



## OTTAWA COUNTY LANDFILL, INC.

### 2 NON-HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL WELLS

Ottawa County Landfill, Inc. (Ottawa County Landfill) has submitted two Part 625 permit applications to the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) Oil, Gas, and Minerals Division (OGMD) to drill and operate two non-hazardous waste disposal wells in Ottawa County. The proposed wells are called the Ottawa County Farms Landfill IW-1 (OCFL IW-1) and the Ottawa County Farms Landfill IW-2 (OCFL IW-2). They are located on the Ottawa County Farms Landfill property located at 15550 68<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Coopersville, Michigan.

Ottawa County Landfill proposes to dispose non-hazardous landfill leachate into deep, confined, porous rock formations between 4,490 and 7,440 feet below the ground surface. The base of the Underground Source of Drinking Water (USDW) is much shallower: about 470 feet below the ground surface.



Landfill leachate is the liquid generated within a landfill. It is created from moisture contained within the waste itself, as well as precipitation that falls on the landfill and moves through the waste. Leachate is mainly water and is also composed of low concentrations of non-hazardous compounds. The pH of the wastewater is generally neutral, and is not considered ignitable, reactive, or corrosive. Ottawa County Landfill has provided results of leachate testing with the permit application, as well as a waste analysis plan. The wastewater will be tested regularly to monitor for various parameters and assure that it remains classified as non-hazardous.

Wells of this type are permitted under two separate programs: EGLE-OGMD and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) – Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program. Ottawa County Landfill has also filed an application with the USEPA as required.

Disposal wells that meet design and operating requirements under the Part 625 rules are very low risk. These wells are designed and constructed to allow for disposal of wastewater while preventing the movement of injected fluids into shallower freshwater zones. There are redundant protections and strict guidelines related to well location, design, construction, operation, monitoring, testing, reporting, and closure. The safeguards in place ensure protection to freshwater, the environment, and human health.

The proposed OCFL IW-1 and OCFL IW-2 wells are designed to isolate the disposal zone from the freshwater zones with multiple strings of casing (steel pipes) cemented to the surface. The liquids are disposed through steel tubing within the casing strings. There are several confining rock formations and over 4,000 feet of vertical separation between the disposal zone and the freshwater zone. Under no circumstances would a disposal well be approved or allowed to operate if there were indications that the disposed fluids could migrate into freshwater zones.

The application documents can be viewed at: [www.michigan.gov/EGLE](http://www.michigan.gov/EGLE) (Land--Mineral Wells). Public comments will be accepted regarding this proposal until 11:59pm September 15, 2021 and may be submitted via email to [EGLE-OGMDpubliccomments@michigan.gov](mailto:EGLE-OGMDpubliccomments@michigan.gov) or mailed to:

Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy-Oil, Gas, and Minerals Division
RE: Comments Ottawa County Landfill Applications
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