



State of Utah

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August 31, 2023

DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY
UTAH DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
PUBLIC NOTICE TO REISSUE A UPDES PERMIT

PURPOSE OF PUBLIC NOTICE

The purpose of this public notice is to declare the State of Utah's intention to renew a Utah Pollution Discharge Elimination System (UPDES) Permit under authority of the Utah Water Pollution Control Act, Section 19-5-104(9) and 107(2), Utah Code Annotated 1953, as amended. Said "permit" refers to the UPDES Permit and the Fact Sheet Statement of Basis (including Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL's)) if applicable, as per Section 303(d) of the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA)].

PERMIT INFORMATION

PERMITTEE NAME: Sunnyside Cogeneration Associates Power Plant
FACILITY LOCATION: One Power Plant Road, Sunnyside, Utah
MAILING ADDRESS: PO Box 10, East Carbon, Utah 84520
TELEPHONE NUMBER: 435-888-4476
UPDES PERMIT NUMBER: UT0024759
PERMITTED OUTFALLS: 002, 003, 007, 008, 009, 012, 013, 014, 016, 017, 018
OUTFALL 013 LOCATION: Latitude 39° 32' 46" N and Longitude 110° 23' 49" W
(Main Facility Sedimentation Pond)
RECEIVING WATERS: Icelander Creek, Grassy Trail Creek

BACKGROUND

Sunnyside Cogeneration Associates (SCA) is a steam electric power generating facility, with approximately 51 net megawatts in generating capacity. SCA has a Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) code 4911, for electric power generation and is located just south of State Highway 123 near the town of Sunnyside in Carbon County, Utah. SCA utilizes coal as a fuel source, which is transported from former coal mining refuse piles, and also utilizes nearby water supply sources for cooling water. Cooling water is primarily obtained by SCA from nearby ground water wells, but could also be obtained from surface waters like Grassy Trail Creek if it flowed consistently. Water is pumped from the wells and stored in two large reservoirs near the plant; one 20 million gallons in size and the other 40 million gallons in size. Cooling water from the reservoirs is treated with acid for pH control before use in the cooling system.

The cooling water is recycled a number of times, which requires the addition of a phosphate based anti-scaling chemical, an oxygen scavenger, acid for pH control, and sodium hypochlorite to prevent biological growth. Neither of the two on-site reservoirs discharge off-site to any surface waters. Cooling tower blow-down water is continually recirculated to a clarifier for solids removal. These solids are pumped at a rate of 30 gallons per minute (gpm) to the water thickener. From the water thickener the solids are pumped to the ash silo and used for ash conditioning. All of the ash, such as the fly ash and bottom ash are transported to the ash silo. Material is then trucked from the ash silo to the ash landfill site for permanent on-site disposal.

SCA has a total of eleven permitted discharge outfalls. There were no discharges from any outfalls over the last permit cycle and there have only been a total of four discharges from this facility in the last 25 years due to storms greater than a 10-year/24-hour storm event. SCA is considered a zero-discharge facility because there are no direct discharges of industrial wastewater, including water from the cooling tower or boiler blow-down, to any on-site sedimentation ponds or to any off-site surface water conveyances. SCA maintains this UPDES Permit for the potential discharges associated with the sedimentation ponds and other permitted outfalls as appropriate. For additional information, please refer to the draft permit and fact sheet documents.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

During the public comment period provided under Utah Administrative Code (UAC) R317-8-6.5, any interested person may submit written comments on the draft permit and may request a public hearing if no hearing has already been scheduled. A request for a public hearing shall be in writing and shall state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised in the hearing. All comments will be considered in making the final decision and shall be answered as provided in UAC R317-8-6.12. Public comments are invited any time prior to the deadline of the close of business on **September 29, 2023**. Written public comments can be submitted to: Jeff Studenka, UPDES Individual Permits Section, Utah Division of Water Quality, PO Box 144870, Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-4870 or by email at: wqcomments@utah.gov. After considering public comment the Utah Division of Water Quality may execute the permit issuance, revise it, or abandon it. The permit is available for public review under "Public Notices" at <https://deq.utah.gov/division-water-quality>. If internet access is not available, a copy may be obtained by calling Jeff Studenka at 385-602-7303.