

Water

Groundwater Injection, Closed-Loop Groundwater Remediation Systems

What Activities Require This Permit? Groundwater injection, closed-loop groundwater remediation systems are groundwater treatment systems that extract, treat, and re-inject contaminated groundwater. These systems typically use infiltration galleries, but sometimes include injection wells as part of the system.

What Is The Purpose of This Permit? Where an exceedance of a standard occurs outside compliance boundaries, the application of a groundwater remediation system may be needed. The permitting of infiltration galleries or wells is to assure that the design, engineering and construction of that technology will be protective of groundwater and the environment.

Who Issues This Permit? N.C. Division of Water Resources, Groundwater Resources Section (UIC Program).

How Much Will This Permit Cost? This permit is considered a closed loop type of a non-discharge permit and the annual permit fee is \$1,310 for new Major Permit Application. Major Permit Applications are defined as those that will be treating and recirculates greater than or equal to 10,000 gallons of groundwater per day. The fee for a "major modification" of an existing Major Permit is \$395. A Minor Permit Application is defined as a project that treats and recirculates a volume of less than or equal to 10,000 gallons of groundwater per day and the annual permit fee for these minor permits is \$810. A "major modification" of a Minor Permit Application has a fee of \$245. For either a Major Permit or Minor Permit, a major modification is one that changes the volume, pollutant load, results in a significant relocation of the discharge point, or changes the characteristics of any wastes that might be generated from this treatment operation. There are no fees for minor permit modifications and renewals.

What Are My Payment Options for Permit Application Fees? Currently, application fees need to be paid by check or money order, which is attached to the application form when submitted. If submitting a check for a permit renewal or modification, the permit number needs to be included on the check.

If Paying by Check, Who do I Make the Check Payable to and Where Do I Send the Check? All checks are made out to NCDEQ – Division of Water Resources. For permit application fees, the check is attached to the application and sent to the address on the form:

NCDEQ- DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES
UIC PROGRAM
1636 MAIL SERVICE CENTER
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA 27699-1636

Where Can I Get The Application For This Permit? Application forms may be obtained from the Web site at <https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/water-resources/water-resources-permits/wastewater-branch/ground-water-protection/ground-water-applications#InSituRemed>. The Groundwater Remediation Permit Application form is used for permitting these types of systems, and it is available at this website in addition to other important information.

How Long Will It Take To Review My Application? Upon receipt of a complete application, the standard review time for staff is 90 days, although approval may be approximately 30 days for most renewal projects. Permit renewals are submitted 180 days prior to expiration.

Where Do I Submit My Application?

Address is on the form- N.C. Division of Water Resources, UIC Program, 1636 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1636.

How Long Is My Permit or License or Certificate Valid? Groundwater remediation permits are typically issued for five years.

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Notes/Comments: These types of 'non-discharge' closed-loop groundwater remediation systems were previously permitted under 15A, North Carolina Administrative Code (NCAC), Subchapter 02T, Section .1600 (15A NCAC 02T.1600). However, this rule was repealed on September 1, 2019, and the permitting requirements were included in a modification of 15A NCAC 02C .0225, which was readopted on September 1, 2019. Other relevant rules that may apply to these types of systems include 15A NCAC 02L (Groundwater Classifications and Standards).

Legal Authority/Statute Reference: GS 143-214.2(b); GS 143-215.1; GS 143-215.1A

Links:

<https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/water-resources/water-resources-permits/wastewater-branch/ground-water-protection/groundwater-remediation>

Statewide Contact Information:

NC Division of Water Resources
Groundwater Resources Section
UIC Program
1636 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1636
Telephone: (919) 807-6464