

California UIC Regulatory Authority

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WORKGROUP MEETING ON AB 1925

Overview

- History
- Goals & Objectives
- Permitting Process
- DOGGR Regulatory Authority
- AB 705
- AB 705 Concerns
- Other Key Concerns
- Conclusion

UIC History

- Injection operations began in the mid-1940s
- U.S. EPA “Primacy” granted in 1983
- Over 25,000 Class II UIC wells in California
- Billions & Billions of barrels of fluids injected
 - 2005 – About 3 billion barrels of fluids injected
 - 2005 – About 250 million mcf gas injected

Goals and Objectives

- Regulate oil, gas, & geothermal operations for the:
 - Protection of life, health, property, and natural resources
 - Prevent against damage to underground oil & gas deposits
 - Prevent against loss of oil, gas, or reservoir energy
 - Prevent against damage to underground and surface waters suitable for domestic use

Permitting & Monitoring Process

- **Project permit**
 - Approximately a 30-day process
 - Requires engineering and geologic studies (site characterization)
 - MOUs w/ other agencies
- **Individual well permit**
 - Approximately a 10-day process
 - Well construction, AOR, mechanical integrity, etc.
- **Monitoring program**
 - Inspections
 - MIT
 - Reporting

DOGGR Class II Regulatory Authority Extends To...

- **Oil & gas reservoirs & exempted aquifers**
- **Fluids integrally associated w/ oil & gas production operations**

AB 705

- Would extend DOGGR authority to CCS in saline formations & depleted oil & gas reservoirs
- Requires consultation w/ CalEPA & CGS

AB 705 Concerns

- **Funding Mechanism**
 - Administration funding
- Long-term financial assurance
- Unitization/eminant domain
- Responsibility transfer

Other Key Concerns

- When an EOR converts to CCS
- Lack of data on saline formations
- EOR vs CCS
- Appropriate monitoring requirements

Conclusion

- 60-plus years of UIC experience
- Regulatory framework analog
- 60 field staff statewide