

Water

In-situ Groundwater Remediation

What Activities Require This Permit? This permit is required when introducing substances (e.g., ozone, chemical oxidizers, bacteria, etc.) into the subsurface to remediate contaminated soil and/or groundwater. Injection of these substances may be through permanent vertical wells, horizontal wells, or temporary well borings using "direct-push" or Geoprobe technology. Additionally, this permit is required for the injection of tracers to determine groundwater flow directions and rates.

What Is The Purpose of This Permit? Remediation of contaminated groundwater in the subsurface often requires the injection of additives to neutralize, oxidize, reduce, or otherwise destroy groundwater contaminants. Groundwater remediation injection wells facilitate the cleanup process, break down contaminants and free product, get substances in groundwater below state standards, and facilitate regulatory closure and decision-making.

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

How Much Will This Permit Cost? There are no fees for *in-situ* groundwater remediation injection well permits.

What Are My Payment Options for Permit Application Fees? Not applicable.

If Paying by Check, Who do I Make the Check Payable to and Where Do I Send the Check? Not applicable.

Where Can I Get The Application For This Permit? Application and Notification forms are available online at <https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/water-resources/water-resources-permits/wastewater-branch/ground-water-protection/groundwater-remediation#insitu>. Effective May 1, 2012, certain *in-situ* groundwater remediation, tracer, and air sparge injection wells are "Permitted by Rule". An individual permit is not required; however, the submittal of Notification of Intent (NOI) to Construct or Operate Injection Wells is required to be submitted at least 2 weeks prior to well construction or operation. Additional guidance is available on the Notification of Intent (NOI) form, which can be accessed by clicking on the hyperlink that says "Deemed Permitted *In-situ* Groundwater Remediation Notification". Injection wells not Permitted by Rule require an individual permit application to be submitted, which can be accessed by clicking on the hyperlink that says "Groundwater Remediation Permit APPLICATION".

How Long Will It Take To Review My Application? For wells meeting the criteria for deemed "permitted by rule", the NOI needs to be submitted at least 2 weeks prior to installation/injection. The review time for these NOIs in the Central Office is usually 2-3 business (a copy is forwarded to the respective regional office). An acknowledgement email is sent to the applicant after review. Groundwater remediation wells requiring an individual permit (i.e., not "Permitted by Rule"), the standard review time for staff is 60-90 days, although approval may be less than 60 days for renewal projects.

Where Do I Submit My Application? The addresses for application or notification is on the form-

N.C. Division of Water Resources
Groundwater Resources Section
UIC Program
1636 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1636.

How Long Is My Permit or License or Certificate Valid? For *in-situ* groundwater remediation injection wells requiring an individual permit, once the permit is issued it remains valid for up to five years. For the "Deemed Permitted by Rule" wells there is no expiration date; however, if not installed or operated properly according to 15A North Carolina Administrative Code, Subchapter 2C, Section .0200, the permit may be revoked.

Notes/Comments: Rules governing underground injection control are found in title 15A North Carolina Administrative Code, Subchapter 2C, Section .0200 (15A NCAC 2C .0200). The use of injection wells to dispose of waste is prohibited.

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Legal Authority/Statute Reference: GS 87-84; GS 87-86 through GS 87-87; GS 87-94 through GS 87-96; GS 143-211; GS 143-214.2; GS 143-215.1A; GS 143-215.3(a)(1); GS 143-215.3(c); 40 C.F.R. Part 144.52(a)(7); 40 C.F.R Part 145.11(a)(20).

Link: <https://deg.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) 707-9000