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**NEWS RELEASE**

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**Water Quality Issues Ground Water Permit to Red Leaf**  
*Division concludes that test project will not degrade ground water*

SALT LAKE CITY – The Utah Division of Water Quality (DWQ) issued a ground water permit today to Red Leaf Resources for the operation of a single Early Production System (EPS) test capsule to extract petroleum from oil shale ore.

Red Leaf plans to use the test capsule to evaluate the technical, environmental, and economic aspects of its new extraction technology.

“The permit requires Red Leaf to analyze the spent oil shale for potential contaminants,” explained Walt Baker, director of DWQ. “Red Leaf must monitor for any potential liquids and submit the results to us for review.”

The permit covers the operation of the single test capsule. Red Leaf must apply for a major modification to the permit if it wants to build additional capsules for commercial production.

“We based our permit decision on the absence of water in the extraction process, the lack of an aquifer and low permeability of the rocks underlying the test site.” said Baker.

Rock formations under the test capsule act as a barrier to the flow of ground water. The EPS process does not use water and the leftover shale will be dry.

“We plan to keep a close eye on the project to make sure the process works as promised. Protecting water quality in the test area is our top priority.”

For more information:

<http://www.waterquality.utah.gov/PublicNotices/pnarchive2013.htm#gwp>

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**About DEQ**

Established in 1991, the Utah Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) mission is to safeguard public health and quality of life by protecting and enhancing the environment. DEQ implements state and federal environmental laws and works with individuals, community groups and businesses to protect the quality of Utah's air, land and water. For more information, visit [www.deq.utah.gov](http://www.deq.utah.gov), follow DEQ on Facebook ([newseq](#)) and Twitter ([@UTDEQ](#)), or call 1-800-458-0145.