

**Division of Water Quality**  
**Utah Department of Environmental Quality**  
**Public Notice of Modification of Ground Water Discharge Permit**  
**Permit No. UGW150002**

**Purpose of Public Notice**

The Utah Division of Water Quality is soliciting comments on its proposal to modify a ground water discharge permit described below under authority of the Utah Water Quality Act, Section 19-5-104(g) Utah Code Ann. West Supp.2016), and Utah Admin Code R. 317-6.

**Permit Information**

Permittee Name: PacifiCorp Huntington Power Plant

Mailing Address: 201 South Main Street  
Suite 2200  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

Facility Location: Highway 31 West of Huntington  
Huntington, Utah 84528

The PacifiCorp Huntington Power Plant is a coal-fired steam electric generating facility. The power plant has been operating the Huntington Research Farm to dispose of non-contact cooling water, boiler blowdown, and treated domestic wastewater, which is stored in a clay-lined evaporation pond throughout the year. This water has been used to irrigate 255 acres of farmland located southeast of the power plant from April through October. Under the terms of the renewed permit, this operation will be phased out by the end of this five-year permit term and replaced with alternative methods for wastewater disposal. The power plant site also contains a closed landfill for the disposal of coal combustion waste, including fly ash, bottom ash and scrubber sludge. PacifiCorp has also identified other potential ground water discharge sources at the plant site. These include the coal pile and blending facility, the power plant site itself, and the pond used to hold process wastewater before land application at the Research Farm. An active coal combustion waste landfill, formerly regulated under this permit, will now be regulated by the Division of Waste Management and Radiation Control under the new Coal Combustion Residual regulations.

This permit is being modified mainly to accommodate the intake of ground water discharging from the closed Deer Creek Mine workings as raw water, to be used for non-contact cooling water and other processes at the plant. Currently, the plant withdraws approximately 6600 gallons per minute (gpm) when both units are running and 3800 gpm when one unit is operating, from Huntington Creek. It is estimated that 200-300 gpm of water will discharge from the Deer Creek Mine when the workings begin to overflow later this year. With inflow of mine water into the plant's raw water supply, withdrawals from Huntington Creek will be reduced accordingly. The mine water has slightly elevated levels of some constituents, as listed in Table 1 of PacifiCorp's application for permit renewal. This use of mine water should have *de minimis* effect on ground water quality, because of dilution by Huntington Creek water and because plant wastewater is not directly discharged to ground water. The plant's Raw Water Settling Basin has not previously been regulated under this permit because it held water from Huntington Creek which is the same source that recharges the alluvial aquifer under the Research Farm site. Under this modified permit, monitor wells have been installed upgradient and downgradient of the Basin, and water quality in the Basin will also be monitored.

Under the ground water discharge permit, Pacificorp will continue the current ground water monitoring program at the land application site and other plant facilities. Protection limits for ground water quality have been established for monitor wells located at sites where ground water quality may be affected by plant activities and facilities. The most important such area is located between the land application site and Huntington Creek. Two additional monitor wells have been installed adjacent to Huntington Creek, and now adequate data has been collected from them to establish background water quality and protection levels in this modified permit.

As a permit condition, PacifiCorp shall also use best management practices to minimize any potential discharge of contaminants from other plant facilities. This permit shall be modified or renewed before PacifiCorp puts any new facilities or practices in place for alternative disposal of wastewater.

### **Public Comments**

Public comments are invited any time prior to **Thursday, March 1, 2018**. Written comments may be directed to the Division of Water Quality, P.O. Box 144870, Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4870. All comments received prior to close of business **Thursday, March 1, 2018**, will be considered in the formulation of final determinations to be imposed on the permit. A public hearing may be held if written requests are received within the first 15 days of this public comment period that demonstrate significant public interest and substantive issues exist to warrant holding a hearing.

### **Further Information**

Additional information may be obtained upon request by calling Mark Novak at (801) 536-4300 or [mnovak@utah.gov](mailto:mnovak@utah.gov) or by writing the aforementioned address. Related documents are available for review during normal business hours at DWQ, 195 North 1950 West in Salt Lake City or on the DWQ web page at <http://www.waterquality.utah.gov/PublicNotices/index.htm>.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with special needs (including auxiliary communicative aids and services) should contact Larene Wyss, Office of Human Resources at (801) 536-4284, TDD (801) 536-4284.