



September 3, 2020

## **SEMI-ANNUAL REMEDY SELECTION PROGRESS REPORT MARTIN LAKE STEAM ELECTRIC STATION – ASH POND AREA**

In accordance with Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) § 257.97(a), the owner or operator of a coal combustion residuals (CCR) unit must prepare a semiannual report describing the progress in selecting and designing a remedy for statistically significant levels (SSLs) of constituents listed in Appendix IV of 40 C.F.R. Part 257 over the groundwater protection standards established in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 257.95(h).

This report is for the Ash Pond Area at the Martin Lake Steam Electric Station.

As stated in the notification dated February 6, 2019, SSLs for beryllium, cobalt and lithium were identified at the Ash Ponds during 2018 assessment monitoring completed in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 257.95. However, no SSLs for lithium were identified in subsequent semi-annual assessment monitoring events completed in 2019 and 2020. As stated in the notifications dated October 7, 2019, February 7, 2020 and August 21, 2020, SSLs for beryllium and cobalt were identified at the Ash Pond Area during 2019 and 2020 assessment monitoring completed in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 257.95.

In response to the SSLs, an Assessment of Corrective Measures (ACM) report was completed for the Ash Pond Area in September 2019 as required by 40 C.F.R. § 257.96. The ACM report concluded that the source control remedy would be retrofitting the liner system in the Ash Ponds and the groundwater remedy would be monitored natural attenuation (MNA), groundwater extraction and treatment or a vertical hydraulic barrier.

A public meeting was held on November 13, 2019 at the Henderson Chamber of Commerce in Henderson, Texas to discuss the results of the of the ACM in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 257.96(e).

A notification of intent to retrofit the Ash Pond Area liner system was posted on June 29, 2020. Design of the Ash Pond Area liner system retrofit has been completed and construction is underway.

A feasibility study to evaluate MNA as a potential groundwater remedy for the Ash Pond Area is currently being performed. Feasibility study activities completed since March 4, 2020 include collection of additional groundwater samples to supplement previous soil and groundwater data and development of site-specific geochemical and groundwater models in order to understand the natural attenuation mechanisms occurring at the Ash Pond Area and evaluate the effectiveness of natural attenuation in meeting applicable groundwater protection standards.