EAP would flow in the direction of G11 and G51D. Because the wells with pH exceedances are upgradient of the unit, it is unlikely that the EAP is the source of the exceedances.

4.2 LOE #2: Groundwater Chemistry at G11 and G51D is Aligned with the Groundwater Signature Observed West of the Monitoring Wells

Groundwater from exceedance wells G11 and G51D exhibit a high degree of similarity with groundwater from upgradient UA wells west of G11 and G51D (western groundwater) as opposed to eastern groundwater or CCR porewaters from other compliance wells in the EAP monitoring network (eastern groundwater). PCA (**Appendix D**) was used to compare the geochemical compositions of the western groundwater, CCR porewaters, and pH exceedance wells G11 and G51D. The PCA found that:

- x Exceedance wells G51D and G11 exhibit a high degree of similarity with the western (*i.e.*, upgradient) wells screened in the UA.
- The CCR porewaters are distinctly separate from the groundwater samples.

The similarity of the groundwater composition at G11 and G51D to upgradient western groundwater, as opposed to eastern groundwater or CCR porewater, suggests that the EAP does not influence the groundwater at G11 and G51D and therefore is not the source of the pH exceedances.

4.3 LOE #3: pH Exceedances at G11 and G51D are Consistent with Iron Oxidation

The PCA analysis (**Appendix D**) suggests chemical evolution and/or communication within the western groundwater. The western UCU groundwater composition is dominated by the redoxsensitive parameters manganese, iron, and sulfate. The UA groundwater composition is spread between a composition similar to the UCU and a composition similar to background. Groundwater

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> composition at wells G11 and G51D is very similar to (*i.e.*, plots close to on the PCA diagram) the background wells, all of which are dominated by alkalinity, chloride, fluoride and sodium.

Redox conditions were evaluated along the flow path from upgradient (further northwest) to downgradient (further southeast) groundwater wells. A distinct redox transition was identified, shifting from more reducing conditions in upgradient waters to more oxidizing conditions in downgradient wells, including the exceedance wells. The reducing upgradient waters are characterized by lower ORP and higher iron concentrations, while downgradient waters are largely the opposite with higher ORP and lower iron concentrations.

This change in redox condition is the likely source of acidity in G11 and G51D. It is likely that dissolved iron present in reducing environments moves downgradient with groundwater and subsequently oxidizes. The oxidation of dissolved iron to iron oxides is known to produce acidity. In this way, reduced upgradient waters from the northwest provides the constituent (*i.e.*, reduced iron) necessary to cause a drop in pH (*i.e.*, through iron oxidation) in G11 and G51D, once transported into an area with sufficient dissolved oxygen to drive the precipitation reaction. The oxidized environment in wells G11 and G51D likely results from mixing with the upgradient oxidized background groundwater. Therefore, mixing of groundwater resulting in natural variability in the groundwater conditions is the likely driver of the pH exceedances at G11 and G51D.

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5. CONCLUSIONS

Based on the LOEs presented below and described in **Section 3**, it has been demonstrated that sources other than the EAP (the CCR unit) caused the cobalt exceedance at G05.

- 1. Cobalt concentrations at G05 are consistent with cobalt mobilization from native soils due to reductive dissolution of manganese oxides.
- 2. Cobalt concentrations at G05 are greater than source concentrations.
- 3. Cobalt concentrations at G05 are not correlated with concentrations of CCR indicator parameters.

Furthermore, based on the LOEs presented below and described in **Section 4**, it has been demonstrated that sources other than the EAP caused the pH exceedances at G11 and G51D.

- 1. G11 and G51D are upgradient of the EAP.
- 2. Groundwater chemistry at G11 and G51D is aligned with the groundwater signature observed west of the monitoring wells.
- 3. pH exceedances at G11 and G51D are consistent with iron oxidation.

Pursuant to 35 I.A.C. § 845.650(e), the LOEs presented in **Section 3** and **Section 4** demonstrate that sources other than the EAP were the cause of the cobalt and pH GWPS exceedances (respectively) listed above. Boron GWPS exceedances at the EAP will be addressed in accordance with 35 I.A.C. § 845.660.

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$FIGURES$

0 300 600 L \perp Feet

D MONITORING WELL

STAFF GAGE, RIVER

TOP OF MCNAIRY FORMATIONELEVATION (5-FT CONTOUR INTERVAL)

FLOW DIRECTION

PROPERTY BOUNDARY

FIGURE 1

RAMBOLL AMERICAS
.ENGINEERING SOLUTIONS, INC

TOP OF UPPERMOST AQUIFER

AREA WHERE TOP OF AQUIFER ISSATURATED BASED ON MEASUREMENTS FROM 2015-2023 -

6285&(DEMONSTRATION EAST ASH POND JOPPA POWER PLANT JOPPA, ILLINOIS **35 I.A.C. § 845.650(e): ALTERNAT,9(**

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PROJECT: 169000XXXX | DATED: 10/12/2023 | DESIGNER

JOP_EAP\E001\Figure 1_Top of Upper Aquifer.mxd

600 Feet

 \Box COMPLIANCE MONITORING WELL \Box BACKGROUND MONITORING WELL

 \blacksquare PORE WATER WELL STAFF GAGE, RIVER **DE MONITORING WELL** STAFF GAGE, CCR UNIT

0 6

┸

GROUNDWATER ELEVATION CONTOUR (2-FT CONTOUR INTERVAL, NAVD88) INFERRED GROUNDWATER ELEVATION

- CONTOUR
- GROUNDWATER FLOW DIRECTION
	- REGULATED UNIT (SUBJECT UNIT)
- PROPERTY BOUNDARY

NOTES
1. ELEVATIONS IN PARENTHESES WERE NOT USED FOR CONTOURING.
2. ELEVATION CONTOURS SHOWN IN FEET, NORTH AMERICAN VERTICAL DATUM OF 1988 (NAVD88)
*GAGING DATA FROM USGS 03612600 OHIO RIVER AT OLMSTED, IL LOCATED
APPROXIMATELY 12 MILES DOWNSTREAM OF JOPPA POWER PLANT.

FIGURE 2

RAMBOLL AMERICAS
.ENGINEERING SOLUTIONS, INC

JOPPA POWER PLANT JOPPA, ILLINOIS **35 I.A.C. § 845.650(e): ALTERNAT,9(SOURCE DEMONSTRATION EAST ASH POND**

SAMPLING LOCATIONS AND

POTENTIOMETRIC SURFACE MAP -

MAY 1, 2023

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PROJECT: 169000XXXX | DATED: 10/12/2023 | DESIGNER

JOP 401 EAP Pot Surface 20230501.mxd

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A SUPPORTING SOLID PHASE ANALYTICAL DATA

APPENDIX \$. SUPPORTING SOLIDS PHASE ANALYTICAL DATA 35 I.A.C. § 845: ALTERNATIVE SOURCE DEMONSTRATION JOPPA POWER PLANT

EAST ASH POND JOPPA, IL

Notes:

NAVD88 = North American Vertical Datum of 1988

 $mg/kg =$ milligrams per kilogram

APPENDIX B SUPPORTING ANALYSIS OF REDUCTIVE DISSOLUTION OF MANGANESE OXIDES AS A LIKELY SOURCE OF COBALT CONCENTRATIONS AT G05

RAMB LL ENVIRONMENT & HEALTH Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

Project no. 1940103649-011 Client Electric Energy, Inc. Prepared by Alison O'Connor, Ph.D.

Supporting Analysis for Reductive Dissolution of Manganese Oxides as a Likely Source of Cobalt Concentrations at G05 *Joppa Power Plant, East Ash Pond*

1 INTRODUCTION

This document serves as an appendix for the October 21, 2023, Alternative Source Demonstration (ASD) for Joppa Power Plant (JPP) East Ash Pond (EAP) for monitoring Event 1 (E001), completed to fulfil the requirements of Title 35 of the Illinois Administrative Code (35 I.A.C.) § 845.650(e).

Cobalt and manganese are often closely associated in soils due to their similar chemical properties (Uren, 2013). In igneous rocks, cobalt and manganese occur together in minerals due to carrying +2 charge and having similar atomic radii (Uren, 2013). Cobalt and manganese are released together during weathering processes and are often transported together through the environment. In highly oxidizing environments, manganese 2+ can be oxidized to manganese 4+ which exists as solid phase manganese oxide minerals. Cobalt sorbs strongly to manganese oxides compared to other divalent cations (McKenzie, 1967; Backes et al., 1995). Therefore, manganese-associated cobalt is released when solid-phase manganese oxides in soils are dissolved by reduction to a more soluble species.

This line of evidence (LOE) demonstrates that cobalt concentrations at G05 are consistent with reductive dissolution of manganese, and the cobalt exceedance at G05 is therefore likely due to natural variation in groundwater quality. Solid phase data were used to determine if cobalt and manganese are associated in the solid phase. To inform further analysis of groundwater data, wells with a geochemical signature like G05 were identified using principal component analysis (PCA). The relationship between cobalt and manganese in similar groundwater was then evaluated using regression analysis.

2 METHODS

2.1 Solid Phase Measurements

Total cobalt and total manganese data were available for samples collected from the uppermost aquifer (UA) at five boring locations. Six total samples were available (two samples were collected from G03). These soil data represent the acid-digestible portion of the solids phase, which may be mobilized under environmental relevant geochemical conditions. Any metals entrained within the highly refractory aluminosilicate matrix are not extracted. October 12, 2023

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2.2 Regression Analysis

Least squares linear regression (abbreviated here as regression analysis) was used in this work to understand correlations between data. Regression analysis determines the equation for the line that minimizes the sum of the squared differences between the data and the regression estimate. Regression analysis assumes that the errors in the regression (called residuals) have a mean of zero and are randomly distributed around the mean following a normal distribution. The distribution of regression residuals can be visualized by plotting the residuals against the fitted values.

The relationship between the variables is assessed using the p value and the R^2 of the regression. The p value represents the chance the relationship between the data is due to random variability. A cut off p value of 0.05 often is used to determine if a regression is statistically significant (*i.e.,* it has less than a 5 percent (%) chance of being due to random variability). The R^2 value represents the proportion of the variance in the dependent variable that is explained by the independent variable. A higher $R²$ value indicates a close relationship between the two variables (with an R^2 of 1 representing a perfectly straight line).

2.3 Principal Component Analysis

Groundwater data is frequently defined by many chemical parameters and may therefore be described statistically as "multivariate". PCA is a common multivariate statistical approach that simplifies multivariate data by combining those variables into a smaller number of new variables called principal components. This is possible because in multivariate data sets, there is often some correlation between variables. These correlations represent "redundant" information that may be mathematically removed by PCA. The principal components represent linear combinations of the original data which maximize the variance between the samples, and which are uncorrelated with one another. PCA thereby allows patterns in the data to be more easily recognized and correlations between input variables to be assessed.

The goal of this PCA was to identify wells similar to G05 and which are therefore likely affected by similar geochemical processes. The groundwater potentiometric map (E001 ASD Figure 2) and stratigraphic conditions in the UA (E001 ASD Section 2.3) suggest that wells in different areas downgradient of the EAP may be influenced by different areas of upgradient water. Additionally, as discussed in Appendix D, compliance wells G11 and G51D are strongly influenced by groundwater west of the EAP. To focus this analysis on identifying distinct populations of downgradient groundwater, the dataset for this PCA included only background wells, EAP porewater, and compliance wells east and south of the EAP (*i.e.*, downgradient from the unit; see E001 ASD Figure 2) screened in the UA.

Samples with a turbidity greater than 50 nephelometric turbidity units (NTU) were excluded from the analysis to mitigate the confounding influence of suspended solids. Geochemical parameters excluded from the PCA were to have measurements in over half the samples or to have an overall proportion of detected measurements exceeding 50 %. Individual samples missing data for more than half of the parameters (7 of 14 included in the PCA) were excluded from the analysis. Any measurements that were below the reporting limit were assumed to be half the reporting limit. Results for pH were converted to milligrams per liter (mg/L) H⁺ ion for consistency with other analytes. Any missing values were imputed (*i.e.,* interpolated based on the available data) using the nearest neighbor method. The final data set (**Attachment A**) contained 1,232 parameter measurements (67 of which were imputed) from 88 individual groundwater samples at 15 wells in the vicinity of the EAP (three porewater wells, two background wells, and 10 compliance wells). All data were log transformed, scaled, and centered so that parameters with larger concentrations did not have disproportionate influence on the results.

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Results of the PCA analysis are presented in a biplot. In a PCA biplot, the axes represent the new "variables," or principal components (PCs). The length of the arrows represents how strongly each individual variable contributes to the PCs, and the direction of the arrow along the respective axis represents the direction of the contribution (positive or negative). Each data point represents a sample plotted according to the PCs.

2.4 Pourbaix Diagrams

Pourbaix diagrams, also called Eh-pH diagrams, are visual representations of redox speciation under equilibrium conditions at a given pH (x axis) an Eh (y axis). Eh is the measure of redox potential based on the standard hydrogen electrode and is calculated by converting an oxidation reduction potential (ORP) measurement using an equation appropriate to the type of electrode used in the ORP sensor (typically silver/silver chloride or calomel). An Aqua TROLL field meter was used to measure ORP in the field. The equation to convert ORP to Eh for this meter is¹:

Eh = ORP (mV) + 221.4 – $0.9*$ Temperature (°C)

3 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Regression quality

The results of the regressions of aquifer solids and groundwater data are presented in the main text of the ASD. This section discusses how the regressions meet the standard assumptions.

For the regression of aquifer solids data, the residuals are most extreme in the negative direction, but the mean of the residuals is zero and there is considerable scatter (Figure B-1). Therefore, the regression meets the assumptions relatively well.

Figure B-1. Plot of residuals against fitted values for the UA solids cobalt versus manganese regression model.

1 As reported at https://in-situ.com/us/news/orp-field-measurements-reporting-redox-potential-eh-correctly

For the regression of groundwater data, the residuals are most extreme toward the middle of the fitted values, but the mean of the residuals is zero and there is considerable scatter (Figure B-2). Therefore, the regression meets the assumptions relatively well.

Figure B-2. Plot of residuals against fitted values for the groundwater cobalt versus manganese regression model.

3.2 Pourbaix Diagram

Figure B-3 shows the Pourbaix diagram for manganese with 2023 groundwater data plotted. Manganese is expected to exist in the reduced Mn^{2+} form at all groundwater locations (including G05), as opposed to insoluble manganese oxide mineral forms (*i.e.*, birnessite and todorokite). This indicates that reductive dissolution of manganese oxide minerals is thermodynamically favorable at G05, which supports this mechanism as a source of cobalt in the groundwater.

Figure B-3. Manganese Pourbaix diagram with 2023 Eh and pH data from groundwater and porewater.

3.3 PCA

The PCA biplot (Figure B-4) shows the results of the PCA analysis with wells colored by location type: background, CCR porewater, north of the UA stratigraphic high ("north"), south of the UA stratigraphic high ("south"), and G05 as the cobalt exceedance location. Approximately 58% of the variability in the data is encompassed in the first two principal component (PC1 explains approximately 40% of the variability in the data, and PC2 explains approximately 18%). Ninety-five % confidence ellipses for the north wells and south wells are shown in their respective location type colors. The minimal overlap of the 95% confidence ellipses shows that the groundwater compositions from the north wells and the south wells are largely distinct from one another. Well G05 plots within the 95% confidence ellipse for the north wells, indicating similarity of groundwater composition. The similarity between the north wells and dissimilarity from the south wells indicates that groundwater from these two groups of wells should be considered as distinct populations of data.

Figure B-4. Biplot of PCA results.

3.4 Redox Environment at JPP EAP

Appendix D of the associated E001 ASD, which addresses pH exceedances on the west side of the EAP, identifies a redox front west of the pond as driving iron oxidation and an associated drop in pH. The redox potential at which iron reduction/oxidation occurs is more reducing than the manganese reduction/oxidation potential. The redox potential and pH at wells G51D and G11 are consistent with an iron redox transition (Appendix D, Attachment 6-B) but all recent EAP groundwater samples fall within manganese-reducing conditions (Figure B-3). G05 is not substantially more reducing than other nearby wells without elevated cobalt. Appendix A of the E001 ASD shows that cobalt and manganese concentrations in the soil encompass 1.5 and 2.5 orders of magnitude difference, respectively, across the UA. In contrast to a redox front driving an iron speciation transition west of the EAP, local variations in solid phase cobalt and manganese concentrations appear to drive the differences in cobalt concentrations in groundwater.

4 CONCLUSIONS

The methods and results reported in this appendix support the conclusion that cobalt concentrations at G05 are consistent with mobilization due to reductive dissolution of manganese oxides. The regression analyses for cobalt and manganese correlation in solid phase material and groundwater are validated by illustrating the quality of the regressions. The Pourbaix diagram shows the manganese speciation in greater detail and concludes that reductive dissolution of manganese is thermodynamically favorable. The detailed PCA results show that the wells north and south of the UA stratigraphic high have distinct groundwater quality signatures and should be analyzed as distinct populations. Along with the strong association between cobalt and manganese in both the soil and groundwater, these results support the

conclusion that the reductive dissolution of manganese oxides is a primary control on cobalt concentrations in the groundwater.

5 REFERENCES

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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A Electronic PCA Data

Attachment A.

ELECTRONIC PCA DATA

35 I.A.C. § 845: ALTERNATIVE SOURCE DEMONSTRATION JOPPA POWER PLANT

EAST ASH POND

JOPPA, IL

Attachment A.

ELECTRONIC PCA DATA

35 I.A.C. § 845: ALTERNATIVE SOURCE DEMONSTRATION JOPPA POWER PLANT

EAST ASH POND

Attachment A.

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JOPPA, IL EAST ASH POND

Attachment A.

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ELECTRONIC PCA DATA

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ELECTRONIC PCA DATA

35 I.A.C. § 845: ALTERNATIVE SOURCE DEMONSTRATION JOPPA POWER PLANT EAST ASH POND

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Attachment A.

ELECTRONIC PCA DATA

35 I.A.C. § 845: ALTERNATIVE SOURCE DEMONSTRATION JOPPA POWER PLANT

JOPPA, IL EAST ASH POND

Attachment A.

ELECTRONIC PCA DATA

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JOPPA, IL EAST ASH POND

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JOPPA, IL EAST ASH POND

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ELECTRONIC PCA DATA

35 I.A.C. § 845: ALTERNATIVE SOURCE DEMONSTRATION JOPPA POWER PLANT

EAST ASH POND

Attachment A. ELECTRONIC PCA DATA

JOPPA, IL 35 I.A.C. § 845: ALTERNATIVE SOURCE DEMONSTRATION JOPPA POWER PLANT EAST ASH POND

Note:

mg/L = milligrams per liter RL = reporting limit

APPENDIX & SUPPORTING GROUNDWATER AND POREWATER ANALYTICAL DATA

**APPENDIX &. SUPPORTING GROUNDWATER AND POREWATER ANALYTICAL DATA
35 I.A.C. § 845: ALTERNATIVE SOURCE DEMONSTRATION**

JOPPA POWER PLANT

EAST ASH POND

**APPENDIX &. SUPPORTING GROUNDWATER AND POREWATER ANALYTICAL DATA
35 I.A.C. § 845: ALTERNATIVE SOURCE DEMONSTRATION**

JOPPA POWER PLANT

EAST ASH POND

**APPENDIX &. SUPPORTING GROUNDWATER AND POREWATER ANALYTICAL DATA
35 I.A.C. § 845: ALTERNATIVE SOURCE DEMONSTRATION**

JOPPA POWER PLANT EAST ASH POND

APPENDIX &. SUPPORTING GROUNDWATER \$1'325(:\$7(5ANALYTICAL DATA 35 I.A.C. § 845: ALTERNATIVE SOURCE DEMONSTRATION JOPPA POWER PLANT EAST ASH POND JOPPA, IL

Notes:

mg/L = milligrams per liter

J = The result is an estimated quantity. The associated numerical value is the approximate concentration of the analyte in the sample.

U = The analyte was analyzed for, but was not detected above the level of the adjusted detection limit or quantitation limit, as appropriate.

APPENDIX ' GEOCHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF JOPPA EAST ASH POND GROUNDWATER IN SUPPORT OF AN ALTERNATIVE SOURCE DEMONSTRATION (LIFE CYCLE GEO, LLC, 2023)

TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

DATE October 21, 2023 **Reference No. 23RAM01-1**

- **TO** Brian G. Hennings Ramboll Frances Ackerman – Ramboll Allison Kreinberg - Geosyntec **CC** Stu Cravens - Vistra
- **FROM** Shannon Zahuranec, Allie Wyman, Tom Meuzelaar

EMAIL: shannon@lifecyclegeo.com

GEOCHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF JOPPA EAST ASH POND GROUNDWATER IN SUPPORT OF AN ALTERNATIVE SOURCE DEMONSTRATION

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This document serves as an Appendix to the October 21, 2023, Alternative Source Demonstration (ASD) for Joppa (JOP) Power Plant East Ash Pond (EAP) for monitoring Event 1 (E001) (referred to as the E001 ASD), completed to fulfill the requirements of Title 35 of the Illinois Administrative Code (35 I.A.C.) § 845.650(e). Life Cycle Geo, LLC (LCG) has completed a review of geochemical conditions to evaluate the feasibility of an ASD at monitoring wells G11 and G51D associated with the JOP EAP. Compliance wells G11 and G51D monitor conditions in the Uppermost Aquifer (UA) to the west of the EAP and currently exhibit pH levels lower than the groundwater protection standard (GWPS) range for pH. This technical evaluation considered all available groundwater and solid-phase chemical analyses and utilized multivariate statistical analysis to conclude that low pH levels at G11 and G51D are not attributed to influence from the EAP. Further, observed pH levels are likely the result of the oxidation of dissolved iron released from chemically reducing conditions in the upgradient area to the north and west of the G11 and G51D monitoring wells (also referred to in this document as exceedance wells). Oxidation of dissolved ferrous iron and subsequent precipitation of solid-phase iron generates acidity through fundamentally established geochemical reactions discussed in Section 4.0. This scope of work was executed by subcontract to Ramboll Americas Engineering Solutions, Inc. (Ramboll) on behalf of Electric Energy, Inc.

2.0 HYDROGEOLOGY AND GROUNDWATER CONDITION

Monitoring wells G11 and G51D are screened in the UA. The UA is composed predominantly of sand and is overlain by the upper confining unit (UCU), a clay-rich, low permeability stratigraphic unit (Ramboll, 2021). Monitoring wells G11 and G51D are on the western border of the EAP, hydraulically upgradient of the EAP and the other EAP monitoring wells (Attachment 1). Monitoring wells G11 and G51D are downgradient of the northernmost part of the JOP West Ash Pond (WAP), and the sewage treatment pond (Attachment 2) situated on the northwest corner of the WAP.

davie 1: Concentration Ranges for Select Constituents in Joppa Groundwater and CCR Ponds.

ND=Not Detected

Data provided in Appendix D-1

*Western groundwater ranges presented do not include TPZ120, which is listed separately.

From March 2021 through May 2023, pH at G11 and G51D is generally below the GWPS lower limit of 6.0 standard pH units (SU) (Attachment 3). Groundwater pH elsewhere at the site has been measured as low as 5.0 SU (Table 1) but is typically between 6 and 8 SU (Attachment 3; Appendix D-1). The UCU monitoring well TPZ120 is an exception with a much lower groundwater pH (less than 4.0 SU).

This analysis focused predominantly on assessing the source of acidity in G11 and G51D as originating from either east or west of the exceedance wells to determine if the EAP (east of the exceedance wells) is the source of the low pH levels observed. To this end, monitoring wells to the east of the exceedance wells are discussed as the Eastern Wells and the monitoring wells to the west are discussed as the Western Wells. The Eastern Wells include the EAP porewater wells [XPW01, XPW02, and XPW03] as an endmember for evaluation, EAP compliance-based groundwater wells [G03, G05, G06, G07, G08, G09, G10, G52D, G53D, and G54D], and two EAP monitoring wells [G04 and G06S] that are not included in the regulatory network but are in close proximity to the compliance EAP monitoring wells. While most of these wells are downgradient of G11 and G51D, they provide a necessary comparison for assessing potential EAP impacts to G11 and G51D. The Western Wells are hydraulically upgradient or side-gradient of G11 and G51D and are used to evaluate potential alternate sources for the pH exceedances originating to the west. Western Wells included in this analysis are installed in the UA [TPZ118D, TPZ118DD, TPZ119D, TPZ119DD, TPZ120D, TPZ123, and TPZ124D] and UCU [TPZ118, TPZ120, and TPZ124], as well as the WAP porewater wells [XTPW01, XTPW02, XTPWO3, and XTPWO4]. The upgradient background wells GO1D and GO2D are assessed as the upgradient endmember reflective of groundwater uninfluenced by activity at the JOP site. This selection of Eastern and Western wells provides the best analysis of geochemical conditions and potential sources in the immediate area of G11 and G51D. Potential sources of acidity (which could drive the observed low pH levels at G11 and G51D) are assessed through comprehensive geochemical analysis, including time series analysis, correlation plots (scatterplot comparisons), Principal Components Analysis (PCA), and spatial and chemical distribution of iron.

3.0 GEOCHEMICAL ANALYSIS

3.1 CCR INDICATOR CONSTITUENT BORON

Boron is commonly used as an indicator parameter for contaminant transport of CCR because: (i) it is commonly present at elevated concentrations in coal ash leachate; (ii) it is mobile and typically not very

reactive but conservative (i.e., low rates of sorption or degradation) in groundwater; and (iii) it is less likely than other constituents to be present at elevated concentrations in background groundwater from natural or other anthropogenic sources. Boron is often assessed in groundwater to identify possible end-member sources of influence in downgradient areas that could be attributed to CCR. Porewater samples collected from both the EAP and WAP exhibit elevated concentrations of boron, whereas boron concentrations in monitoring wells G11 and G51D are low relative to CCR porewater and most groundwater monitoring wells located both to the east and west (Attachment 3). While boron concentrations suggest no immediate influence from either of the CCR units, it is not otherwise relied upon for distinguishing influence as originating from either the east (i.e., EAP) or west.

3.2 OTHER PERTINENT CHEMICAL TRACERS OF INFLUENCE

Magnesium is not commonly used as a CCR indicator, yet the substantial range in magnesium concentrations observed in groundwater to the west relative to east makes it a particularly useful tracer of influence (Attachment 3). Table 1 presents the range in magnesium measured for several different endmember components assessed for influence in relation to exceedance wells G11 and G51D.

Magnesium concentrations are notably elevated in several of the western groundwater monitoring wells, both within the UA and UCU stratigraphic units. Magnesium concentrations in G11 are similarly elevated when contrasted with groundwater concentrations measured to the east. Concentrations of magnesium at G51D are more similar to background (i.e., overall low). While some Eastern Wells do exhibit magnesium concentrations above background, the range is substantially lower than G11 and the Western Wells overall. The low magnesium concentrations observed in background groundwater, eastern groundwater, and CCR porewater lead in the direction of the western groundwater as a source of high magnesium to, and therefore a dominant influence on, the exceedance wells (G11 in particular).

A strong linear relationship is observed between sulfate and magnesium in groundwater (Attachment 4; Appendix D-1), except TPZ120, which appears as an outlier for the JOP groundwater. The linear relationship between magnesium and sulfate is observed in both western and eastern groundwaters, though the magnitude of measured concentrations in the Western Wells extends beyond that of the Eastern Wells, as discussed in the previous paragraph. Concentrations from monitoring well G11 plot among the Western Wells and are distinctly separate from Eastern Wells. Furthermore, the G11 magnesium-sulfate relationship is similar to Western UCU wells. This data suggests that G11 groundwater chemistry is more similar to western groundwater chemistry than eastern groundwater chemistry. Conditions at G51D are suspected to be under the same influence from the western groundwater chemistry, but are simultaneously influenced from upgradient background groundwater, discussed further in Section 4.0. This mixing of groundwaters produces a lower magnesium concentration in G51D relative to G11.

3.3 MULTIVARIATE DATA ANALYSIS

3.3.1 METHOD

Groundwater chemistry data are by nature multivariate datasets given the high number of parameters observed per sampling location and within a given timeframe. With such a large number of variables, advanced statistical analysis of multivariate groundwater data can provide important insights into spatial,

temporal, and chemical relationships influencing constituent distribution and compliance in groundwater. The multivariate technique Principal Component Analysis (PCA) is used to interrogate the groundwater chemistry around the exceedance wells.

PCA is a multivariate technique that reduces dataset dimensionality to its principal, independent components thereby revealing the inner structure of the dataset. Multivariate techniques such as PCA are valuable because they identify variables that are highly dependent on each other but do not inherently provide insights into water origin, type, or evolution. Reducing multivariate data dimensionality reduces redundant information, revealing inner structures in the data that might otherwise be obscured by these dependencies. These structures might include groups of related variables, chemical evolution through time, or spatial locations with similar chemical signatures.

PCA results are most easily viewed on a biplot (such as those provided in Attachment 5), which depicts the sample population plotted on two axes, each representing a principal component. The principal components are created from a linear combination of the original variables in the dataset and variance in the data. For natural compositional datasets, approximately 70% of the population variance can often be expressed in the first three or four principal components (in some cases less and in others, more), each representing decreasing amounts of variance in the data while remaining uncorrelated to previous principal components. The first two principal components often represent the majority of the dataset and are visualized using biplots with the variables expressed as vectors; the location of groups of samples (i.e., factor scores) relative to component vectors provides insight into geochemical relationships among groups of variables and samples.

3.3.2 DATA PREPARATION

When conducting multivariate analysis, it is first necessary to prepare the dataset. Raw chemical data requires preparation prior to analysis because the data often contains values in two forms unsuitable for advanced analytics: 1) measurements reported below a method detection limit (MDL), referred to as censored data, and 2) missing values. For this work, any sample or analyte with a high percentage (\geq 40%) of missing and/or censored data was assessed for meaningful statistical variance. If overall analyte variance was determined to be low, the analyte was removed, otherwise the data was included in the analysis. Any remaining censored data was converted to half the MDL. Remaining missing values were imputed, a method of assigning an estimated value that accounts for the entire distribution of the material's composition (Sanford et al., 1993) and also takes into consideration the values associated with samples of similar composition. Imputation was done with a nearest neighbor algorithm (Troyanskaya, 2001) and resulting values were checked against the overall data distribution for both the analyte and sample to ensure representative results. Imputed data represents 1.9% or less of the overall dataset in the PCA biplots presented here. Processed data for the PCA are presented in Electronic Attachment 1 and 2.

PCA also requires transformation of the dataset to address the numeric closure problem inherent within chemical compositional datasets (Aitchison, 1986). Numeric closure can often occur in water quality data since water quality concentrations are not completely independent. To address this issue, all data was converted to the same units (mg/L) and the centered-log ratio transformation (CLR; Aitchison 1986; Egozcue et al. 2011) was applied to the cleaned dataset. In practice, closure only significantly affects elements present in large concentrations (e.g., major ions in typical water quality samples), but for consistency the entire dataset (i.e., including trace metals) was CLR-transformed.

The resulting dataset includes both compliance wells and other monitoring wells and spans sampling events from 2017 through 2023. The dataset contains 18 measured analytes, including the hydrogen ion (H+), which represents acidity in groundwater and is proportional to pH. This data represents both the most recent data measured at JOP as well as the most complete set of regularly measured and detectable analytes. All data preparation was conducted using python programming language. Only total concentrations of major ions and metals were used in this analysis as those data are both relatively complete and consistent across the wells on site and are the parameters of interest for regulatory purposes.

3.3.3 RESULTS

Biplots showing principal components 1 and 2 (PC1 and PC2) are provided in Attachment 5. The PC1 and PC2 are represented on the X and Y axis and explain approximately 30% and 25% of the statistical variance in the water quality dataset, respectively. For each biplot, the first three components explain over 65% variance in the dataset, while the first four explain over 70%. Constituent variables are expressed as vectors. The grouping of samples relative to the component vectors is useful for providing immediate insight into geochemical relationships among groups of variables and samples.

Two iterations of biplots are provided; Attachment 5a depicts all Western and Eastern Wells and porewater locations with sufficient data. Attachment 5b depicts all potential endmember influences on the pH exceedances at G11 and G51D, as represented by background groundwater, EAP porewater, WAP porewater, and hydraulically upgradient groundwater wells (all of which exist to the north and west). Side-gradient western well TPZ120 is also included as it represents a geochemical endmember. While constituent vectors are arranged in a similar orientation across both biplots, biplot 5A which includes the downgradient eastern groundwater contains more noise in the dataset making it difficult to decipher meaningful inter-well trends. This biplot is provided as a reference but is not discussed further. The remaining analysis focuses on biplot 5B which contains hydraulically upgradient wells, background wells, and porewater wells as geochemical endmembers of G11 and G51D (Attachment 5b). This biplot exhibits the following key features:

- Exceedance wells G51D and G11 exhibit a high degree of similarity with the Western Wells screened in the UA.
- Groundwater samples are distributed linearly from the bottom right to the middle of the upper left guadrant, with clear separation between stratigraphic units within the spread of data. Background data plots as an endmember in the lower right quadrant, transitions into UA wells in the lower left quadrant, and continues through the UCU wells in the middle upper left quadrant.
- The EAP and WAP porewaters dominate the upper right quadrant and are distinctly separate from the groundwater samples. There is also a clear separation between EAP and WAP porewaters. The WAP porewater has a strong association with the boron and lithium vectors whereas the EAP porewater is more closely associated with arsenic, potassium, molybdenum, and selenium.
- The WAP UCU monitoring well TPZ120 plots alone in the upper left corner of the plot at the far end of the iron vector, indicating (a) iron is a key contributor to the variance associated with this location and (b) TPZ120 has a distinct chemical composition relative to the other groundwater compositions considered.

The linear spread of groundwater data suggests chemical evolution and/or communication within the aquifer system. The western UCU groundwater composition is dominated by redox sensitive vectors such as manganese, iron, and sulfate. The UA groundwater is observed to undergo a gradual chemical evolution from the UCU redox-sensitive composition endmember back to background conditions, which are dominated by

alkalinity, sodium, chloride, and fluoride. The exceedance wells plot among the western UA groundwater, suggesting geochemistry is broadly similar in these wells. Furthermore, the exceedance wells plot in near association with the background groundwater wells, also indicating some multi-variate geochemical similarity to background. This positioning may indicate potential mixing between reduced upgradient groundwaters from the northwest with oxidized background water from the north, discussed further in Section 4.0. Exceedance wells G51D and G11 do not demonstrate association with the EAP porewater composition, supporting the conclusion that the EAP porewater is not a primary influence on the groundwater composition observed at G51D and G11, and is therefore not found to be responsible for the pH exceedances.

4.0 POTENTIAL ALTERNATE SOURCES

This technical review identified the likely source of acidity contributing to the low pH levels at G11 and G51D is dissolved iron in groundwater under reducing conditions and the redox transition that occurs in groundwater immediately upgradient of the G11 and G51D monitoring wells. This is demonstrated in Attachment 6, which includes figures depicting the redox condition at the site. The map included in Attachment 6A (Appendix D-2) demonstrates a distinct redox transition from more reducing conditions in upgradient waters and more oxidizing conditions near the exceedance wells. The reducing upgradient waters are characterized by lower oxidation reduction potential (ORP) and higher iron concentrations, while downgradient waters are largely the opposite with higher ORP and lower iron concentrations. This spatial gradient in redox conditions is also reflected in the Pourbaix diagram for the upgradient western groundwater network (Attachment 6B; Appendix D-3). This diagram demonstrates the predominant iron species and mineral forms under changing pH and Eh conditions (Eh is calculated from field measurements of ORP using the AquaTROLL conversion rate). There is a clear gradient from more reducing conditions in the north and west to more oxidized conditions in G11 and G51D with dissolved iron (Fe⁺⁺) and iron hydroxide $(Fe(OH)_3)$ as the dominant forms of iron. Simultaneously, there is a drop in pH as conditions become more oxidizing.

The source of the dissolved iron and reducing condition could be attributed to three possible upgradient influences existing to the west and north of the two exceedance wells: 1) low pH and relatively high dissolved iron existing in the general area around Western Well TPZ120, 2) the WAP, and 3) the sewage treatment pond. Results of the PCA suggest groundwater monitored in the area of Western Well TPZ120 and the WAP are both potential geochemical endmembers of the chemical evolution observed upgradient and to the west (Attachment 5). Monitoring well TPZ120 has an average iron concentration of 1.2 mg/L (determined from samples with turbidity <10 NTU) and is near enough in proximity to the exceedance wells to suggest cross-gradient flow between these wells may be possible (Attachment 2). The WAP and the sewage treatment pond are both upgradient sources of reduced groundwater, though high turbidity in field samples limits the use of existing iron data for full understanding of transport and speciation of dissolved iron in response to the redox gradient. These three locations represent possible alternate sources of reduced iron to the exceedance wells.

This change in redox condition is the likely source of acidity in G11 and G51D. It is interpreted that dissolved iron is released from the sediments through the process of reductive dissolution by upgradient waters, in response to the reducing conditions (as observed by low ORP). The dissolved iron is transported downgradient with groundwater and subsequently oxidizes and precipitates when it moves into an area with sufficient dissolved oxygen to drive the oxidation reaction.

The oxidation of dissolved iron to iron hydroxide is known to produce acidity via the following reactions:

$$
Fe^{2+} + \frac{1}{4}O_2 + H^+ \rightarrow Fe^{3+} + \frac{1}{2}H_2O
$$

$$
Fe^{3+} + 3H_2O \rightarrow Fe(OH)_3 + 3H^+
$$

Acidity is highlighted in red, and the equations demonstrate a net increase in acidity through iron oxidation and precipitation. In this way, reduced upgradient waters from the north and west provides the constituent (i.e., reduced iron) necessary to cause a drop in pH (i.e., through iron oxidation) in G11 and G51D. The oxidized environment near the exceedance wells results from sufficient mixing with the upgradient oxidized background groundwater. This is particularly evident in G51D, which has a more immediate influence of dissolved iron from reduced upgradient wells and has a compositional similarity to background wells (as seen in PCA and magnesium concentrations) resulting in the lowest pH in the JOP EAP groundwater network.

5.0 CONCLUSIONS

This technical review presents evidence that demonstrates the EAP is not the source of pH exceedances at compliance wells G11 and G51D. Results of the geochemical and multivariate analysis (i.e., PCA) demonstrate that groundwater associated with monitoring wells G11 and G51D are more similar to upgradient groundwater to the north and west than the EAP porewater. This analysis was supported by examination of magnesium concentrations and the magnesium-sulfate relationship, both of which indicate G11 and G51D have a chemical signature indicative of western groundwater and background groundwater. The pH exceedances are found to be the result of chemically reduced upgradient waters carrying dissolved iron (released from the aquifer solids through the geochemical process of reductive dissolution) subsequently mixing with oxidized background groundwater in the area of G51D and G11. Further analysis revealed three potential sources of dissolved iron to the north and west of the exceedance locations; however, this investigation did not attempt to identify the primary or singular source of dissolved iron driving the pH exceedances. Upon mixing, the dissolved iron originating from more reducing groundwater subsequently oxidizes and precipitates as iron hydroxide, consequently generating acidity and lowering the groundwater pH in this specific area. The information and analysis presented thus rules out the EAP as the source of the acidity, and therefore pH exceedances, in this area.

6.0 ABBREVIATIONS

7.0 REFERENCES

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- Sanford, R. F., C.T. Pierson, and R.A. Crovelli. 1993. An objective replacement method for censored geochemical data: Math. Geol., 25(1), p. 59-80.

Notes:

Wells with pH exceedances are shown with an X.

East ash pond compliance wells are light blue and monitoring wells are dark blue.

Western monitoring wells are purple (UA) and pink (UCU).

Background wells are brown. Ash ponds are outlined in yellow.

Contours are from March 2023.

Notes:

Wells with pH exceedances are shown with an X. Western wells are purple (UA) and pink (UCU). Background wells are brown. Ash ponds are outlined in yellow. Contours are from September 2022.

Joppa West Ash Pond Well Locations and Upper Aquifer Groundwater Elevation

Scatterplots of magnesium and sulfate for all Joppa wells (top), the western wells (bottom left) and eastern wells (bottom right).

list for complete analyte and unit names. A) PCA with all eastern and western wells, including porewater.

B) PCA with only western wells, background, and porewater.

Notes:

A) Redox conditions upgradient of G11 and G51D. White lines are upper aquifer groundwater contours, blue line indicates where conditions change from reducing to oxidizing. Contours from September 2022. Iron concentration not shown where turbidity >10 NTU.

B) Pourbaix diagram depicting iron solubility upgradient of G11 and G51D. WAP porewater is shown in green, western monitoring wells are shown in purple, G11 is red, and G51D is yellow. Blue areas are indicate aqueous phase iron; brown areas indicate solid phase iron.

Notes:

mg/L = milligrams per liter

SU= standard units

< = less than analytical detection limit; data not included in Attachment 3 and 4 analyses.

-- = data not measured

Well Type: Western and Eastern as defined in main text, UA=uppermost aquifer, UCU= upper confining unit Attachment 3: pH, boron, and magnesium data from March 2021 to May 2023. See Attachment 3 legend for full list of included wells.

Attachment 4: Magnesium and sulfate data for all sampling dates and all wells listed here.

Table 1: Inline Table 1 presents pH, boron, and magnesium data for G11, G51D, CCR Porewater, Western Groundwater, Eastern Groundwater, and TPZ120. G11, G51D, and TPZ120 data are from from March 2021 to May 2023 for those individual wells. For the same time frame, CCR Porewater includes both eastern and western porewater; Western Groundwater includes all Western UA and UCU wells except TPZ120; Eastern Groundwater includes all Eastern Compliance and Background Wells.

Appendix D- . Supporting groundwater analytical data for Attachment A.

Appendix D- . Supporting groundwater analytical data for Attachment A.

Notes:

mg/L = milligrams per liter

mV = millivolts ; V = volts

Italicized samples not included in average iron presented in Attachment 6a due to turbidity >10NTU

WAP: West ash pond, represented by data from XTPW03

Backgroud: Represented by data from G01D and G02D

Notes:

SU= standard units

mV = millivolts ; V = volts

Exhibit C

Electric Energy, Inc. 1500 Eastport Plaza Drive Collinsville, IL 62234

November 6, 2023

VIA E-MAIL Lauren. Martin $@$ epa.gov EPA.CCR.PART845.COORDINATOR@ILLINOIS.GOV EPA.CCR.Part845.Notify@Illinois.gov

Re: Alternative Source Demonstration ("ASD") for Joppa Power Plant East Ash Pond

To Whom It May Concern:

On October 21, 2023, Electric Energy, Inc. ("EEI") submitted an ASD for the Joppa Power Plant East Ash Pond ("Joppa EAP") to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency ("IEPA") pursuant to 35 Ill. Admin. Code $845.650(e)$. On October 23, 2023, IEPA provided notice to its listserve regarding the posting of the ASD submittal, triggering a 14-day period for written comments on the ASD submittal pursuant to 35 Ill Admin. Code $845.650(e)(3)$. After submittal of the Joppa EAP ASD, EEI and IEPA engaged in communications regarding the Joppa EAP ASD submittal. EEI submits this letter and its attachments, within the 14-day period for written comments, to provide additional information to IEPA in response to those communications. As explained below and in the attached materials, EEI's October 21 ASD submittal was comprehensive in scope and used scientifically supported, industry standard methodologies.

LEPA requested certain additional data as part of its communications with EEI. While EEI does not agree that any additional data is necessary in support of the ASD submittal, EEI has compiled and is providing, as Attachment 1 to this letter, the hydraulic conductivity and boring log data requested by IEPA. No specific boring locations were referenced by IEPA in its request, therefore, boring logs for subject wells $G05$, $G11$, and $G151/G51D$ and borings from which solid samples were collected ($G03$, G07, G08, G09M, and G11) have been included. Attachment 1 also includes hydraulic conductivity data referenced and provided in the October 2017 Hydrogeologic Monitoring Plan for the Joppa EAP. All of the information in Attachment 1 was previously provided or referenced in the Joppa EAP operating permit application and/or construction permit application. Additional site characterization data can also be found in the previously provided April 2023 supplemental site investigation report for the Joppa EAP. Because the supplemental site investigation report, operating permit application and construction permit application were used and relied upon in preparing the Joppa EAP ASD and all contain information IEPA has sought in connection with its review of the ASD, EEI (with this letter) is incorporating by reference the entirety of its April 2023 supplemental site investigation report, October 25, 2021 operating permit application and July 28, 2022 construction permit application for the Joppa EAP into its Joppa EAP ASD submittal.

In its communications with EEI, IEPA also requested (1) source characterization of CCR that includes total solids sampling, analysis and reporting in accordance with SW-846 leach testing methods and (2) sampling and analysis in accordance with 35 Ill. Admin. Code 845.640 of the alternative source. Collecting this information would be a considerable undertaking that EEI would not be able to complete prior to the decision deadline or within the comment period for the Joppa EAP ASD. Additionally, this information is not required by law and is unnecessary to support the Joppa EAP ASD. First, there is no requirement under Part 845 that source characterization of CCR be conducted in accordance with SW-846. While Part 845.150 incorporates by reference SW-846, that incorporation does not create an affirmative obligation to analyze all samples in accordance with SW-846. As set forth in Chapter 2 of SW-846, the methods are not "mandatory" unless specifically specified in the regulation. Groundwater samples taken under Part 845 are the only samples specifically required by Part 845 to be analyzed using $SW-846$. In particular, Part $845.640(e)$ requires groundwater samples taken under a groundwater monitoring program be analyzed in accordance with SW-846. Notably, samples collected under the Joppa EAP's groundwater monitoring program have been analyzed in accordance with SW-846 (and were otherwise collected and analyzed in accordance with 35 III. Admin. Code 845.640). Attachment 2 to this letter explains how CCR source characterization was conducted for the Joppa EAP ASD and explains why the methodology used is more appropriate than SW-846 leach testing methods for characterizing the source material.

Second, there is no requirement under 35 Ill Admin. Code 845.640, 35 Ill. Admin. Code 845.650 or elsewhere in Part 845 to identify, sample or analyze an alternative source. Section $845.650(e)$, which governs alternative source demonstrations, simply requires a determination that a source other than the CCR surface impoundment caused the contamination and that the CCR surface impoundment did not contribute to the contamination. As described in Attachment 2, this demonstration is made through a multiple lines of evidence analysis in the Joppa EAP ASD submittal. The multiple lines of evidence analysis for the Joppa EAP ASD demonstrates, among other findings, that the cobalt contamination in well G05 is likely from naturally occurring cobalt in soil and that pH exceedances in wells G11 and G51D are consistent with iron oxidization. However, identification and a full characterization of an alternative source is not required for the ASD or necessary to determine that a source other than the Joppa EAP caused the cobalt contamination in well G05 and pH contamination in wells G11 and G51D, and that the Joppa EAP did not contribute to that contamination.

Finally, given that this submittal responds to questions and requests raised by IEPA regarding the Joppa EAP ASD, EEI hereby incorporates this letter and its attachments (including the references set forth in those attachments) into its Joppa EAP submittal.

Should you have any questions regarding the information contained in this letter or its attachments, please feel free to reach out.

Sincerely,

Dianna Sichner

Dianna Tickner Sr. Director – Decommission and Demolition

Attachments

ATTACHMENT 1 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUESTED BY IEPA

FIELD HYDRAULIC CONDUCTIVITY TABLE AND SOFTWARE REPORTS

TABLE 3-3. FIELD HYDRAULIC CONDUCTIVITIES

HYDROGEOLOGIC SITE CHARACTERIZATION REPORT JOPPA POWER PLANT EAST ASH POND JOPPA, ILLINOIS

 1 All wells are constructed from 2 inch PVC with 0.01 inch slotted screens.

--- = Test not analyzed/performed

 $CCR = coal$ combustion residuals

cm/s = centimeters per second

 $D =$ downgradient

ft = foot/feet

NA = Not Applicable

NAVD88 = North American Vertical Datum of 1988

 $U = upgradient$

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Total Well Penetration Depth: 10.73 ft Screen Length: 10. ft Casing Radius: 0.083 ft Well Radius: 0.25 ft

Initial Displacement: 1. ft **Initial Displacement: 1.** ft **Static Water Column Height: 10.73** ft

SOLUTION

 $K = 0.0008689$ cm/sec $y0 = 0.9483$ ft

Aquifer Model: Confined **Example 20 and Solution Method: Bouwer-Rice**

Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

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Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

Table 1. Falling/Rising Head Test Results Summary Joppa East Ash Pond April 2017 Hydrogeologic Monitoring Plan

AQTESOLV for Windows G01D SI1 Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

Data Set: P:\2200\2285\Data\Slug Testing\DC, HAV, COF, JOP, NEWT 2_2017\Joppa Tests\AQTESOLV and PDF Title: G01D SI1 Date: 09/22/17 Time: 13:54:26

PROJECT INFORMATION

Company: Natural Resource Technology Client: Electric Energy, Inc. - Joppa Project: 2285 Location: Joppa Power Station Test Date: 4/4/2017 Test Well: G01D

AQUIFER DATA

Saturated Thickness: 87.2 ft Anisotropy Ratio (Kz/Kr): 1.

SLUG TEST WELL DATA

Test Well: G01D SI1

X Location: 831716.1 ft Y Location: 202039.3 ft

Initial Displacement: 2.767 ft Static Water Column Height: 10.08 ft Casing Radius: 0.08333 ft Well Radius: 0.3458 ft Well Skin Radius: 0.3458 ft Screen Length: 9.55 ft Total Well Penetration Depth: 9.55 ft

AQTESOLV for Windows The Contract of the Contract of the Contract of G01D SI1 Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

SOLUTION

Slug Test Aquifer Model: Confined Solution Method: Bouwer-Rice ln(Re/rw): 2.03

VISUAL ESTIMATION RESULTS

Estimated Parameters

 $T = K[*]b = 0.3522 cm²/sec$

 $K = 0.0001399$ cm/sec $y0 = 1.394$ ft

AQTESOLV for Windows and Contract the Contract of the Contract of Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

Data Set: P:\2200\2285\Data\Slug Testing\DC, HAV, COF, JOP, NEWT 2_2017\Joppa Tests\AQTESOLV and PDF Title: G01D SO1 Date: 09/22/17 Time: 13:58:33

PROJECT INFORMATION

Company: Natural Resource Technology Client: Electric Energy, Inc. - Joppa Project: 2285 Location: Joppa Power Station Test Date: 4/4/2017 Test Well: G01D

AQUIFER DATA

Saturated Thickness: 87.2 ft Anisotropy Ratio (Kz/Kr): 1.

SLUG TEST WELL DATA

Test Well: G01D SO1

X Location: 831716.1 ft Y Location: 202039.3 ft

Initial Displacement: 1.4 ft Static Water Column Height: 10.08 ft Casing Radius: 0.08333 ft Well Radius: 0.3458 ft Well Skin Radius: 0.3458 ft Screen Length: 9.55 ft Total Well Penetration Depth: 9.55 ft

No. of Observations: 31

SOLUTION

Slug Test Aquifer Model: Confined Solution Method: Bouwer-Rice ln(Re/rw): 2.03

VISUAL ESTIMATION RESULTS

Estimated Parameters

Parameter Estimate
K 0.0001399 0.0001399 cm/sec

 $K = 0.0001079$ cm/sec $y0 = 1.953$ ft

AQTESOLV for Windows G01D SO2 Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

Data Set: P:\2200\2285\Data\Slug Testing\DC, HAV, COF, JOP, NEWT 2_2017\Joppa Tests\AQTESOLV and PDF Title: G01D SO2 Date: 09/22/17 Time: 14:02:37

PROJECT INFORMATION

Company: Natural Resource Technology Client: Electric Energy, Inc. - Joppa Project: 2285 Location: Joppa Power Station Test Date: 4/4/2017 Test Well: G01D

AQUIFER DATA

Saturated Thickness: 87.2 ft Anisotropy Ratio (Kz/Kr): 1.

SLUG TEST WELL DATA

Test Well: G01D SO2

X Location: 831716.1 ft Y Location: 202039.3 ft

Initial Displacement: 2.908 ft Static Water Column Height: 10.08 ft Casing Radius: 0.08333 ft Well Radius: 0.3458 ft Well Skin Radius: 0.3458 ft Screen Length: 9.55 ft Total Well Penetration Depth: 9.55 ft

AQTESOLV for Windows The Contract of the Contract of the Contract of G01D SO2 Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

SOLUTION

Slug Test Aquifer Model: Confined Solution Method: Bouwer-Rice ln(Re/rw): 2.03

VISUAL ESTIMATION RESULTS

Estimated Parameters

 $T = K[*]b = 0.2868 cm²/sec$

AQTESOLV for Windows G01D SO3 Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

Data Set: P:\2200\2285\Data\Slug Testing\DC, HAV, COF, JOP, NEWT 2_2017\Joppa Tests\AQTESOLV and PDF Title: G01D SO3 Date: 09/22/17 Time: 14:05:00

PROJECT INFORMATION

Company: Natural Resource Technology Client: Electric Energy, Inc. - Joppa Project: 2285 Location: Joppa Power Station Test Date: 4/4/2017 Test Well: G01D

AQUIFER DATA

Saturated Thickness: 87.2 ft Anisotropy Ratio (Kz/Kr): 1.

SLUG TEST WELL DATA

Test Well: G01D SO3

X Location: 831716.1 ft Y Location: 202039.3 ft

Initial Displacement: 4.498 ft Static Water Column Height: 10.08 ft Casing Radius: 0.08333 ft Well Radius: 0.3458 ft Well Skin Radius: 0.3458 ft Screen Length: 9.55 ft Total Well Penetration Depth: 9.55 ft

AQTESOLV for Windows GO1D SO3 Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

SOLUTION

Slug Test Aquifer Model: Confined Solution Method: Bouwer-Rice ln(Re/rw): 2.03

VISUAL ESTIMATION RESULTS

Estimated Parameters

 $T = K[*]b = 0.2768 cm²/sec$

 $K = 0.0006495$ cm/sec $y0 = 1.561$ ft

AQTESOLV for Windows Slug In 1 Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

Data Set: P:\2200\2285\Data\Slug Testing\DC, HAV, COF, JOP, NEWT 2_2017\Joppa Tests\AQTESOLV and PDF Title: Slug In 1 Date: 09/22/17 Time: 14:07:30

PROJECT INFORMATION

Company: Natural Resource Technology Client: Electric Energy, Inc. - Joppa Project: 2285 Location: Joppa Power Station Test Date: 4/4/2017 Test Well: G02D

AQUIFER DATA

Saturated Thickness: 78.8 ft Anisotropy Ratio (Kz/Kr): 1.

SLUG TEST WELL DATA

Test Well: G02D SI1

X Location: 832843. ft Y Location: 202137.1 ft

Initial Displacement: 4.872 ft Static Water Column Height: 10.34 ft Casing Radius: 0.08333 ft Well Radius: 0.3458 ft Well Skin Radius: 0.3458 ft Screen Length: 9.63 ft Total Well Penetration Depth: 9.63 ft

AQTESOLV for Windows Superior Contract of the Superior Super Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

SOLUTION

Slug Test Aquifer Model: Confined Solution Method: Bouwer-Rice ln(Re/rw): 2.043

VISUAL ESTIMATION RESULTS

Estimated Parameters

 $T = K[*]b = 1.56 cm²/sec$

AQTESOLV for Windows Slug In 2 Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

Data Set: P:\2200\2285\Data\Slug Testing\DC, HAV, COF, JOP, NEWT 2_2017\Joppa Tests\AQTESOLV and PDF Title: Slug In 2 Date: 09/22/17 Time: 14:09:43

PROJECT INFORMATION

Company: Natural Resource Technology Client: Electric Energy, Inc. - Joppa Project: 2285 Location: Joppa Power Station Test Date: 4/4/2017 Test Well: G02D

AQUIFER DATA

Saturated Thickness: 78.8 ft Anisotropy Ratio (Kz/Kr): 1.

SLUG TEST WELL DATA

Test Well: G02D SI2

X Location: 832843. ft Y Location: 202137.1 ft

Initial Displacement: 4.864 ft Static Water Column Height: 10.34 ft Casing Radius: 0.03333 ft Well Radius: 0.3458 ft Well Skin Radius: 0.3458 ft Screen Length: 9.63 ft Total Well Penetration Depth: 9.63 ft

AQTESOLV for Windows \overline{S} and \overline{S} and \overline{S} are set of the Slug In 2 Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

SOLUTION

Slug Test Aquifer Model: Confined Solution Method: Bouwer-Rice ln(Re/rw): 2.043

VISUAL ESTIMATION RESULTS

Estimated Parameters

 $T = K[*]b = 0.05699 cm²/sec$

AQTESOLV for Windows Slug Out 2 Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

Data Set: P:\2200\2285\Data\Slug Testing\DC, HAV, COF, JOP, NEWT 2_2017\Joppa Tests\AQTESOLV and PDF Title: Slug Out 2 Date: 09/22/17 Time: 14:12:31

PROJECT INFORMATION

Company: Natural Resource Technology Client: Electric Energy, Inc. - Joppa Project: 2285 Location: Joppa Power Station Test Date: 4/4/2017 Test Well: G02D

AQUIFER DATA

Saturated Thickness: 78.8 ft Anisotropy Ratio (Kz/Kr): 1.

SLUG TEST WELL DATA

Test Well: G02D SO1

X Location: 832843. ft Y Location: 202137.1 ft

Initial Displacement: 2.749 ft Static Water Column Height: 10.34 ft Casing Radius: 0.08333 ft Well Radius: 0.3458 ft Well Skin Radius: 0.3458 ft Screen Length: 9.63 ft Total Well Penetration Depth: 9.63 ft

AQTESOLV for Windows Superior Contract of the Superior Superior Slug Out 2 Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

SOLUTION

Slug Test Aquifer Model: Confined Solution Method: Bouwer-Rice ln(Re/rw): 2.043

VISUAL ESTIMATION RESULTS

Estimated Parameters

 $T = K[*]b = 1.736 cm²/sec$


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SOLUTION
```
 $K = 0.0006395$ cm/sec $y0 = 1.649$ ft

Aquifer Model: Confined **Solution Method: Bouwer-Rice** Solution Method: Bouwer-Rice

AQTESOLV for Windows Slug Out 3 Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

Data Set: P:\2200\2285\Data\Slug Testing\DC, HAV, COF, JOP, NEWT 2_2017\Joppa Tests\AQTESOLV and PDF Title: Slug Out 3 Date: 09/22/17 Time: 14:13:57

PROJECT INFORMATION

Company: Natural Resource Technology Client: Electric Energy, Inc. - Joppa Project: 2285 Location: Joppa Power Station Test Date: 4/4/2017 Test Well: G02D

AQUIFER DATA

Saturated Thickness: 78.8 ft Anisotropy Ratio (Kz/Kr): 1.

SLUG TEST WELL DATA

Test Well: G02D SO3

X Location: 832843. ft Y Location: 202137.1 ft

Initial Displacement: 2.457 ft Static Water Column Height: 10.34 ft Casing Radius: 0.08333 ft Well Radius: 0.3458 ft Well Skin Radius: 0.3458 ft Screen Length: 9.63 ft Total Well Penetration Depth: 9.63 ft

AQTESOLV for Windows Superior Contract of the Superior Superior Slug Out 3 Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

SOLUTION

Slug Test Aquifer Model: Confined Solution Method: Bouwer-Rice ln(Re/rw): 2.043

VISUAL ESTIMATION RESULTS

Estimated Parameters

 $T = K[*]b = 1.536 cm²/sec$

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AQTESOLV for Windows Slug In 1 Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

Data Set: P:\2200\2285\Data\Slug Testing\DC, HAV, COF, JOP, NEWT 2_2017\Joppa Tests\AQTESOLV and PDF Title: Slug In 1 Date: 09/22/17 Time: 14:17:27

PROJECT INFORMATION

Company: Natural Resource Technology Client: Electric Energy, Inc. - Joppa Project: 2285 Location: Joppa Power Station Test Date: 4/3/2017 Test Well: G51D

AQUIFER DATA

Saturated Thickness: 96.9 ft Anisotropy Ratio (Kz/Kr): 1.

SLUG TEST WELL DATA

Test Well: G51D SI1

X Location: 832151.5 ft Y Location: 200430.1 ft

Initial Displacement: 3.183 ft Static Water Column Height: 15.7 ft Casing Radius: 0.08333 ft Well Radius: 0.3458 ft Well Skin Radius: 0.3458 ft Screen Length: 9.66 ft Total Well Penetration Depth: 12.97 ft

AQTESOLV for Windows The Contract of the Slug In 1 Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

SOLUTION

Slug Test Aquifer Model: Confined Solution Method: Bouwer-Rice ln(Re/rw): 2.152

VISUAL ESTIMATION RESULTS

Estimated Parameters

 $T = K[*]b = 0.6293 cm²/sec$

AQTESOLV for Windows Slug In 2 Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

Data Set: P:\2200\2285\Data\Slug Testing\DC, HAV, COF, JOP, NEWT 2_2017\Joppa Tests\AQTESOLV and PDF Title: Slug In 2 Date: 09/22/17 Time: 14:19:09

PROJECT INFORMATION

Company: Natural Resource Technology Client: Electric Energy, Inc. - Joppa Project: 2285 Location: Joppa Power Station Test Date: 4/3/2017 Test Well: G51D

AQUIFER DATA

Saturated Thickness: 96.9 ft Anisotropy Ratio (Kz/Kr): 1.

SLUG TEST WELL DATA

Test Well: G51D SI2

X Location: 832151.5 ft Y Location: 200430.1 ft

Initial Displacement: 4.465 ft Static Water Column Height: 15.7 ft Casing Radius: 0.08333 ft Well Radius: 0.03458 ft Well Skin Radius: 0.3458 ft Screen Length: 9.66 ft Total Well Penetration Depth: 12.97 ft

AQTESOLV for Windows Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

SOLUTION

Slug Test Aquifer Model: Confined Solution Method: Bouwer-Rice ln(Re/rw): 4.137

VISUAL ESTIMATION RESULTS

Estimated Parameters

 $T = K[*]b = 1.174 cm²/sec$

AQTESOLV for Windows Slug Out 1 Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

Data Set: P:\2200\2285\Data\Slug Testing\DC, HAV, COF, JOP, NEWT 2_2017\Joppa Tests\AQTESOLV and PDF Title: Slug Out 1 Date: 09/22/17 Time: 14:20:38

PROJECT INFORMATION

Company: Natural Resource Technology Client: Electric Energy, Inc. - Joppa Project: 2285 Location: Joppa Power Station Test Date: 4/3/2017 Test Well: G51D

AQUIFER DATA

Saturated Thickness: 96.9 ft Anisotropy Ratio (Kz/Kr): 1.

SLUG TEST WELL DATA

Test Well: G51D SO1

X Location: 832151.5 ft Y Location: 200430.1 ft

Initial Displacement: 0.94 ft Static Water Column Height: 15.7 ft Casing Radius: 0.08333 ft Well Radius: 0.3458 ft Well Skin Radius: 0.3458 ft Screen Length: 9.66 ft Total Well Penetration Depth: 12.97 ft

No. of Observations: 23

SOLUTION

Slug Test Aquifer Model: Confined Solution Method: Bouwer-Rice ln(Re/rw): 2.152

VISUAL ESTIMATION RESULTS

Estimated Parameters

 $T = K[*]b = 0.6928 cm²/sec$

AQTESOLV for Windows Slug Out 2 Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

Data Set: P:\2200\2285\Data\Slug Testing\DC, HAV, COF, JOP, NEWT 2_2017\Joppa Tests\AQTESOLV and PDF Title: Slug Out 2 Date: 09/22/17 Time: 14:22:17

PROJECT INFORMATION

Company: Natural Resource Technology Client: Electric Energy, Inc. - Joppa Project: 2285 Location: Joppa Power Station Test Date: 4/3/2017 Test Well: G51D

AQUIFER DATA

Saturated Thickness: 96.9 ft Anisotropy Ratio (Kz/Kr): 1.

SLUG TEST WELL DATA

Test Well: G51D SO2

X Location: 832151.5 ft Y Location: 200430.1 ft

Initial Displacement: 7.037 ft Static Water Column Height: 15.7 ft Casing Radius: 0.08333 ft Well Radius: 0.3458 ft Well Skin Radius: 0.3458 ft Screen Length: 9.66 ft Total Well Penetration Depth: 12.97 ft

AQTESOLV for Windows Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

SOLUTION

Slug Test Aquifer Model: Confined Solution Method: Bouwer-Rice ln(Re/rw): 2.152

VISUAL ESTIMATION RESULTS

Estimated Parameters

$T = K[*]b = 0.6255 cm²/sec$

AQTESOLV for Windows Slug Out 3 Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

Data Set: P:\2200\2285\Data\Slug Testing\DC, HAV, COF, JOP, NEWT 2_2017\Joppa Tests\AQTESOLV and PDF Title: Slug Out 3 Date: 09/22/17 Time: 14:23:30

PROJECT INFORMATION

Company: Natural Resource Technology Client: Electric Energy, Inc. - Joppa Project: 2285 Location: Joppa Power Station Test Date: 4/3/2017 Test Well: G51D

AQUIFER DATA

Saturated Thickness: 96.9 ft Anisotropy Ratio (Kz/Kr): 1.

SLUG TEST WELL DATA

Test Well: G51D SO3

X Location: 832151.5 ft Y Location: 200430.1 ft

Initial Displacement: 2.298 ft Static Water Column Height: 15.7 ft Casing Radius: 0.08333 ft Well Radius: 0.3458 ft Well Skin Radius: 0.3458 ft Screen Length: 9.66 ft Total Well Penetration Depth: 12.97 ft

AQTESOLV for Windows Superior Contract of the Superior Super Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

SOLUTION

Slug Test Aquifer Model: Confined Solution Method: Bouwer-Rice ln(Re/rw): 2.152

VISUAL ESTIMATION RESULTS

Estimated Parameters

 $T = K[*]b = 0.6781 cm²/sec$

AQTESOLV for Windows and Superior Contract of the Superior Slug Out 1 Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

Data Set: P:\2200\2285\Data\Slug Testing\DC, HAV, COF, JOP, NEWT 2_2017\Joppa Tests\AQTESOLV and PDF Title: Slug Out 1 Date: 09/22/17 Time: 14:29:14

PROJECT INFORMATION

Company: Natural Resource Technology Client: Electric Energy, Inc. - Joppa Project: 2285 Location: Joppa Power Station Test Date: 4/3/2017 Test Well: G52D

AQUIFER DATA

Saturated Thickness: 55.9 ft Anisotropy Ratio (Kz/Kr): 1.

SLUG TEST WELL DATA

Test Well: G52D SO1

X Location: 832927.9 ft Y Location: 198098.9 ft

Initial Displacement: 2.9 ft Static Water Column Height: 10.03 ft Casing Radius: 0.08333 ft Well Radius: 0.3458 ft Well Skin Radius: 0.3458 ft Screen Length: 4.2 ft Total Well Penetration Depth: 4.2 ft

No. of Observations: 17

SOLUTION

Slug Test Aquifer Model: Confined Solution Method: Bouwer-Rice ln(Re/rw): 1.396

VISUAL ESTIMATION RESULTS

Estimated Parameters

 $T = K[*]b = 0.0001215 cm²/sec$

AQTESOLV for Windows Slug In 1 Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

Data Set: P:\2200\2285\Data\Slug Testing\DC, HAV, COF, JOP, NEWT 2_2017\Joppa Tests\AQTESOLV and PDF Title: Slug In 1 Date: 09/22/17 Time: 14:32:46

PROJECT INFORMATION

Company: Natural Resource Technology Client: Electric Energy, Inc. - Joppa Project: 2285 Location: Joppa Power Station Test Date: 4/3/2017 Test Well: G53D

AQUIFER DATA

Saturated Thickness: 94.2 ft Anisotropy Ratio (Kz/Kr): 1.

SLUG TEST WELL DATA

Test Well: G53D SI1

X Location: 833980.2 ft Y Location: 200075.2 ft

Initial Displacement: 2.799 ft Static Water Column Height: 20. ft Casing Radius: 0.08333 ft Well Radius: 0.3458 ft Well Skin Radius: 0.3458 ft Screen Length: 9.6 ft Total Well Penetration Depth: 15.91 ft

AQTESOLV for Windows The Contract of the Slug In 1 Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

SOLUTION

Slug Test Aquifer Model: Confined Solution Method: Bouwer-Rice ln(Re/rw): 2.232

VISUAL ESTIMATION RESULTS

Estimated Parameters

 $T = K[*]b = 2.159 cm²/sec$

Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

AQTESOLV for Windows Slug In 2 Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

Data Set: P:\2200\2285\Data\Slug Testing\DC, HAV, COF, JOP, NEWT 2_2017\Joppa Tests\AQTESOLV and PDF Title: Slug In 2 Date: 09/22/17 Time: 14:34:48

PROJECT INFORMATION

Company: Natural Resource Technology Client: Electric Energy, Inc. - Joppa Project: 2285 Location: Joppa Power Station Test Date: 4/3/2017 Test Well: G53D

AQUIFER DATA

Saturated Thickness: 94.2 ft Anisotropy Ratio (Kz/Kr): 1.

SLUG TEST WELL DATA

Test Well: G53D SI2

X Location: 833980.2 ft Y Location: 200075.2 ft

Initial Displacement: 3.419 ft Static Water Column Height: 20. ft Casing Radius: 0.08333 ft Well Radius: 0.3458 ft Well Skin Radius: 0.3458 ft Screen Length: 9.6 ft Total Well Penetration Depth: 15.91 ft

No. of Observations: 43

SOLUTION

Slug Test Aquifer Model: Confined Solution Method: Bouwer-Rice ln(Re/rw): 2.232

VISUAL ESTIMATION RESULTS

Estimated Parameters

 $T = K[*]b = 1.84 cm²/sec$

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Data Set: P:\2200\2285\Data\Slug Testing\DC, HAV, COF, JOP, NEWT 2_2017\Joppa Tests\AQTESOLV and PDF Title: Slug Out1 Date: 09/22/17 Time: 14:37:25

PROJECT INFORMATION

Company: Natural Resource Technology Client: Electric Energy, Inc. - Joppa Project: 2285 Location: Joppa Power Station Test Date: 4/3/2017 Test Well: G53D

AQUIFER DATA

Saturated Thickness: 94.2 ft Anisotropy Ratio (Kz/Kr): 1.

SLUG TEST WELL DATA

Test Well: G53D SO1

X Location: 833980.2 ft Y Location: 200075.2 ft

Initial Displacement: 0.85 ft Static Water Column Height: 20. ft Casing Radius: 0.08333 ft Well Radius: 0.3458 ft Well Skin Radius: 0.3458 ft Screen Length: 9.6 ft Total Well Penetration Depth: 15.91 ft

No. of Observations: 20

SOLUTION

Slug Test Aquifer Model: Confined Solution Method: Bouwer-Rice ln(Re/rw): 2.232

VISUAL ESTIMATION RESULTS

Estimated Parameters

 $T = K[*]b = 1.485 cm²/sec$

AQTESOLV for Windows Slug Out 2 Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

Data Set: P:\2200\2285\Data\Slug Testing\DC, HAV, COF, JOP, NEWT 2_2017\Joppa Tests\AQTESOLV and PDF Title: Slug Out 2 Date: 09/22/17 Time: 14:39:04

PROJECT INFORMATION

Company: Natural Resource Technology Client: Electric Energy, Inc. - Joppa Project: 2285 Location: Joppa Power Station Test Date: 4/3/2017 Test Well: G53D

AQUIFER DATA

Saturated Thickness: 94.2 ft Anisotropy Ratio (Kz/Kr): 1.

SLUG TEST WELL DATA

Test Well: G53D S02

X Location: 833980.2 ft Y Location: 200075.2 ft

Initial Displacement: 2.971 ft Static Water Column Height: 20. ft Casing Radius: 0.08333 ft Well Radius: 0.3458 ft Well Skin Radius: 0.3458 ft Screen Length: 9.6 ft Total Well Penetration Depth: 15.91 ft

AQTESOLV for Windows Superior Contract of the Superior Superior Slug Out 2 Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

SOLUTION

Slug Test Aquifer Model: Confined Solution Method: Bouwer-Rice ln(Re/rw): 2.232

VISUAL ESTIMATION RESULTS

Estimated Parameters

 $T = K[*]b = 1.352 cm²/sec$

AQTESOLV for Windows Slug Out 3 Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

Data Set: P:\2200\2285\Data\Slug Testing\DC, HAV, COF, JOP, NEWT 2_2017\Joppa Tests\AQTESOLV and PDF Title: Slug Out 3 Date: 09/22/17 Time: 14:41:01

PROJECT INFORMATION

Company: Natural Resource Technology Client: Electric Energy, Inc. - Joppa Project: 2285 Location: Joppa Power Station Test Date: 4/3/2017 Test Well: G53D

AQUIFER DATA

Saturated Thickness: 94.2 ft Anisotropy Ratio (Kz/Kr): 1.

SLUG TEST WELL DATA

Test Well: G53D SO3

X Location: 833980.2 ft Y Location: 200075.2 ft

Initial Displacement: 2.656 ft Static Water Column Height: 20. ft Casing Radius: 0.08333 ft Well Radius: 0.3458 ft Well Skin Radius: 0.3458 ft Screen Length: 9.6 ft Total Well Penetration Depth: 15.91 ft

AQTESOLV for Windows Superior Contract of the Superior Superior Slug Out 3 Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

SOLUTION

Slug Test Aquifer Model: Confined Solution Method: Bouwer-Rice ln(Re/rw): 2.232

VISUAL ESTIMATION RESULTS

Estimated Parameters

 $T = K[*]b = 1.311 cm²/sec$

AQTESOLV for Windows **G54D** Slug In 1 Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

Data Set: P:\2200\2285\Data\Slug Testing\DC, HAV, COF, JOP, NEWT 2_2017\Joppa Tests\AQTESOLV and PDF Title: G54D Slug In 1 Date: 09/22/17 Time: 14:44:07

PROJECT INFORMATION

Company: Natural Resource Technology Client: Electric Energy, Inc. - Joppa Project: 2285 Location: Joppa Power Station Test Date: 4/3/2017 Test Well: G54D

AQUIFER DATA

Saturated Thickness: 59.7 ft Anisotropy Ratio (Kz/Kr): 1.

SLUG TEST WELL DATA

Test Well: G54D SI1

X Location: 831610.4 ft Y Location: 199066.8 ft

Initial Displacement: 2.906 ft Static Water Column Height: 6.14 ft Casing Radius: 0.08333 ft Well Radius: 0.3458 ft Well Skin Radius: 0.3458 ft Screen Length: 5.66 ft Total Well Penetration Depth: 5.66 ft

AQTESOLV for Windows **CONTRACT CONTRACT CO** Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

SOLUTION

Slug Test Aquifer Model: Confined Solution Method: Bouwer-Rice ln(Re/rw): 1.626

VISUAL ESTIMATION RESULTS

Estimated Parameters

 $T = K[*]b = 1.807 cm²/sec$

AQTESOLV for Windows **G54D** Slug In 2 Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

Data Set: P:\2200\2285\Data\Slug Testing\DC, HAV, COF, JOP, NEWT 2_2017\Joppa Tests\AQTESOLV and PDF Title: G54D Slug In 2 Date: 09/22/17 Time: 14:45:41

PROJECT INFORMATION

Company: Natural Resource Technology Client: Electric Energy, Inc. - Joppa Project: 2285 Location: Joppa Power Station Test Date: 4/3/2017 Test Well: G54D

AQUIFER DATA

Saturated Thickness: 59.7 ft Anisotropy Ratio (Kz/Kr): 1.

SLUG TEST WELL DATA

Test Well: G54D SI2

X Location: 831610.4 ft Y Location: 199066.8 ft

Initial Displacement: 4.476 ft Static Water Column Height: 6.14 ft Casing Radius: 0.08333 ft Well Radius: 0.3458 ft Well Skin Radius: 0.3458 ft Screen Length: 5.66 ft Total Well Penetration Depth: 5.66 ft

AQTESOLV for Windows **CONTACT CONTACT CONTACT** Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

SOLUTION

Slug Test Aquifer Model: Confined Solution Method: Bouwer-Rice ln(Re/rw): 1.626

VISUAL ESTIMATION RESULTS

Estimated Parameters

 $T = K[*]b = 1.645 cm²/sec$

Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

AQTESOLV for Windows and the state of the state of the state of G54D Slug Out 1 Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

Data Set: P:\2200\2285\Data\Slug Testing\DC, HAV, COF, JOP, NEWT 2_2017\Joppa Tests\AQTESOLV and PDF Title: G54D Slug Out 1 Date: 09/22/17 Time: 14:47:25

PROJECT INFORMATION

Company: Natural Resource Technology Client: Electric Energy, Inc. - Joppa Project: 2285 Location: Joppa Power Station Test Date: 4/3/2017 Test Well: G54D

AQUIFER DATA

Saturated Thickness: 59.7 ft Anisotropy Ratio (Kz/Kr): 1.

SLUG TEST WELL DATA

Test Well: G54D SO1

X Location: 831610.4 ft Y Location: 199066.8 ft

Initial Displacement: 1.2 ft Static Water Column Height: 6.14 ft Casing Radius: 0.08333 ft Well Radius: 0.3458 ft Well Skin Radius: 0.3458 ft Screen Length: 5.66 ft Total Well Penetration Depth: 5.66 ft

No. of Observations: 20

SOLUTION

Slug Test Aquifer Model: Confined Solution Method: Bouwer-Rice ln(Re/rw): 1.626

VISUAL ESTIMATION RESULTS

Estimated Parameters

 $T = K[*]b = 0.7609 cm²/sec$

AQTESOLV for Windows **G54D** Slug Out 2 Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

Data Set: P:\2200\2285\Data\Slug Testing\DC, HAV, COF, JOP, NEWT 2_2017\Joppa Tests\AQTESOLV and PDF Title: G54D Slug Out 2 Date: 09/22/17 Time: 14:49:02

PROJECT INFORMATION

Company: Natural Resource Technology Client: Electric Energy, Inc. - Joppa Project: 2285 Location: Joppa Power Station Test Date: 4/3/2017 Test Well: G54D

AQUIFER DATA

Saturated Thickness: 59.7 ft Anisotropy Ratio (Kz/Kr): 1.

SLUG TEST WELL DATA

Test Well: G54D SO2

X Location: 831610.4 ft Y Location: 199066.8 ft

Initial Displacement: 2.891 ft Static Water Column Height: 6.14 ft Casing Radius: 0.08333 ft Well Radius: 0.3458 ft Well Skin Radius: 0.3458 ft Screen Length: 5.66 ft Total Well Penetration Depth: 5.66 ft

AQTESOLV for Windows **CONTRACT CONTRACT CO** Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

SOLUTION

Slug Test Aquifer Model: Confined Solution Method: Bouwer-Rice ln(Re/rw): 1.626

VISUAL ESTIMATION RESULTS

Estimated Parameters

 $T = K[*]b = 1.625 cm²/sec$

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Data Set: P:\2200\2285\Data\Slug Testing\DC, HAV, COF, JOP, NEWT 2_2017\Joppa Tests\AQTESOLV and PDF Title: G54D Slug Out 3 Date: 09/22/17 Time: 14:50:37

PROJECT INFORMATION

Company: Natural Resource Technology Client: Electric Energy, Inc. - Joppa Project: 2285 Location: Joppa Power Station Test Date: 4/3/2017 Test Well: G54D

AQUIFER DATA

Saturated Thickness: 59.7 ft Anisotropy Ratio (Kz/Kr): 1.

SLUG TEST WELL DATA

Test Well: G54D SO3

X Location: 831610.4 ft Y Location: 199066.8 ft

Initial Displacement: 3.308 ft Static Water Column Height: 6.14 ft Casing Radius: 0.08333 ft Well Radius: 0.3458 ft Well Skin Radius: 0.3458 ft Screen Length: 5.66 ft Total Well Penetration Depth: 5.66 ft

AQTESOLV for Windows The Contract of the Contract of the Contract of G54D Slug Out 3 Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

SOLUTION

Slug Test Aquifer Model: Confined Solution Method: Bouwer-Rice ln(Re/rw): 1.626

VISUAL ESTIMATION RESULTS

Estimated Parameters

 $T = K[*]b = 1.195 cm²/sec$

BORING LOGS

NOTES:

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ATTACHMENT 2

RAMBOLL RESPONSE LETTER DATED NOVEMBER 6, 2023

RAMB LL ENVIRONMENT & HEALTH Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

November 6, 2023

VIA E-MAIL Lauren.Martin@epa.gov EPA.CCR.PART845.COORDINATOR@ILLINOIS.GOV EPA.CCR.Part845.Notify@Illinois.gov

Re: Joppa Power Plant East Ash Pond Alternative Source Demonstration Response to IEPA Comments

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter addresses the following requests for information from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) provided on October 26, 2023 via email from Lauren Hunt regarding the Joppa Power Plant East Ash Pond alternative source demonstration (ASD) submitted on October 21, 2023:

- 1. Source characterization of the CCR at the East Ash Pond must include total solids sampling, analysis and reporting in accordance with SW846.
- 2. Hydraulic conductivities from laboratory or insitu testing must be collected, analyzed and presented with hydrogeologic characterization of all units including aquifers and confining units. Hydraulic conductivity data must include field and software analysis.
- 3. Characterization to include sample and analysis in accordance with 35 IAC 845.640 of alternative source must be provided with the ASD.

Background

Alternative source demonstrations use a multiple lines of evidence approach to support the conclusions that 1) the coal combustion residuals (CCR) unit is not the source of an exceedance, and 2) there is an alternative source of the exceedance. The multiple lines of evidence approach is consistent with the approach used in many areas of environmental analysis such as ecological risk assessment, monitored natural attenuation (MNA), and vapor intrusion (USEPA, 2016; USEPA, 1999; ITRC, 2007). The goal of a multiple lines of evidence approach is to provide robust support for a causal relationship based on many smaller individual qualitative or quantitative pieces of evidence (USEPA, 2016). Critically, no individual line of evidence will be completely conclusive, and each will have varying degrees of certainty. The final determination of a conclusion is based on the totality of the evidence provided.

ASDs based on a multiple lines of evidence approach are routinely prepared by environmental consultants to comply with federal CCR rules (Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations [40 C.F.R.] § 257) and State CCR rules (Title 35 of the Illinois Administrative Code [35 I.A.C.] § 845). In Georgia, where the CCR permitting authority has been delegated to the State, the Georgia Environmental Protection Division has approved ASDs using multiple lines of evidence to satisfy the requirements of federal CCR rule. An example of such approval is documented in the summary section (page 3) of the 2023 Annual Groundwater Monitoring and Corrective Action Report found in the publicly accessible files linked here: https://www.georgiapower.com/content/dam/georgia-power/pdfs/company-pdfs/plantmcmanus/20230731_2023agwmcar_mcm_ap-1.pdf.

RAMB LL

The East Ash Pond ASD was completed in conformance with the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) guidance for development of ASDs at CCR sites (EPRI, 2017). The EPRI document presents an approach for developing ASD lines of evidence that relies, where possible, on leachate samples collected from leachate wells, lysimeters, and/or leachate collection systems to provide samples that are representative of interstitial porewater. This direct approach for evaluating the potential for the East Ash Pond to impact groundwater is in contrast to the indirect approach implied by the IEPA request to characterize the CCR at the East Ash Pond using methods in accordance with SW-846 (specifically those used for waste characterization [*e.g.,* EP, TCLP, SPLP, LEAF1]), as discussed below.

Additionally, the lines of evidence as presented as section headings in the East Ash Pond ASD commonly contain multiple qualitative and quantitative pieces of information that contribute to the body of evidence that support the conclusion that the CCR surface impoundment (SI) is not the source of an exceedance.

Response to Request Number 1: SW-846 Characterization of CCR Material

The CCR porewater most accurately represents the mobile constituents associated with the waste management activity within the CCR SI (EPRI, 2017). The composition of CCR porewater accumulated at the base of the CCR unit, which is derived from, and represents contact with, CCR material above and around the well screen, is the truest representation of mobile constituents throughout the CCR SI. Leach tests presented in SW-846 (*e.g.*, TCLP, SPLP, LEAF 1313 - 1316) are inconsistent predictors or surrogates of *in situ* porewater chemical concentrations (EPRI, 2020; EPRI, 2021; and EPRI, 2022). Indeed, laboratory leach test effectiveness is determined by comparing results to porewater data (USEPA, 2014; EPRI, 2020; EPRI, 2021; and EPRI, 2022). These laboratory leach tests most accurately predict porewater concentrations when conditions in the test closely reflect conditions present in the field (USEPA, 2019). In many cases, the pH and/or redox potential of porewater is poorly represented by any laboratory leach test conditions. For these reasons, analysis of actual CCR porewater is more representative of potential contributions to groundwater observed in compliance monitoring wells than laboratory leach testing. The uncertainty in comparing the laboratory leach test results with the actual porewater concentrations means that the contribution of laboratory leach test data as a line of evidence to an ASD would be minimal.

Prior to performing hydrogeologic investigations in 2021, Ramboll completed a review of existing data to determine whether sufficient information existed to meet the requirements of 35 I.A.C. § 845. Based on the review, Ramboll developed an approach to fully characterize the CCR material as part of the 2021 investigation. Three locations for porewater wells were selected by evaluating the extent of ash through time on aerial photographs (**Figure 1**), identifying visible differences (color) in surficial materials, and capturing a representative spatial distribution. Porewater was encountered at an elevation of approximately 370 to 374 feet (Ramboll, 2021). For the purpose of visualization, **Figure 2** shows the areas within the SI that were not accessible for potential sampling and testing as illustrated by different colored portions of the East Ash Pond. Of the 122 acre unit, about 66%was accessible for safely installing porewater monitoring wells. A total of three porewater wells were installed in 2021.

¹ Extraction Procedure, Toxic Characteristic Leaching Procedure, Synthetic Precipitation Leaching Procedure, Leaching Environmental Assessment Framework

RAMB LL

During installation of the porewater wells, the borings were logged, and solid samples were collected from six intervals for geotechnical and chemical analysis. Samples were analyzed for total metal concentrations via EPA Method 6010B and 6020A (SW-846) and results were summarized in the Hydrogeologic Site Characterization Report (Ramboll, 2021) and submitted in the 2021 Operating Permit (Burns and McDonnell, 2021).

As established above, testing porewater is a direct source term for evaluating potential influence on groundwater. SW-846 provides analytical methods for evaluating solid waste using leach tests that are designed to replicate potential *in situ* conditions (either current or future). The goal of these laboratory leach tests is to predict the potential concentration of chemicals under laboratory controlled conditions (*e.g.*, landfill leachate, synthetic precipitation, variable pH) which may or may not represent conditions observed in the field. The use of leach test results performed under variable conditions collected from any number of locations within the CCR SI to estimate a total potential for chemical leaching from CCR into groundwater under a variety of different conditions is irrelevant to an ASD. ASDs are prepared to evaluate the potential for actual porewater leaking from a CCR SI to be the cause of a detected exceedance observed in a compliance well.

Response to Request Number 2: Provide Hydraulic Conductivity Data

Responses to Request Number 2 are provided in the cover letter to this Attachment and in Attachment 1 to that cover letter.

Response to Request Number 3: Alternative Source Characterization

In the East Ash Pond ASD, the multiple lines of evidence approach is appropriate for identifying that a source other than the East Ash Pond caused the observed exceedance and that the East Ash Pond did not contribute to the cobalt exceedance at G05 or the low pH at G11 and G51D. Ramboll's investigation determined that release of naturally occurring cobalt from manganese oxides was the source of cobalt at G05. Results of solid sampling indicates the presence of cobalt in native materials from multiple locations at the site and naturally occurring cobalt was found to be associated with manganese throughout the site.

Mixing of oxidizing and reducing waters was identified as the source of the low pH at G11 and G51D. A distinct redox transition was identified, shifting from more reducing conditions in upgradient waters to more oxidizing conditions in downgradient wells, including the exceedance wells. The oxidation of dissolved iron to iron oxides is known to produce acidity (Hem and Cropper, 1959) and is believed to be the cause of the low pH at G11 and G51D.

When an exceedance is caused by natural variability driving geochemical reactions (*e.g.*, as by mixing of waters with different compositions), direct sampling of a "source" becomes challenging. The closest approximation of direct sampling would involve using collected materials in complex laboratory simulations which would attempt to replicate field conditions. Instead, site-specific hydrogeologic, groundwater composition, and solid phase data were analyzed using industry-standard geochemical and statistical methods to provide multiple lines of evidence which support the conclusions. As described above, a multiple lines of evidence approach allows for determination of robust conclusions when specific source data are inaccessible.

Conclusions

The combined strength of the lines of evidence in the East Ash Pond ASD demonstrates that the East Ash Pond is not the source of the cobalt exceedance at G05 or the low pH at G11 and G51D (and did not contribute to these exceedances) and that the likely source is natural variability in groundwater due to water-solid interactions and groundwater mixing, respectively. Ramboll does not believe that additional lines of evidence based on leach test data or testing of the alternative source would change the conclusion of the full body of evidence presented in the ASD that the East Ash Pond is not the source of the exceedances and did not contribute to the exceedances.

References

Burns & McDonnell, 2021. Initial Operating Permit. Joppa East Ash Pond. October 25.

Geosyntec Consultants, Inc. (Geosyntec), 2023. Supplemental Site Investigation Report. Joppa Power Station, East Ash Pond (CCR Unit #401), Electric Energy, Inc. April

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Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), 2021. Leaching, Geotechnical, and Hydrologic Characterization of Coal Combustion Products from an Active Coal Ash Management Unit: Plant 42197. EPRI, Palo Alto, CA: 2021. 3002018780.

Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), 2022. Evaluation and Comparison of Leach Test and Porewater Variability for Multiple Coal Combustion Product Management Units. EPRI, Palo Alto, CA: 2022. 3002024214.

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Natural Resource Technology, an OBG Company, 2017. Hydrogeologic Monitoring Plan, Joppa East Ash Pond, CCR Unit ID 401 October 17.

Ramboll Americas Engineering Services (Ramboll), 2021. Hydrogeologic Site Characterization Report. Newton Power Plant Primary Ash Pond. October

United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), 2019. Leaching Environmental Assessment Framework (LEAF) How-To Guide. SW-846 Update VII. Revision 1. May.

United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), 2016. Weight of Evidence in Ecological Assessment. EPA/100/R-16/001. December.

United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), 2014. Leaching Test Relationships, Laboratory-to-Field Comparisons and Recommendations for Leaching Evaluation using the Leaching Environmental Assessment Framework. EPA 600/R-14/061 September.

United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), 1999. Use of Monitoring Natural Attenuation at Superfund, RCRA Corrective Action, and Underground Storage Tank Sites. OSWER Directive Number 9200.4-17P.

Attachments

Figure 1 CCR Characterization

Figure 2 2022 Conditions

If you have any questions about this letter, please do not hesitate to contact Brian Hennings or Frances Ackerman, as referenced below.

Sincerely,

 $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$

D +1 414 837 3524 D +1 414 308 0811 D +1 262 719 4512 M +1 414 308 0811

len, \sim **Brian G. Hennings, PG A. Frances Ackerman, PE**

Project Officer, Hydrogeology **Subject Matter Expert/Technical Manager 2** Subject Matter Expert/Technical Manager 2 brian.hennings@ramboll.com frances.ackerman@ramboll.com

RAMBOLL US CORPORATION A RAMBOLL COMPANY

CCR CHARACTERIZATION FIGURE 1

JOPPA POWER STATION JOPPA, ILLINOIS

PROJECT: 169000XXXX | DATED: 11/6/2023 | DESIGNER: GALARNMC

:pa\2023\Figure 2_JOP 2022 Conditions

FIGURE 2

RAMBOLL AMERICAS ENGINEERING SOLUTIONS, INC.

2022 CONDITIONS

EAST ASH POND JOPPA POWER PLANT JOPPA, ILLINOIS

Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 12/22/2023**PCB 2024-045**

Exhibit D

DECLARATION OF MELINDA W. HAHN, PhD

In support of Electric Energy Inc.'s Petition for Review of IEPA's Nonconcurrence with the Joppa Alternative Source Demonstration and Request for Stay

I, Dr. Melinda W. Hahn, declare and state as follows:

 $1)$ I am an Environmental Engineer and Senior Managing Consultant with Ramboll Americas Engineering Solutions, Inc. Attached as Appendix A is a true and accurate copy of my Curriculum Vitae.

2) I hold a PhD in Environmental Engineering from Johns Hopkins University. The focus of my research for my PhD dissertation was contaminant transport in porous media (e.g., groundwater).

My practice over my 25-year career includes site investigation and $3)$ remediation in multiple state and federal programs, such as voluntary remediation, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) corrective action, and Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) response action. My work in these programs includes contaminant fate and transport modelling, site investigation and remediation, and statistics and forensic

 $1\,$

analysis of environmental contamination data. I have evaluated sites from many different industrial sectors with many different contaminants of concern, including volatile organic compounds (VOCs), which includes chlorinated volatile organic compounds (CVOCs), semivolatile organic compounds (SVOCs), metals, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), and dioxins/furans.

4) To prepare this Declaration, I reviewed the Electric Energy Inc. (EEI) October 20, 2023 Alternative Source Demonstration (ASD) Report for the Joppa Power Plant East Ash Pond (EAP), the November 6, 2023 EEI letter to the IEPA with supplementary information on the ASD, the November 16, 2023 IEPA denial of the ASD, and supporting information for the ASD. I reviewed the documents submitted by EEI independently and was not personally involved in their preparation.

The ASD report addresses cobalt concentrations observed in 5) groundwater in well G05 and pH observed in wells G11 and G51D above the Groundwater Protection Standards (GPS). It also identifies boron GPS exceedances at wells G06, G07, G08, G09 and G10 that will be assessed for corrective measures under Section 845.660 (the "corrective measures wells"). The ASD report relies on a multiple lines of evidence (MLE) approach that is standard practice in causal determinations in environmental forensic analysis, risk assessment, and site

 $\overline{2}$

investigation.^{1,2,3,4,5} The MLE approach involves analysis of multiple independent sets of data to test whether an identified source can explain observed data. Information to consider can be site-specific, regional, or from the literature.^{6,7} These independent lines of evidence are developed until sufficient confidence is achieved to either confirm or rule out a source.⁸ For the Joppa ASD, the independent lines of evidence include hydrogeological data to establish the direction of groundwater flow (groundwater flows generally from west to east at the Joppa Power Plant), chemical porewater data from wells set at the base of the EAP CCR to characterize source concentrations, chemical groundwater data from upgradient and compliance wells, and multivariate analysis of chemical data to identify the geochemical processes that led to the pH exceedance at G11 and G51D and the cobalt exceedance at G05. The lines of evidence also rely on the principles of geochemistry and the fundamental

Miller, J. Methods and Advances in the Forensic Analysis of Contaminated Rivers, E3S Web of Conferences Vol. 125, 2019, p. 3.

² U.S. EPA, U.S. Navy SPAWAR Systems Center, GeoChem Metrix Inc., and Battelle Memorial Institute, A Handbook for Determining the Sources of PCB Contamination in Sediments, Technical Report, TR-NAVFAC EXWC-EV-1302, October 2012, p. 13.

³ U.S. EPA, Office of the Science Advisor, Risk Assessment Forum, Weight of Evidence in Ecological Assessment, EPA/100/R-16/001, December 2016.

⁴ U.S. EPA, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response, OSWER Technical Guide for Assessing and Mitigating the Vapor Intrusion Pathway from Subsurface Vapor in Indoor Air, June 2015, pp. xv-xvii, 17-18, 38-40, 60-61, 117-123.

⁵ EPRI, Guidelines for Development of Alternative Source Demonstrations at Coal Combustion Residual Sites, 2017 Technical Report, p. viii.

⁶ U.S. EPA, Office of the Science Advisor, Risk Assessment Forum, Weight of Evidence in Ecological Assessment, EPA/100/R-16/001, December 2016, p. 20 et seq.

⁷ U.S. EPA, U.S. Navy SPAWAR Systems Center, GeoChem Metrix Inc., and Battelle Memorial Institute, A Handbook for Determining the Sources of PCB Contamination in Sediments, Technical Report, TR-NAVFAC EXWC-EV-1302, October 2012, p. 30.

Miller, J. Methods and Advances in the Forensic Analysis of Contaminated Rivers, E3S Web of Conferences Vol. 125, 2019, p. 3.

concept of contaminant migration: that contaminant concentrations decrease in the downgradient direction due to the successive dilution of dispersion and diffusion (i.e., downgradient concentrations cannot be higher than source concentrations). In a CCR surface impoundment release scenario, leachate is subject to physical processes that dilute solute concentrations including mixing, dispersion and dilution.⁹

The porewater well source concentrations in the EAP have been 6) characterized through the collection of porewater samples. The source porewater data for the EAP are consistent with literature values for coal ash leachate, 10,11,12 and define the maximum concentrations for groundwater impact outside of the EAP.

Cobalt in G05

The three lines of evidence (LOEs) presented in the October 20, 2023 7) ASD report for cobalt are as follows:

LOE 1: Cobalt concentrations at G05 are consistent with cobalt $a)$ mobilization from native soils due to reductive dissolution of manganese oxides;

U.S. EPA Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response, Solid Waste Disposal Criteria, Technical Manual, EPA530-R-93-017, p. 126.

¹⁰ U.S. EPA, Industrial Environmental Research Laboratory, Chemical and Biological Characterization of Leachates from Coal Solid Wastes, EPA-600/7-80-039, March 1980.

¹¹ U.S. EPA and TVA, Effects of Coal-ash Leachate on Ground Water Ouality, EPA-600/7-80-066, March 1980.

¹² U.S. EPA, Office of Research and Development, Characterization of Coal Combustion Residues from Electric Utilities - Leaching and Characterization Data, EPA-600/R-09/151, December 2009.

LOE 2: Cobalt concentrations at G05 are greater than source $b)$ concentrations; and

LOE 3: Cobalt concentrations are not correlated with $c)$ concentrations of CCR indicator parameters.

Cobalt is a naturally occurring element in soil. When mobilized in 8) groundwater, cobalt does not behave like a conservative tracer as it sorbs strongly to solid phase manganese oxides, the presence of which are controlled by local redox conditions. Therefore, changes in redox conditions that affect manganese can cause cobalt to be released into solution from aquifer solids (thereby increasing observed concentrations), or removed from solution (decreasing observed concentrations). As a result, observed concentrations of cobalt in groundwater exhibit natural variation due to local geochemistry. The ASD demonstrated that the geochemical conditions near the EAP are thermodynamically favorable for reductive dissolution of manganese oxides, and that manganese and cobalt concentrations are positively correlated in both aquifer soil and groundwater samples.

9) The EAP is not a source of cobalt to well G05 because the porewater cobalt concentrations have been non-detect at a reporting limit of 0.001 mg/L or below this value in every sample collected. In contrast, cobalt concentrations in G05 are significantly higher than 0.001 mg/L. The following Box and Whiskers chart shows the cobalt concentration comparison.

5

Figure 1: Cobalt Concentrations in Porewater Wells and G05¹³

The following chart shows the range of cobalt detected in exceedance well G05, background wells G01D and G02D, well G03 that is located at the north end (cross gradient) of the EAP and not impacted by porewater above GPS, and porewater wells $XPW01, XPW02, and XPW03.$

¹³ Data presented are included in the October 20, 2023 ASD Report for the Joppa EAP, Appendix D-1. Non-detect values are replaced with the laboratory reporting limit.

Figure 2:Cobalt Concentrations Including Background Wells¹⁴

The relative absence of cobalt in porewater wells demonstrates that the EAP is not the source of cobalt observed in well G05. The ASD further demonstrated that the concentrations of cobalt observed in well G05 are not correlated with key CCR indicator parameters boron and cobalt as one would expect if they shared a common source. This in an independent line of evidence supporting the conclusion that the EAP is not the source of cobalt observed in well G05.

10) The three lines of evidence based on groundwater chemistry are sufficient to eliminate the EAP as the source of cobalt concentrations in well G05.

¹⁴ Data presented are included in the October 20, 2023 ASD Report for the Joppa EAP, Appendix D-1. Non-detect values are replaced with the laboratory reporting limit.

The ASD identified the likely source as reductive dissolution of manganese minerals in the aquifer solids.

pH in G11 and G51D

11) The three lines of evidence (LOEs) presented in the October 20, 2023 ASD report for pH are as follows:

- LOE 1: G11 and G51D are upgradient of the EAP. $a)$
- LOE 2: Groundwater chemistry at G11 and G51D is aligned with $b)$ the groundwater signature observed west of the monitoring wells; and
- $c)$ LOE 3: pH exceedances at G11 and G51D are consistent with iron oxidation.

12) Wells G11 and G51D are located on the western, or upgradient side of the EAP and, as such, are unlikely to be impacted by the EAP. In contrast, the corrective measures wells on the eastern, or downgradient side of the EAP (G06, G07, G08, G09 and G10) contained boron in excess of the GPS and are carried forward for assessment of corrective measures. Boron is considered by U.S. EPA to be the CCR indicator analyte with the fastest travel time and likely the first indicator analyte to be detected.¹⁵

¹⁵ EPA Proposed Rule: Amendments to the National Minimum Criteria (Phase One for Disposal of Coal Combustion Residuals from Electric Utilities, FR Vol. 83, No. 51, March 15, 2018, p. 11588.

 $13)$ The pH exceedances at G11 and G51D are due to an observed pH that is more acidic (lower pH) than the GPS range. pH is a measure of the concentration of positively charged hydrogen ions in solution. The greater the concentration of hydrogen ions, the lower the pH. Like cobalt, acidity is also not a conservative solute like sodium or chloride, but rather it is variable and dependent on local geochemistry (i.e., acidity can be either neutralized or buffered in the subsurface depending on the nature of the aquifer solids and the redox chemistry of groundwater). The EAP is not a source of acidity to wells G11 and G51D as the leachate is alkaline (higher pH than background groundwater) and the pH in corrective measures wells downgradient of the EAP is not similarly depressed. The following figure displays the Box and Whiskers charts for pH in background wells, pH exceedance wells, porewater wells, and corrective measures wells. When EAP porewater mixes with groundwater, the pH is not below background levels as we see in G11 and G51D. This indicates a different geochemical process in the pH exceedance wells.

Figure 3: pH in EAP Wells¹⁶

The pH in groundwater at G11 and G51D is driven by a redox gradient $14)$ (a change in solution chemistry from reducing to oxidizing) in the upgradient direction that causes oxidation and precipitation of dissolved iron. That redox reaction results in a decrease in the observed iron concentration in groundwater samples and the net release of hydrogen ions, and therefore a decrease in pH. Well G11 and G51D samples have lower pH, boron (recall that boron is the first indicator parameter for CCR impact) and iron concentrations compared to samples from the

 16 Data presented are included in the October 20, 2023 ASD Report for the Joppa EAP, Appendix D-1. Non-detect values are replaced with the laboratory reporting limit.

corrective measures wells (G06-G10). The following scatter charts display the differences in the sample chemistries.

Figure 4: pH vs. Boron in G11, G51D and Corrective Measures Wells¹⁷

¹⁷ Data presented are included in the October 20, 2023 ASD Report for the Joppa EAP, Appendix D-1. Non-detect values are replaced with the laboratory reporting limit.

Figure 5: Iron vs, Boron in G11, G51D and Corrective Measures Wells¹⁸

These comparisons show that the groundwater chemistry at G11 and G51D is not consistent with CCR impact, but consistent with iron oxidation. The Principal Components Analysis (PCA) conducted in the ASD confirms that wells G11 and G51D are more consistent with upgradient groundwater chemistry compared to the porewater wells and the corrective action wells.

The three lines of evidence based on groundwater chemistry are $15)$ sufficient to eliminate the EAP as the source of acidic pH in wells G11 and G51D

¹⁸ Data presented are included in the October 20, 2023 ASD Report for the Joppa EAP, Appendix D-1. Non-detect values are replaced with the laboratory reporting limit.

as the EAP does not contribute acidity to these wells or create acidic conditions in the uppermost aquifer. The ASD identified the likely source as iron oxidation and associated pH decrease. The CCR and groundwater conditions near the EAP are sufficiently characterized to make this determination.

In its November 16, 2023 letter, the IEPA denied the ASD due to 16) perceived "data gaps" that included the following:

a) Source characterization of the CCR at the East Ash Pond must include total solids sampling in accordance with SW846.

b) Characterization to include sample and analysis in accordance with 35 IAC 845.640 of alternative source must be provided with the ASD.

 $17)$ The CCR source characterization request is vague and inappropriate for the lines of evidence presented in the ASD. However, if the IEPA is requesting "total" constituent analysis of CCR in mg/kg (mass of constituent per mass of CCR on a dry weight basis), that information would not be more appropriate for a source impact analysis than the porewater data used for the ASD. In a land disposal scenario, groundwater would be impacted if leachate (or porewater) from the solid waste (rather than the solid waste itself) travels to and mixes with (and is diluted by) groundwater, then the impacted groundwater travels downgradient where dispersion and diffusion processes further dilute solid waste component concentrations. The most critical data needed for a groundwater impact analysis is the leachate quality, not the total amount of constituent in a solid sample of CCR,

because leachate is the material that potentially mixes with groundwater. Similarly, if the IEPA is requesting laboratory leach testing of solid CCR samples either by TCLP, SPLP, or LEAF, that information would also not be more appropriate for a source impact analysis than the actual porewater data collected from the CCR presented in the Joppa ASD. All of the synthetic laboratory leach tests on a solid sample aim to simulate a landfill environment in order to predict leachate quality from a solid sample. Synthetic leach test results are compared to actual field leachate data for fly ash and slag in order to evaluate the representativeness of their results, i.e., field verification.¹⁹ U.S. EPA advises that these "batch" one-day laboratory tests on a relatively small sample do not account for the long-term climatic and meteorological influences on a full-scale landfill operation.²⁰ These tests often yield high initial concentrations that are not typical of a full-scale operation.²¹ Other researchers evaluating the utility of the synthetic precipitation leaching procedure (SPLP) to assess the risk of groundwater contamination posed by the land application of granular solid waste report that the use of a total pollutant concentration (mg/kg) in conjunction with SPLP concentrations (mg/L) to estimate pore water concentration was unreliable as this method underestimates the

¹⁹ Tiwari, M.K., et al, Suitability of Leaching Test Methods for Fly Ash and Slag: A Review, Journal of Radiation Research and Applied Sciences, Vol.8, 2015. pp. 523-537.

²⁰ U.S. EPA Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response, Solid Waste Disposal Criteria, Technical Manual, EPA530-R-93-017, p. 125.

 21 Ibid.

measured porewater concentrations.²² Clearly, directly measuring CCR analyte concentrations and pH in actual porewater samples from the actual disposal environment is a more accurate basis for an impact analysis than using laboratory predictions of those values. As stated above, the EAP CCR and adjacent groundwater quality has been adequately characterized for performing an alternative source demonstration. Data from the 24 EAP porewater samples relied upon in the Alternative Source Demonstration Report²³ are sufficient to define the strength and variability of source water. Collection of additional CCR source characterization data referenced in IEPA's November 16 letter is not required for the ASD by Part 845 or Part 257 and would not change the conclusion of the ASD. The collection of alternate source samples is not required for the ASD and development of such information would not change the conclusion of the ASD. Parts 845 and 257 do not even require identification of the alternate source $-$ only that a source other than the CCR is causing the cobalt and pH exceedances and that the CCR is not contributing to the exceedances. At the Joppa EAP, the identified source of the exceedances is not a physical source area with a conservative solute that can be sampled, but certain geochemical conditions that promote chemical reactions that change the groundwater chemistry. Geochemical parameters that are

²² Townsend, T, et al, Interpretation of Synthetic Precipitation Leaching Procedure (SPLP) Results for Assessing Risk to Groundwater from Land-Applied Granular Waste, Environmental Engineering Science, Vol. 23, No. 1, 2005.

²³ Ramboll, Alternative Source Demonstration Report for Joppa EAP, October 20, 2023. Appendix C.

critical to understanding the cobalt and pH exceedances such as oxidation-reduction potential (ORP) and iron or manganese concentrations are not discussed at all in Part 845. As such, the "alternate source" cannot be characterized with groundwater samples under Part 845.640 or by physical sampling and analysis for total or leachable analytes according to SW846. For pH, an accurate laboratory simulation of mixing and transport of groundwater with different redox potentials to demonstrate the impact of iron oxidation at a field scale with site-specific chemistry is likely not possible, and definitely not practical and is beyond the scope of both SW846 and Part 845. For cobalt, no physical source other than the aquifer solids are available for testing. In this case, supporting information could be collected from aquifer solids with geochemical analysis; however, existing LOEs are sufficient to make the alternative source determination and additional data would not change the conclusion. Regardless, source characterization in this case in accordance with 845.640 is infeasible.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated: December 22, 2023

Melik W Holm

Melinda W. Hahn, PhD

APPENDIX A Curriculum Vitae of Melinda Hahn, PhD

ENVIRONMENT & HEALTH

MELINDA W. HAHN, PH.D.

Senior Managing Consultant

Dr. Hahn's practice areas include site investigation and remediation, contaminant fate and transport modelling, statistics of environmental data, forensic analysis, and litigation support, including primarily environmental liability and cost allocation. Regulatory areas include RCRA, CERCLA, TSCA, and Voluntary Cleanup/Risk-Based Corrective Action. Dr. Hahn has experience in the following industry categories: energy (electric utilities, petroleum dispensing, pipeline operations, former manufactured gas plant sites), industrial equipment manufacturing, metal working and metal recycling, automobile manufacturing, ink and chemical manufacturing, wood treating, mining, cement manufacturing, milling and smelting operations, secondary aluminum production, and dry cleaning.

EDUCATION

1995

PhD, Environmental Engineering The Johns Hopkins University

1990 **BS, Physics** The University of Texas at Austin

1990 **BS, Mathematics** The University of Texas at Austin

ACADEMIC HONORS

1992-1995 Graduate Fellow, National Science Foundation

1995 Most Distinguished Environmental Engineering Dissertation, Association of Environmental Engineering Professors

CAREER

1998-Present **Senior Managing Consultant, ENVIRON/Ramboll**

1997-1998 **Consultant, Roy Ball, PC**

1995-1997 **Senior Project Engineer, Environmental Resources Management-North Central, Inc.**

CONTACT INFORMATION Melinda W. Hahn, PhD

mhahn@ramboll.com +1 (512) 239-9883

Ramboll Environ 11782 Jollyville Road Suite 211 Austin, TX 78759 United States of America

ENVIRONMENT & HEALTH

PROJECTS

- Provided technical litigation support for over 50 matters regarding extent, severity, timing, and source of soil and ground water contamination and vapor intrusion, necessity for and costs of remediation, human health risk assessment, toxic tort liability, Superfund cost allocation (including consistency with the NCP), insurance cost recovery, and the siting and monitoring of a hazardous waste landfill. The regulatory frameworks included Illinois Voluntary Cleanup Program, Illinois Leaking Underground Storage Tank Program, RCRA, CERCLA, TSCA, NCP, and California Proposition 65. Completed projects in more than twenty states, with a focus in the Midwest.
- Provided expert testimony in matters involving Superfund cost allocation, statistics of environmental data, and contaminant fate and transport.
- Retained as an expert witness and provided litigation/mediation support for a number of cost allocation cases involving remediation of contaminated soil, groundwater, and sediment.
- Provided litigation support for environmental liability/cost allocation mediation and litigation at several large sediment sites. Evaluated historical information on industrial processes and discharges, and conducted forensic/statistical analysis to estimate the relative contribution of contaminants to sediments.
- Provided litigation support for a number of insurance cost recovery projects, including a former wood treating facility, a jewelry manufacturer, metal plating facility, machine shop and dry cleaner. Tasks included the identification of likely sources and timing of contamination.
- Evaluated claims of residents living near a scrap metal facility of transport and deposition of leadcontaining particles in their homes using statistical analysis of plaintiffs' chemical data. Provided expert testimony based on this analysis.
- Evaluated the hydrogeological setting of a proposed petroleum pipeline pumping station and estimated the likelihood of a release and groundwater contamination. Provided expert testimony based on this analysis.
- Provided expert testimony on proposed coal ash impoundment closure regulations and proposed new state groundwater standards in Illinois.
- Conducted environmental forensic evaluations to determine sources of observed environmental contamination in soil, groundwater, sediment and sub-slab/indoor air for sites in litigation and prelitigation phases.
- Performed multivariate statistical analyses of data for forensic analysis, for contaminant ecological impact analysis, to determine appropriate remedial objectives, and as part of human health and ecological risk assessments.
- Lead RCRA Corrective Action at a former manufacturing facility.
- Directed and assisted in the closure of a number of sites in the Illinois Voluntary Cleanup Program and the Illinois Leaking Underground Storage Tank Program.
- Evaluated the potential contribution of urban industrial sources of heavy metals to urban soil and sediments using both simple data comparisons and multivariate statistical techniques.
- Performed ground water and contaminant fate and transport modeling using MODFLOW and MT3D for use as a Superfund cost allocation tool in support of expert testimony. Relative mass of TCE entering the Superfund Site from sources on two PRP's properties was used as a basis for cost allocation. A Monte Carlo analysis was also performed to evaluate the sensitivity of the proposed allocation to changes in key variables.

ENVIRONMENT & HEALTH

- Performed Monte Carlo analysis of risk to ground water posed by a proposed petroleum pipeline in support of expert testimony. The analysis examined the likelihood of the exceedance of the Illinois Class I ground water standard for benzene per mile of proposed pipeline.
- Performed Monte Carlo cost allocation among four PRPs for a Superfund Site in support of expert testimony. Total volume, volume of hazardous substances, and volume of drummed materials were considered.
- Utilized 3-D geostatistical interpolation techniques to visualize environmental data, to estimate excavation volumes for remediation, and to identify and distinguish source areas and potential preferential pathways of migration for a number of contaminated sites.
- Performed research and analysis of remedial activities and associated costs to determine compliance with the NCP for cost recovery matters for a number of sites.

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

1993

Stochastic Models of Particle Deposition in Porous Media

Paper presented at the 1993 Midwest Regional Conference on Environmental Chemistry, University of Notre Dame

Authors: Hahn, M.W., and C. F. O'Melia

1994

Deposition and Reentrainment of Particles in Porous Media

Poster presented at the 1994 Gordon Research Conference on Environmental Science, Water, New Hampshire

Authors: Hahn, M.W., D. Abadzic, and C. R. O'Melia

1994

Colloid Transport in Groundwaters: Filtration of Fine Particles at Low Filtration Rates Presented at the 1994 ASCE National Conference, Boulder, Colorado Authors: Hahn, M.W., D. Abadzic, and C. R. O'Melia

1995

Deposition and Reentrainment of Brownian Particles under Unfavorable Chemical Conditions Presented at the 1995 ACE National Conference, Environmental Chemistry Division Authors: Hahn, M.W., D. Abadzic, and C. R. O'Melia

1995

Deposition and Reentrainment of Brownian Particles under Unfavorable Chemical Conditions Doctoral Dissertation, Johns Hopkins University Author: Hahn, M.W.

1997

Some Effects of Particles Size in Separation Processes Involving Colloids Wat. Sci. Tech. Vol. 36, No. 4 pp. 119–126 Authors: O'Melia, C.R., M.W. Hahn, and C. Chen

1997

Literature Review 1997: Storage, Disposal, Remediation, and Closure Water Environment Research, Vol. 69, No. 4, pp 6389-719 Authors: Millano E.F. and M.W. Hahn

ENVIRONMENT & HEALTH

1998

The Statistics of Small Data Sets

Accepted for publication, Superfund Risk Assessment in Soil Contamination Studies: Third Volume, ASTM STP 1338, K.B. Hoddinott Ed., American Society for Testing and Materials Authors: Ball, R.O., and M.W. Hahn

1998

RBCA Compliance for Small Data Sets

Battelle Conference Proceedings, Remediation of Chlorinated and Recalcitrant Compounds: Risk, Resource and Regulatory Issues The First International Conference on Remediation of Chlorinated and Recalcitrant Compounds, Monterey, California, pp. 73-78

Authors: Hahn, M.W., A.E. Sevcik, and R.O.Ball

1998

Contaminant Plume and using 3D Geostatistics

Battelle Conference Proceedings, Remediation of Chlorinated and Recalcitrant Compounds: Risk, Resource and Regulatory Issues

The First International Conference on Remediation of Chlorinated and Recalcitrant Compounds, Monterey, California, pp. 85-90

Authors: Ball, R.O., M.W. Hahn, and A.E. Sevcik1998

RBCA Closure at DNAPL Sites

Battelle Conference Proceedings, Remediation of Chlorinated and Recalcitrant Compounds: Risk, Resource and Regulatory Issues

The First International Conference on Remediation of Chlorinated and Recalcitrant Compounds, Monterey, California, pp.181-186

Authors: Sheahan, J.W., R.O. Ball, and M.W. Hahn

1998

RBCA Closure at DNAPL Sites, Ground Water Monitoring and Research Authors: Sheahan, J.W., R.O. Ball, and M.W. Hahn

2004

Deposition and Reentrainment of Brownian Particles in Porous Media under Unfavorable Chemical Conditions: Some Concepts and Applications Environmental Science & Technology, Vol. 38, pp 210-220

Authors: Hahn, M.W. and C.R. O'Melia

2010

Making the Case for Causation in Toxic Tort Cases: Superfund Rules Don't Apply Environmental Law Reporter, News & Analysis, July 2010, pp. 10638-10641 Authors: More, J.R. and M.W. Hahn

Exhibit E

DECLARATION OF CYNTHIA VODOPIVEC ON BEHALF OF ELECTRIC ENERGY INC.

I, Cynthia Vodopivec, affirm and declare as follows:

 $1.$ I present this Declaration on behalf of Electric Energy Inc. (hereinafter "EEI"). I am Senior Vice President, Environmental Health and Safety at Vistra Corp., the indirect corporate parent of EEI. As part of my duties, I oversee permitting, regulatory development, compliance (air, water, and waste issues), and health and safety at the Company, including EEI's Joppa Power Plant in Massac County, Illinois. I received a Bachelor's Degree in Engineering from Dartmouth College in 1998 and an MBA from Rensselaer in 2009. I state the following in support of EEI's Petition for Review of Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's Non-Concurrence with Alternative Source Demonstration under 35 Ill. Adm. Code Part 845 and Motion for Stay ("Petition").

EEI received IEPA's November 16, 2023 letter notifying EEI of IEPA's $2.$ nonconcurrence with the Joppa East Ash Pond Alternative Source Demonstration via U.S. Mail on November 20, 2023. This letter is attached as Exhibit A of the Petition.

Following EEI's submittal of an Alternative Source Demonstration for the Joppa $3.$ East Ash Pond on October 21, 2023, EEI Representatives communicated with IEPA multiple times between October 19 and October 31, 2023. Those communications occurred via telephone and email and included a discussion of (1) source characterization of the Primary Ash Pond using total solids sampling in accordance with SW846 methods; (2) hydraulic conductivities and hydrogeologic characterization; and (3) a complete characterization of the alternative source in accordance with 35 Ill. Adm. Code § 845.640.

Performing source characterization of the CCR at the Joppa East Ash Pond using $4.$ total solids sampling techniques under SW846 would require drilling within the Joppa East Ash Pond with up to 8 borings using specialized equipment to collect 20 samples. It would further require complete laboratory analyses, data evaluation and reporting for those samples. Assuming a driller is readily available, which is not always the case, this process would likely take approximately 21-42 weeks to complete, and would likely cost approximately \$325,000 -\$680,000.

Conducting a characterization of the identified alternative sources for cobalt and $5.$ pH in accordance with 35 III Admin. Code 845.640 is not practical given that they are the result of localized geology and geochemistry that varies significantly laterally and vertically in the uppermost aquifer at the Joppa East Ash Pond. Further characterization of the source of the cobalt exceedance at Joppa East Ash Pond could possibly occur by sampling and analyzing a soil sample adjacent to the exceedance well, and then conducting a geochemical evaluation based on that sample. Assuming a driller is readily available, which is not always the case, this process would take approximately 10-15 weeks and would cost approximately \$55,000. There is no feasible solution to sample the source of pH exceedances because they are a result of chemical reactions within the aquifer. Any attempt to collect materials for evaluation of reactions in a laboratory would alter the geochemical conditions and provide unrepresentative results. Additional evidence for the geochemical reactions would require additional aqueous iron and iron speciation data from select wells. To the extent this process was undertaken, the data collection and reporting would take 10-12 weeks and would likely cost \$35,000 to \$40,000.

Completing an assessment of corrective measures for cobalt and pH exceedances 6. at the Joppa East Ash Pond in accordance with the requirements and deadlines of 35 Ill. Adm. Code § 845.660 would likely cost approximately \$35,000. Completing the requirements of 35 Ill. Adm. Code § 845.670, including determining nature and extent, conducting a monitored natural attenuation evaluation, preparing and submitting the semi-annual reports, a construction permit application and a corrective action plan, for cobalt and pH exceedances at the Joppa East Ash Pond would likely cost approximately \$400,000. Undertaking the steps required in Sections 845.660 and 845.670 is a considerable undertaking that requires the dedication of many resources. For example, the corrective measures assessment may require development of groundwater models specific to cobalt and pH, and could result in the development of potential engineered remedies. The Corrective Action Plan may require a 30 percent design for the selected remedy, a groundwater monitoring plan, a new Construction Permit Application, and attendance at a public meeting. Significant personnel time and resources will be necessary to dedicate specifically to this work.

FURTHER, the Declarant sayeth not.

Dated: December 22, 2023

Cynthia E. Vody