

Coal Combustion Residual Surface Impoundment Post-Closure Plan

**Basin Electric Power Cooperative
Leland Olds Station**

April 2018

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Purpose

The purpose of this document is to demonstrate compliance with 40 CFR § 257.104 (Post-closure care requirements) for Ash Pond 2 and Pond 3 at Leland Olds Station (LOS). LOS is a lignite coal-fired power plant consisting of two units that generate about 669 megawatts (MW) combined. The power plant, owned and operated by Basin Electric Power Cooperative (Basin Electric), is located approximately four miles southeast of Stanton in Mercer County, North Dakota.

The owner or operator of an existing Coal Combustion Residual (CCR) unit is required to prepare a written post-closure care plan that describes among other things, post-closure maintenance and monitoring activities, contact information for the CCR facility during the post-closure care period, and the planned uses of the closed CCR unit during the post-closure period.

Inactive Status

A temporary bottom ash handling system consisting of above-ground concrete weirs, bottom ash collection and dewatering areas was placed into operation ending the transport of CCRs to the surface impoundments prior to effective date of the CCR Rule (October 19, 2015). Accordingly, the LOS surface impoundments are considered “inactive” under the federal regulations. A “Notification of Intent to Initiate Closure of CCR Surface Impoundment” for Ash Pond 2 and Pond 3 was completed on December 15, 2015, in accordance with §257.100. On April 18, 2016 the U.S. Environment Protection Agency (EPA) filed a motion to remand and vacate the provisions of the CCR Rule exempting inactive surface impoundments from the CCR Rule requirements. The DC Circuit Court of Appeals issued an order approving the motion on June 14, 2016. Since the exemption for inactive surface impoundments was no longer effective, EPA issued the “Extension Rule” on August 5, 2016. The Extension Rule became effective on October 4, 2016 providing a timeline for inactive units to comply with CCR Rule requirements.

Inspection, Maintenance and Monitoring Activities

Following final closure of the CCR units, post-closure inspection, maintenance and monitoring activities will be conducted for a period of 30 years in accordance with the requirements set forth in 40 CFR § 257.104. Inspections of the integrity and function of the final cover system will

be carried out at least semi-annually, typically coinciding with semi-annual groundwater monitoring events (discussed below). Additional inspections may be conducted following major storms or other significant events potentially affecting the integrity of the final cover system. Inspections will focus on the overall condition of the final cover, including vegetation, erosion, drainage features, and other site infrastructure as appropriate. Any deficiencies identified during the inspections will be corrected as soon as practicable. Routine post-closure maintenance activities will be completed as needed. These routine activities include, but are not limited to, mowing, noxious weed control, and maintaining access control.

The groundwater monitoring system will be operated in accordance with 40 CFR § 257.90 through 257.98, including semi-annual sampling and analysis for Appendix III and/or Appendix IV parameters as appropriate. Sampling events would typically occur during spring and fall each year. The spring/fall sampling schedule coincides with the beginning and end of the growing season, conveniently linking groundwater sampling to the semi-annual visual inspection of cover system vegetation.

Post-closure Care Contact Information

The CCR units are owned and operated by Basin Electric Power Cooperative. The facility contact during the post-closure care period is:

Environmental Director
Basin Electric Power Cooperative
1717 East Interstate Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58503

Phone number: 701.223.0441

Post-closure Property Use

The CCR units will be closed with relatively gentle slopes and seeded with shallow-rooted native vegetation, two important factors that help minimize the need for future maintenance. The closed surface impoundments will not be used for cultivated crops, heavy grazing or any other use which might disturb the protective vegetative and soil cover. In addition, post-closure property use will not include activities or developments that could be detrimental to surface water management features, groundwater monitoring systems, or other facility infrastructure.

Recordkeeping and Reporting

A copy of this document will be placed into the facility's operating record in accordance with 40 CFR § 257.105 (Recordkeeping Requirements) and will be posted to Basin Electric Power Cooperative's CCR Web site in accordance with 40 CFR § 257.107 (Publicly accessible internet site requirements). Notification will be sent to the relevant State Director in accordance with 40 CFR §257.106 (Notification Requirements).

Certification Statement

I certify that the initial post-closure care plan meets the requirements of 40 CFR § 257.104 as specified in the *Standards for the Disposal of Coal Combustion Residuals in Landfills and Impoundments*.



Kevin L. Solie, North Dakota PE-9488

April 17, 2017

