MEMORANDUM

16 October 2018
File No. 129788

SUBJECT: Location Restriction Demonstration – Placement Above Uppermost Aquifer
          Duck Creek Power Station
          Bottom Ash Basin
          Canton, Illinois

Illinois Power Resources Generating, LLC operates the coal-fired Duck Creek Power Station (Plant) located near Canton, Illinois. The Bottom Ash Basin (Unit) is an existing coal combustion residuals (CCR) surface impoundment. This demonstration addresses the requirements of 40 CFR §257.60 (Placement above the uppermost aquifer) of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) rule entitled Hazardous and Solid Waste Management System; Disposal of Coal Combustion Residuals from Electric Utilities. 80 Fed. Reg. 21,302 (Apr. 17, 2015) (promulgating 40 CFR §257.60); 83 Fed. Reg. 36,435 (July 30, 2018) (amending 40 CFR §257.60).

§257.60(a): New CCR landfills, existing and new CCR surface impoundments, and all lateral expansions of CCR units must be constructed with a base that is located no less than 1.52 meters (five feet) above the upper limit of the uppermost aquifer, or must demonstrate that there will not be an intermittent, recurring, or sustained hydraulic connection between any portion of the base of the CCR unit and the uppermost aquifer due to normal fluctuations in groundwater elevations (including the seasonal high water table). The owner or operator must demonstrate by the dates specified in paragraph (c) of this section that the CCR unit meets the minimum requirements for placement above the uppermost aquifer.

O’Brien & Gere (OB&G) evaluated groundwater conditions and prepared a Top of Uppermost Aquifer contour map (TOA Map) contour map dated 1 November 2017 where the upper limit of the uppermost aquifer is a gradually sloping surface generally from south to northeast ranging in elevation from 557+/- feet to 551+/- feet across the base of the Unit.

Haley & Aldrich reviewed available information provided by Vistra including historic record drawings and design drawings and identified a drawing that provided well documented information regarding the base of the unit. A 2009 detail drawing prepared by Sargent & Lundy provided bottom of unit elevation across the length of the unit from west to east. The drawing shows the elevations across the base of the Unit are relatively flat surfaces with the lowest elevation of 568.3+/- occurring in the Secondary Pond at the east end of the unit.

When the critical low points at the base of unit were compared to the corresponding contours on the TOA Map, the resulting minimum separation was determined to exceed the 5.0 feet minimum separation requirement of §257.60(a) of the Rule.

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§257.60(b): The owner or operator of the CCR unit must obtain a certification from a qualified professional engineer or approval from the Participating State Director or approval from EPA where EPA is the permitting authority stating that the demonstration meets the requirements of paragraph (a) of this section.

I, Steven F. Putrich, being a Registered Professional Engineer in good standing in the State of Illinois, do hereby certify, to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, that the information contained in this certification has been prepared in accordance with the accepted practice of engineering. I certify, for the above-referenced CCR Unit, that the demonstration regarding the location of the base of the CCR Unit is at least 1.52 meters above the upper limit of the uppermost aquifer as included in the CCR Rule Locations Restrictions Evaluation memorandum dated 12 October 2018 meets the requirements of 40 CFR §257.60(a).

Signed: [Signature]
Consulting Engineer

Print Name: Steven F. Putrich
Illinois License No.: 62048779
Title: Vice President
Company: Haley & Aldrich, Inc.

Professional Engineer’s Seal:
MEMORANDUM

16 October 2018
File No. 129788

SUBJECT: Location Restriction Demonstration - Wetland Areas
Duck Creek Power Station
Bottom Ash Basin
Canton, Illinois

Illinois Power Resources Generating, LLC operates the coal-fired Duck Creek Power Station (Plant) located near Canton, Illinois. The Bottom Ash Basin (Unit) is an existing coal combustion residuals (CCR) surface impoundment. This demonstration addresses the requirements of 40 CFR §257.61 (Wetlands) of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) rule entitled Hazardous and Solid Waste Management System; Disposal of Coal Combustion Residuals from Electric Utilities. 80 Fed. Reg. 21,302 (Apr. 17, 2015) (promulgating 40 CFR §257.61); 83 Fed. Reg. 36,435 (July 30, 2018) (amending 40 CFR §257.61).

§257.61(a): New CCR landfills, existing and new CCR surface impoundments, and all lateral expansions of CCR units must not be located in wetlands, as defined in §232.2 of this chapter, unless the owner or operator demonstrates by the dates specified in paragraph (c) of this section that the CCR unit meets the requirements of paragraphs (a)(1) through (5) of this section.

Based on a review of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s National Wetland Inventory mapping, 0.5-meter resolution aerial imagery (2016) and the results of on-site field assessments, the Unit is not located in wetlands as defined by 40 CRF §232.2.
§257.61(b): The owner or operator of the CCR unit must obtain a certification from a qualified professional engineer or approval from the Participating State Director or approval from EPA where EPA is the permitting authority stating that the demonstration meets the requirements of paragraph (a) of this section.

I, Steven F. Putrich, being a Registered Professional Engineer in good standing in the State of Illinois, do hereby certify, to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, that the information contained in this certification has been prepared in accordance with the accepted practice of engineering. I certify, for the above-referenced CCR Unit, that the CCR Unit is not located in wetlands as included in the CCR Rule Location Restrictions Evaluation memorandum dated 12 October 2018 and, therefore, meets the requirements of 40 CFR §257.61(a).

Signed: 
Consulting Engineer

Print Name: Steven F. Putrich
Illinois License No.: 62048779
Title: Vice President
Company: Haley & Aldrich, Inc.

Professional Engineer’s Seal:
MEMORANDUM

16 October 2018
File No. 129788

SUBJECT: Location Restriction Demonstration - Fault Areas
Duck Creek Power Station
Bottom Ash Basin
Canton, Illinois


§257.62(a): New CCR landfills, existing and new CCR surface impoundments, and all lateral expansions of CCR units must not be located within 60 meters (200 feet) of the outermost damage zone of a fault that has had displacement in Holocene time unless the owner or operator demonstrates by the dates specified in paragraph (c) of this section that an alternative setback distance of less than 60 meters (200 feet) will prevent damage to the structural integrity of the CCR unit.

A review of available data from the U.S. Geological Survey, the Illinois State Geological Survey, and other available information was completed for this demonstration. The nearest known mapped fault is the Sicily Fault, which is located approximately 64 miles southeast and the timeframe of the most recent activity on this fault is not known. Based on the available published geologic data and information reviewed, there are no active faults or fault damage zones that have had displacement in Holocene time reported or indicated within 200 feet of the Unit.
§257.62(b): The owner or operator of the CCR unit must obtain a certification from a qualified professional engineer or approval from the Participating State Director or approval from EPA where EPA is the permitting authority stating that the demonstration meets the requirements of paragraph (a) of this section.

I, Steven F. Putrich, being a Registered Professional Engineer in good standing in the State of Illinois, do hereby certify, to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, that the information contained in this certification has been prepared in accordance with the accepted practice of engineering. I certify, for the above-referenced CCR Unit, that the demonstration that the CCR Unit is not located within 60 meters (200 feet) of the outermost damage zone of a fault that has had a displacement in Holocene time as included in the CCR Rule Location Restrictions Evaluation memorandum dated 12 October 2018 meets the requirements of 40 CFR §257.62(a).

Signed: [Signature]
Consulting Engineer

Print Name: Steven F. Putrich
Illinois License No.: 62048779
Title: Vice President
Company: Haley & Aldrich, Inc.

Professional Engineer's Seal:
MEMORANDUM

16 October 2018
File No. 129788

SUBJECT: Location Restriction Demonstration – Seismic Impact Zone
Duck Creek Power Station
Bottom Ash Basin
Canton, Illinois


§257.63(a): New CCR landfills, existing and new CCR surface impoundments, and all lateral expansions of CCR units must not be located in seismic impact zones unless the owner or operator demonstrates by the dates specified in paragraph (c) of this section that all structural components including liners, leachate collection and removal systems, and surface water control systems, are designed to resist the maximum horizontal acceleration in lithified earth material for the site.

A Seismic Impact Zone is defined in the CCR Rule (40 CFR §257.63) as “an area having a 2% or greater probability that the maximum expected horizontal acceleration, expressed as a percentage of the earth’s gravitational pull (g), will exceed 0.10 g in 50 years”. The 2014 US Geological Survey Hazard Map raw data for the Duck Creek Power Station Bottom Ash Basin indicates that the maximum expected horizontal acceleration for 2 percent probability of exceedance in 50 years is 0.06g. Accordingly, the Unit is not located in a seismic impact zone and a demonstration that the structural components have been designed to resist the maximum horizontal acceleration in lithified earth material for the site is not required.
Duck Creek Power Station – Bottom Ash Basin
Location Restriction – Seismic Impact Zone
16 October 2018
Page 2

§257.63(b): The owner or operator of the CCR unit must obtain a certification from a qualified professional engineer or approval from the Participating State Director or approval from EPA where EPA is the permitting authority stating that the demonstration meets the requirements of paragraph (a) of this section.

I, Steven F. Putrich, being a Registered Professional Engineer in good standing in the State of Illinois, do hereby certify, to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, that the information contained in this certification has been prepared in accordance with the accepted practice of engineering. I certify, that the CCR Unit is not located in a seismic impact zone as included in the CCR Rule Location Restrictions Evaluation memorandum dated 12 October 2018 and, therefore, satisfies all requirements of 40 CFR §257.63(a).

Signed: ___________________________
Consulting Engineer

Print Name: Steven F. Putrich
Illinois License No.: 62048779
Title: Vice President
Company: Haley & Aldrich, Inc.

Professional Engineer’s Seal:
MEMORANDUM

16 October 2018
File No. 129788

SUBJECT: Location Restriction Demonstration – Unstable Areas
Duck Creek Power Station
Bottom Ash Basin
Canton, Illinois

Illinois Power Resources Generating, LLC operates the coal-fired Duck Creek Power Station (Plant) located near Canton, Illinois. The Bottom Ash Basin (Unit) is an existing coal combustion residuals (CCR) surface impoundment. This demonstration addresses the requirements of 40 CFR §257.64 (Unstable Areas) of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) rule entitled Hazardous and Solid Waste Management System; Disposal of Coal Combustion Residuals from Electric Utilities. 80 Fed. Reg. 21,302 (Apr. 17, 2015) (promulgating 40 CFR §257.64); 83 Fed. Reg. 36,435 (July 30, 2018) (amending 40 CFR §257.64).

§257.64(a): An existing or new CCR landfill, existing or new CCR surface impoundment, or any lateral expansion of a CCR unit must not be located in an unstable area unless the owner or operator demonstrates by the dates specified in paragraph (d) of this section that recognized and generally accepted good engineering practices have been incorporated into the design of the CCR unit to ensure that the integrity of the structural components of the CCR unit will not be disrupted.

§257.64(b): The owner or operator must consider all of the following factors, at a minimum, when determining whether an area is unstable:

(1) On-site or local soil conditions that may result in significant differential settling;
(2) On-site or local geologic or geomorphic features; and
(3) On-site or local human-made features or events (both surface and subsurface).

Determination of compliance with §257.64(b)(1) – The Unit is incised and local soil conditions that may result in significant differential settling do not exist.

Determination of compliance with §257.64(b)(2) - Based on available United States Geological Survey (USGS), Illinois State Geological Survey (ISGS) information, and communication with Vistra representatives familiar with the Plant’s history, karst topography or physiographic features such as sinkholes, vertical shafts, sinking streams, caves, large springs, or blind valleys do not exist at the Plant. To evaluate the susceptibility of landslides, we reviewed readily available USGS and ISGS data. The USGS data indicates that the Plant is in an area of low landslide incidence. A review of ISGS data indicated that there has not been a landslide occurrence at the Unit. The closest documented landslide is to the east along U.S. Highway 24 and is associated with roadside cuts. Accordingly, it is our opinion that the Unit is not located in an area that has high susceptibility to landslides.

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Duck Creek Power Station – Bottom Ash Basin  
Location Restriction – Unstable Areas  
16 October 2018  
Page 2

Determination of compliance with §257.64(b)(3) - There are no documented surface or subsurface anthropogenic activities that would be indicative of creating unstable foundation conditions.  

§257.64(c): The owner or operator of the CCR unit must obtain a certification from a qualified professional engineer or approval from the Participating State Director or approval from EPA where EPA is the permitting authority stating that the demonstration meets the requirements of paragraph (a) of this section.  

I, Steven F. Putrich, being a Registered Professional Engineer in good standing in the State of Illinois, do hereby certify, to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, that the information contained in this certification has been prepared in accordance with the accepted practice of engineering. I certify, for the above-referenced CCR Unit, that the demonstration indicating the CCR Unit is not located in an unstable area as included in the CCR Rule Location Restrictions Evaluation memorandum dated 12 October 2018 meets the requirements of 40 CFR §257.64(a).

Signed:  
Consulting Engineer

Print Name:  Steven F. Putrich  
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Title:  Vice President  
Company:  Haley & Aldrich, Inc.

Professional Engineer's Seal:  

Steven F. Putrich  
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