

# Susquehanna River Basin Commission

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Docket No. 20191211 Approval Date: December 5, 2019

### SENECA RESOURCES COMPANY, LLC

Into-Basin Diversion (Peak Day) of up to 2.517 mgd from SRC Well 5H; Clermont Wells 1, 2, and 4; Clermont North Wells 1, 2, and 3; and Clermont South Wells 7 and 10 in the Ohio River Basin

## Section 1. Approval

After review of the record, including the technical findings of Susquehanna River Basin Commission (Commission) staff, the Commission has determined that no significant adverse impacts are anticipated by the operation of this project as described and conditioned herein, the project is physically feasible, and does not conflict with or adversely affect the Commission's Comprehensive Plan. Accordingly, the Commission hereby approves the renewal of the project described herein in accordance with the conditions set forth below.

This approval is a renewal with modifications of Commission Docket Nos. 20141216 and 20141216-2. The project sponsor requested a reduction from the previously approved 3.021 million gallons per day (mgd) to 2.517 mgd, and removal of two of the previously approved eleven well sources. The project involves the diversion of water from nine wells located in the Ohio River Basin into the Susquehanna River Basin for hydrocarbon development. Three wells (SRC Well 5H, Clermont Well 4, and Clermont South Well 7) are located in Sergeant Township, and six wells (Clermont Wells 1 and 2, Clermont North Wells 1, 2, and 3, and Clermont South Well 10) are located in Norwich Township. All of the wells are within McKean County. A 16-million-gallon impoundment (Impoundment 1) located in Norwich Township, McKean County, within the Susquehanna River Basin, receives water from these sources by pipeline.

Commission staff has coordinated with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) and the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) during review of this project.

# **Section 2. Project Information**

Information concerning the project sponsor, water use type, and location are set forth in the table below.

Project Information		
Project Sponsor:	Seneca Resources Company, LLC	
Approval Type:	Into-Basin Diversion from the Ohio River Basin	
Past Docket Nos.:	20141216 and 20141216-2	
<b>Authorized Water Use Purpose:</b>	Hydrocarbon Development (Downhole Use Only)	
Municipality:	Sergeant and Norwich Townships	
County:	McKean County	
State:	Pennsylvania	

# **Section 3. Source Information**

Information concerning the sources of water from which the into-basin diversion will be made is set forth in the table below.

Source Information			
Approved Sources:	SRC Well 5H;		
	Clermont Wells 1, 2, and 4;		
	Clermont North Wells 1, 2, and 3;		
	Clermont South Wells 7 and 10		
Basin:	Ohio River Basin		
Watershed Boundary Dataset (WBD):			
SRC Well 5H	0501000501 (East Branch Clarion River)		
Clermont Well 1	0501000101 (Potato Creek)		
Clermont Well 2	0501000101 (Potato Creek)		
Clermont Well 4	0501000501 (East Branch Clarion River)		
Clermont North Well 1	0501000101 (Potato Creek)		
Clermont North Well 2	0501000101 (Potato Creek)		
Clermont North Well 3	0501000101 (Potato Creek)		
Clermont South Well 7	0501000101 (Potato Creek)		
Clermont South Well 10	0501000501 (East Branch Clarion River)		
Withdrawal Location (degrees):			
SRC Well 5H	Lat: 41.679167 N Long: 78.502861 W		
Clermont Well 1	Lat: 41.616739 N Long: 78.442368 W		
Clermont Well 2	Lat: 41.611389 N Long: 78.447444 W		
Clermont Well 4	Lat: 41.681392 N Long: 78.497136 W		
Clermont North Well 1	Lat: 41.704258 N Long: 78.499881 W		
Clermont North Well 2	Lat: 41.704422 N Long: 78.498422 W		
Clermont North Well 3	Lat: 41.704281 N Long: 78.496422 W		
Clermont South Well 7	Lat: 41.666100 N Long: 78.486128 W		
Clermont South Well 10	Lat: 41.660917 N Long: 78.503397 W		
Impairment:	All sources exhibit iron concentrations exceeding Title 25 Pa. Code Chapter 93 Water Quality		
	Standards		

## Section 4. Approved Into-Basin Diversion Quantities and Limitations

The into-basin diversion approved hereunder is subject to the quantitative limits and restrictions set forth in the table below.

Approved Into-Basin Diversion Quantities and Limitations	
<b>Peak Day Diversion Amount (mgd):</b>	2.517 (Not to Exceed)

The into-basin diversion is also subject to all other conditions set forth in this docket approval.

#### **Section 5. Standard Conditions**

- 1. The project sponsor shall comply with all Commission regulations, 18 CFR Parts 801, 806, and 808. This project is subject to the Annual Compliance and Monitoring fee as specified in the Commission's Regulatory Program Fee Schedule, which may be modified over the term of the approval.
- 2. The project sponsor shall adhere to the metering plan reviewed and approved by Commission staff. Any modifications proposed for the metering plan shall be submitted for review and, if appropriate, approval by Commission staff in accordance with 18 CFR § 806.30. Modifications shall not be made until the project sponsor receives written approval of the amended plan.
- 3. The project sponsor shall maintain the totalizing meter and other flow and volume measuring devices, accurate to within five (5) percent, so as to provide an accurate record of diversions, and certify to the Commission once every five (5) years, or as otherwise requested, the accuracy of all measuring devices and methods to within five (5) percent of actual flow.
- 4. The project sponsor shall keep daily records of the project's diversion and shall report the data to the Commission quarterly, and as otherwise required, in the form and manner as prescribed by Commission staff. Quarterly monitoring reports shall be submitted online and are due within thirty (30) days after the close of the preceding quarter. Any alternative measuring, monitoring, or accounting procedure requested by the project sponsor shall be submitted for review and approval by Commission staff in accordance with 18 CFR § 806.30. Modifications shall not be made until the project sponsor receives written approval of the amended plan. All data collected and submitted as required under this approval shall be maintained by the project sponsor for the duration of the approval and all subsequent renewals.
- 5. The project sponsor or any other person representing the project sponsor shall allow authorized employees or agents of the Commission, without advance notice, at any reasonable time and upon presentation of appropriate credentials, and without delay, to have access to and to inspect all areas where the project is being constructed, operated, or maintained, or otherwise exercise all investigative powers authorized under 18 CFR § 808.12.

- 6. In accordance with 18 CFR § 806.30(b)(2), the project sponsor shall report violations of any withdrawal limits and any conditions of this approval within five (5) days of such violation or report loss of measuring or recording capabilities required under 18 CFR § 806.30(a)(1) within five (5) days after any such loss.
- 7. In accordance with 18 CFR § 806.6, if ownership of the project changes or if the project sponsor undergoes a name change, the project sponsor shall submit application for transfer or reissuance of all approvals to the Commission within ninety (90) days of the change in ownership or project sponsor name change.
- 8. The project sponsor shall comply with the water conservation requirements specified in 18 CFR § 806.25.
- 9. This approval is conditioned on the project sponsor maintaining legal access to the withdrawal and diversion project locations for the duration of the approval.
- 10. The project sponsor shall register with the appropriate agency all groundwater sources described herein, as may be required by regulations of the member jurisdiction.
- 11. If the project sponsor fails to comply with the provisions of the Susquehanna River Basin Compact or any rule, regulation, or order of the Commission, or any term or condition of this docket, the project sponsor is subject to enforcement actions pursuant to 18 CFR Part 808.
- 12. Commission approval shall not be construed to exempt the project sponsor from obtaining and maintaining all necessary permits and/or approvals required for the project from other federal, state, or local government agencies having jurisdiction over the project. All such permits and/or approvals shall be obtained prior to the diversion of water. The Commission may modify, suspend, or revoke this approval if the project sponsor fails to obtain or maintain such permits and/or approvals.
- 13. The Commission may at any time reopen any project approval or issue such additional orders, as may be necessary, to mitigate or avoid adverse impacts or otherwise to protect public health, safety, welfare, or the environment pursuant to 18 CFR § 806.32.
- 14. Commission approval confers no property rights upon the project sponsor. The securing of all rights necessary and incident to the project sponsor's development and operation of the project shall be the sole and exclusive responsibility of the project sponsor, and this approval shall be subject thereto.
- 15. This project is approved for inclusion in the Commission's Comprehensive Plan for the Water Resources of the Susquehanna River Basin.
- 16. The project sponsor is required to apply for and obtain approval prior to any increase in the diversion that would exceed the amounts listed herein.

### **Section 6. Special Conditions**

- 17. In consideration of the source water quality, all water diverted into the Susquehanna River Basin under this authorization shall be stored in tanks or lined impoundments, and used downhole only for the sole purpose of hydrocarbon development. The water shall not be utilized for any purposes incidental to this use.
- 18. The date of the last meter certification was September 30, 2019; therefore, the next meter certification is due no later than September 30, 2024. Certification of meter accuracy shall be provided to the Commission no less frequent than once every five (5) years from the date of the last certification.
- 19. The project sponsor shall keep daily records, and shall report the same to the Commission upon request, of all persons supplied water from the project for use in hydrocarbon development, including daily quantities supplied. The project sponsor also shall keep daily records, and shall report the same to the Commission upon request, of all persons supplied water from the project for uses other than hydrocarbon development authorized pursuant to Special Condition 20, including daily quantities supplied.
- 20. Prior to supplying water for any use not authorized pursuant to Section 2 of this approval, the project sponsor shall first submit a request for minor modification under 18 CFR § 806.18(c)(4) for such new use to the Executive Director. The project sponsor shall not supply water for such use unless and until such authorization is granted, and pursuant to any supplemental terms and conditions contained in such approval.

#### Section 7. Term

- 21. This approval shall be effective January 1, 2020, and shall remain effective until December 31, 2034. As specified in 18 CFR § 806.31(e), if the project sponsor submits an application for renewal on or before June 30, 2034, the project sponsor may continue operation of this project pursuant to the terms and conditions of this approval until such time as the Commission acts on such application, or until otherwise notified by the Executive Director.
- 22. Commission Docket Nos. 20141216 and 20141216-2 shall remain effective through December 31, 2019, whereupon they shall expire.

**CERTIFICATION:** I, Jason E. Oyler, Secretary to the Susquehanna River Basin Commission, do hereby certify that the foregoing project docket was approved by the Susquehanna River Basin Commission on December 5, 2019.

Dated:	December 6, 2019	Jason E Cyles
		Jason E. Oyler, Esq.

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