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Green Station CCR Surface Impoundment

Disposal of Coal Combustion Residuals (CCR) from Electric Utilities Final Rule Closure and Post-Closure Care Plan

**October 11, 2016
Revised September 13, 2017**

Prepared By:



Project ID: 160028C & 170136

**Big Rivers Electric Corporation
Disposal of Coal Combustion Residuals (CCR) from Electric Utilities Final Rule
Closure and Post-Closure Care Plan**

CCR Surface Impoundment Information

Name: Green Station CCR Surface Impoundment
Operator: Sebree Generating Station
Address: 9000 Highway 2096
Robards, Kentucky 42452
CCR Unit Identification Number: Kentucky State Dam Inventory System ID No. 0980

Qualified Professional Engineer

Name: David A. Lamb
Company: Associated Engineers, Inc.
Kentucky P.E. Number: 17822

Regulatory Applicability

The owner or operator of a CCR unit must prepare a written closure plan that describes the steps necessary to close the CCR unit at any point during the active life of the CCR unit and a written post-closure care plan consistent with recognized and generally accepted good engineering practices as specified below. The owner or operator of an existing CCR unit must prepare the written initial closure and post-closure care plans no later than October 17, 2016 as follows:

§ 257.102 Criteria for conducting the closure or retrofit of CCR units.

- (a) Closure of a CCR unit or any lateral expansion of a CCR unit must be completed either by leaving the CCR in place and installing a final cover system or through removal of the CCR and decontamination of the CCR unit, as described in paragraphs (b) through (j) of this section. Retrofit of a CCR surface impoundment must be completed in accordance with the requirements in paragraph (k) of this section.
- (b) *Written closure plan - (1) Content of the plan.* The owner or operator of a CCR unit must prepare a written closure plan that describes the steps necessary to close the CCR unit at any point during the active life of the CCR unit consistent with recognized and generally accepted good engineering practices. The written closure plan must include, at a minimum, the information specified in paragraphs (b)(1)(i) through (vi) of this section.
 - (i) A narrative description of how the CCR unit will be closed in accordance with this

section.

- (ii) If closure of the CCR unit will be accomplished through removal of CCR from the CCR unit, a description of the procedures to remove the CCR and decontaminate the CCR unit in accordance with paragraph (c) of this section.
 - (iii) If closure of the CCR unit will be accomplished by leaving CCR in place, a description of the final cover system, designed in accordance with paragraph (d) of this section, and the methods and procedures to be used to install the final cover. The closure plan must also discuss how the final cover system will achieve the performance standards specified in paragraph (d) of this section.
 - (iv) An estimate of the maximum inventory of CCR ever on-site over the active life of the CCR unit.
 - (v) An estimate of the largest area of the CCR unit ever requiring a final cover as required by paragraph (d) of this section at any time during the CCR unit's active life.
 - (vi) A schedule for completing all activities necessary to satisfy the closure criteria in this section, including an estimate of the year in which all closure activities for the CCR unit will be completed. The schedule should provide sufficient information to describe the sequential steps that will be taken to close the CCR unit, including identification of major milestones such as coordinating with and obtaining necessary approvals and permits from other agencies, the dewatering and stabilization phases of CCR surface impoundment closure, or installation of the final cover system, and the estimated timeframes to complete each step or phase of CCR unit closure. When preparing the written closure plan, if the owner or operator of a CCR surface impoundment estimates that the time required to complete closure will exceed the timeframes specified in paragraph (f)(1) of this section, the written closure plan must include the site-specific information, factors and considerations that would support any time extension sought under paragraph (f)(2) of this section.
- (c) Closure by removal of CCR. An owner or operator may elect to close a CCR unit by removing and decontaminating all areas affected by releases from the CCR unit. CCR removal and decontamination of the CCR unit are complete when constituent concentrations throughout the CCR unit and any areas affected by releases from the CCR unit have been removed and groundwater monitoring concentrations do not exceed the groundwater protection standard established pursuant to § 257.95(h) for constituents listed in appendix IV to this part.
- (d) Closure performance standard when leaving CCR in place - (1) The owner or operator of a CCR unit must ensure that, at a minimum, the CCR unit is closed in a manner that will:
- (i) Control, minimize or eliminate, to the maximum extent feasible, post-closure infiltration of liquids into the waste and releases of CCR, leachate, or contaminated

run-off to the ground or surface waters or to the atmosphere;

- (ii) Preclude the probability of future impoundment of water, sediment, or slurry;
- (iii) Include measures that provide for major slope stability to prevent the sloughing or movement of the final cover system during the closure and post-closure care period;
- (iv) Minimize the need for further maintenance of the CCR unit; and
- (v) Be completed in the shortest amount of time consistent with recognized and generally accepted good engineering practices.

§ 257.103 Alternative closure requirements.

The owner or operator of a CCR landfill, CCR surface impoundment, or any lateral expansion of a CCR unit that is subject to closure pursuant to § 257.101(a)[detected at statistically significant levels above the groundwater protection standard], (b)(1) [not demonstrated compliance with any location standard], or (d)[not demonstrated compliance with the location restriction for unstable areas], may continue to receive CCR in the unit provided the owner or operator meets the requirements of either paragraph (a) or (b) of this section.

(a)(1) *No alternative CCR disposal capacity.* Notwithstanding the provisions of § 257.101(a), (b)(1), or (d), a CCR unit may continue to receive CCR if the owner or operator of the CCR unit certifies that the CCR must continue to be managed in that CCR unit due to the absence of alternative disposal capacity both on-site and off-site of the facility.

(b)(1) *Permanent cessation of a coal-fired boiler(s) by a date certain.* Notwithstanding the provisions of § 257.101(a), (b)(1), and (d), a CCR unit may continue to receive CCR if the owner or operator certifies that the facility will cease operation of the coal-fired boilers within the timeframes specified in paragraphs (b)(2) through (4) of this section, but in the interim period (prior to closure of the coal-fired boiler), the facility must continue to use the CCR unit due to the absence of alternative disposal capacity both on-site and off-site of the facility.

§ 257.104 Post-closure care requirements.

(a) *Applicability.*

- (1) Except as provided by either item (2) or (3) of this section, post-closure requirements apply to the owners or operators of CCR landfills, CCR surface impoundments, and all lateral expansions of CCR units that are subject to the closure criteria under § 257.102.
- (2) An owner or operator of a CCR unit that elects to close a CCR unit by removing CCR as provided by § 257.102(c) is not subject to the post-closure care criteria under this section.
- (3) An owner or operator of an inactive CCR surface impoundment that elects to

close a CCR unit pursuant to the requirements under § 257.100(b) [Inactive Surface Impoundments] is not subject to the post-closure care criteria under this section.

(b) *Post-closure care maintenance requirements.* Following closure of the CCR unit, the owner or operator must conduct post-closure care for the CCR unit, which must consist of at least the following:

(1) Maintaining the integrity and effectiveness of the final cover system, including making repairs to the final cover as necessary to correct the effects of settlement, subsidence, erosion, or other events, and preventing run-on and run-off from eroding or otherwise damaging the final cover;

(c) *Post-closure care period.*

(1) Except as provided by paragraph (c)(2) of this section, the owner or operator of the CCR unit must conduct post-closure care for 30 years.

(2) If at the end of the post-closure care period the owner or operator of the CCR unit is operating under assessment monitoring in accordance with § 257.95 [Assessment Monitoring Program], the owner or operator must continue to conduct post-closure care until the owner or operator returns to detection monitoring in accordance with § 257.95.

(d) *Written post-closure plan*

(1) *Content of the plan.* The owner or operator of a CCR unit must prepare a written post-closure plan that includes, at a minimum, the information specified in paragraphs (d)(1)(i) through (iii) of this section.

(i) A description of the monitoring and maintenance activities required in paragraph (b) of this section for the CCR unit, and the frequency at which these activities will be performed;

(ii) The name, address, telephone number, and email address of the person or office to contact about the facility during the post-closure care period; and

(iii) A description of the planned uses of the property during the post-closure period. Post-closure use of the property shall not disturb the integrity of the final cover, liner(s), or any other component of the containment system, or the function of the monitoring systems unless necessary to comply with the requirements in this subpart. Any other disturbance is allowed if the owner or operator of the CCR unit demonstrates that disturbance of the final cover, liner, or other component of the containment system, including any removal of CCR, will not increase the potential threat to human health or the environment. The demonstration must be certified by a qualified professional engineer, and notification shall be provided to the State Director that the demonstration has been placed in the operating record and on the owners or operator's publicly accessible Internet site.

- (2) Deadline to prepare the initial written post-closure plan - Existing CCR landfills and existing CCR surface impoundments. No later than October 17, 2016.
- (3) Amendment of a written post-closure plan.
 - (i) The owner or operator may amend the initial or any subsequent written post-closure plan developed pursuant to paragraph (d)(1) of this section at any time.
 - (ii) The owner or operator must amend the written closure plan whenever:
 - (A) There is a change in the operation of the CCR unit that would substantially affect the written post-closure plan in effect; or
 - (B) After post-closure activities have commenced, unanticipated events necessitate a revision of the written post-closure plan.
 - (iii) The owner or operator must amend the written post-closure plan at least 60 days prior to a planned change in the operation of the facility or CCR unit, or no later than 60 days after an unanticipated event requires the need to revise an existing written post-closure plan. If a written post-closure plan is revised after post-closure activities have commenced for a CCR unit, the owner or operator must amend the written post-closure plan no later than 30 days following the triggering event.
- (4) The owner or operator of the CCR unit must obtain a written certification from a qualified professional engineer that the initial and any amendment of the written post-closure plan meets the requirements of this section.
- (e) *Notification of completion of post-closure care period.* No later than 60 days following the completion of the post-closure care period, the owner or operator of the CCR unit must prepare a notification verifying that post-closure care has been completed. The notification must include the certification by a qualified professional engineer verifying that post-closure care has been completed in accordance with the closure plan specified in paragraph (d) of this section and the requirements of this section. The owner or operator has completed the notification when it has been placed in the facility's operating record.

Description of Impoundment

An aerial photo of the CCR unit is provided as Attachment A and an excerpt from U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5 minute Robards and Delaware topographic quadrangle maps showing the location of the CCR unit is provided as Attachment B.

The CCR unit has been in place for 40 plus years and is used for the placement of coal combustion residual material; currently slurried bottom ash. The immediate watershed that drains to the CCR unit, and in which the CCR unit is considered to be located, is unnamed and 54.13 acres in size.

The CCR unit is a combined incised/earthen embankment structure. Embankments form the west, south and east sides of the impoundment and the north side is incised. The Green River is located approximately 400 feet east of the structure. Due to surface relief, only the toe area of the south dike is potentially subject to flooding. The predominant features were small stream valleys draining eastward to the Green River. Most of the central portion of the south dike was constructed on a subdued ridge. The toe of the outboard slope intersected a lower drainage area. Underlying preconstruction soils consisted of Loring-Grenada, Loring-Zanesville-Wellston (Henderson County) and Loring-Wellston-Zanesville (Webster County) soil associations which are generally characterized as well drained to moderately well drained soils on nearly level to sloping uplands.

The west dike is generally less than five feet in height and the south dike reaches a maximum height of 19.5 feet. The east dike reaches a maximum height of approximately eight feet and is buttressed with a secondary parallel embankment that serves as a 40-foot wide roadway. The Burns and Roe, Inc. Engineering and Consultants June 30, 1978 site grading plans show the original construction layout and ground contours for the impoundment site. Bottom ash has been placed above the normal pool along the inboard side, essentially creating reclaimed land.

Depth of impounded water and CCR is 16 feet and 46 feet (at respective locations of maximum impounded water and CCR depths). Elevation of impounded water and CCR is 394 feet and 408 feet, respectively, above mean sea level. These approximate depths and respective elevations are based on the most recent (December 2015) flight derived topographic contours and bathymetric survey data.

The remaining storage capacity is approximately 172,000 cubic yards (if CCR can be placed to the elevation of the current water surface). This volume was calculated based on the maximum allowable storage volume and the current volume of CCR stored in the facility based on the most recent bathymetric survey.

The approximate volume of impounded water and CCR is 981,000 cubic yards (approximate water volume is 172,000 cubic yards and approximate CCR volume is 809,000 cubic yards). This volume was calculated based on the maximum storage capacity, the current amount of CCR stored in the facility based on the most recent bathymetric survey, and the best available as-built data for the structure construction prior to placement of CCR.

The impoundment discharge consists of two corrugated steel pipes, each 30 inches in diameter. The pipe intakes are through a concrete common headwall collection structure with a variable height steel debris deflector on each pipe intake.

Green CCR Impoundment Closure Plan

The closure plan for the Green CCR impoundment includes, at a minimum:

1. Narrative description of how the CCR unit will be closed in accordance with this section:
At any time that closure may occur, the Green CCR impoundment will be closed

by either removing CCR, with CCR in place, or a combination of both. All CCR material that is removed will be placed on the adjacent CCR landfill and all remaining CCR material will be dewatered to enable the embankment soil materials to be placed on top of the CCR material and serve as cover material. The final cover system will be designed to minimize infiltration and erosion, and at a minimum, meet the requirements listed below or the requirements of an alternative final cover system.

- a. The permeability of the final cover system must be less than or equal to the permeability of any bottom liner system or natural subsoils present, or a permeability no greater than 1×10^{-5} centimeters/second (cm/sec), whichever is less. It has been determined and documented that the bottom of the impoundment was not constructed to meet low permeability specifications.
 - b. The infiltration of liquids through the CCR unit must be minimized by the use of an infiltration layer that contains a minimum of 18 inches of earthen material.
 - c. The erosion of the final cover system must be minimized by the use of an erosion layer that contains a minimum of 6 inches of earthen material that is capable of sustaining native plant growth.
 - d. The disruption of the integrity of the final cover system must be minimized through a design that accommodates settling and subsidence.
2. If closure of the CCR unit will be accomplished through removal of CCR from the CCR unit, a description of the procedures to remove the CCR and decontaminate the CCR unit in accordance with paragraph (c) of this section.

If CCR material is removed, it will be placed on the adjacent CCR landfill. CCR removal and decontamination of the CCR unit will be considered complete when constituent concentrations throughout the CCR unit and any areas affected by releases from the CCR unit have been removed and groundwater monitoring concentrations do not exceed the groundwater protection standard established pursuant to this rule.

3. If closure of the CCR unit will be accomplished by leaving CCR in place, a description of the final cover system, designed in accordance with paragraph (d) of this section, and the methods and procedures to be used to install the final cover. The closure plan must also discuss how the final cover system will achieve the performance standards specified in paragraph (d) of this section.

If the Green CCR impoundment, or portions of the impoundment, are closed with the CCR material in place, the CCR material will be dewatered or drained as required to place soil cover material and the material will be compacted to meet the required permeability of not more than 1×10^{-5} centimeters/second (cm/sec). Appropriate soils testing will be conducted to document that the required thickness and permeability

specifications have been met and may include laboratory and field testing procedures. The final cover will be vegetated with appropriate cover species and erosion of the final cover system must be minimized by the use of an erosion layer that contains a minimum of 6 inches of earthen material that is capable of sustaining native plant growth. The disruption of the integrity of the final cover system must be minimized through a design that accommodates settling and subsidence.

4. An estimate of the maximum inventory of CCR ever on-site over the active life of the CCR unit.

Depth of impounded water and CCR is 16 feet and 46 feet (at respective locations of maximum impounded water and CCR depths). Elevation of impounded water and CCR is 394 feet and 408 feet, respectively, above mean sea level. These approximate depths and respective elevations are based on the most recent (December 2015) flight derived topographic contours and bathymetric survey data.

The remaining storage capacity is approximately 172,000 cubic yards (if CCR can be placed to the elevation of the current water surface). This volume was calculated based on the maximum allowable storage volume and the current volume of CCR stored in the facility based on the most recent bathymetric survey.

The approximate volume of impounded water and CCR is 981,000 cubic yards (approximate water volume is 172,000 cubic yards and approximate CCR volume is 809,000 cubic yards). This volume was calculated based on the maximum storage capacity, the current amount of CCR stored in the facility based on the most recent bathymetric survey, and the best available as-built data for the structure construction prior to placement of CCR.

5. An estimate of the largest area of the CCR unit ever requiring a final cover at any time during the CCR unit's active life.

The estimated largest area of the CCR unit ever requiring a final cover at any time during the CCR unit's active life is approximately 25 acres.

6. A schedule for completing all activities necessary to satisfy the closure criteria in this section, including an estimate of the year in which all closure activities for the CCR unit will be completed. The schedule should provide sufficient information to describe the sequential steps that will be taken to close the CCR unit, including identification of major milestones such as coordinating with and obtaining necessary approvals and permits from other agencies, the dewatering and stabilization phases of CCR surface impoundment closure, or installation of the final cover system, and the estimated timeframes to complete each step or phase of CCR unit closure. When preparing the written closure plan, if the owner or operator of a CCR surface impoundment estimates that the time required to complete closure will exceed the timeframes specified in paragraph (f)(1) of this section, the written closure plan must include the site-specific information, factors and considerations that would support any time extensions sought

under paragraph (f)(2) of this section.

The closure of the Green CCR impoundment will be implemented within any required timeframes per applicable environmental rules and regulations and in consideration of any operational and financial constraints. The time required to complete closure is proposed not to exceed five years from commencing closure activities. Based on the current fill rate the impoundment has an estimated closure date of November 2026.

Green CCR Impoundment Post-closure Plan

The post-closure plan for the Green CCR impoundment includes, at a minimum:

1. The monitoring and maintenance activities will include maintaining the integrity and effectiveness of the final cover system, including making repairs to the final as necessary to correct the effects of settlement, subsidence, erosion, or other events, and preventing run-on and run-off from eroding or otherwise damaging the final cover;
2. The name, address, telephone number, and email address of the person or office to contact about the facility during the post-closure care period follows:

Thomas Shaw, Director Environmental
Big Rivers Electric Corporation
Address: 201 3rd Street Henderson, KY 42420
Telephone Number: 270-844-6031
Email Address: Thomas.Shaw@bigrivers.com

3. The planned uses of the property during the post-closure period will consist of maintaining the integrity of the power generating facility. Post-closure use of the property will not disturb the integrity of the final cover, liner(s), or any other component of the containment system, or the function of the monitoring systems unless necessary to comply with the requirements in the rule or other environmental regulations or to facilitate operating considerations that are allowed if the owner or operator of the CCR unit demonstrates that disturbance of the final cover, liner, or other component of the containment system, including any removal of CCR, will not increase the potential threat to human health or the environment. The demonstration must be certified by a qualified professional engineer.

Sources of Information


Geotechnical and other information provided by Associated Engineers, Inc.

Engineering design drawings and other information provided by Big Rivers Electric Corporation

United States Geological Survey U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5 minute Robards and Delaware topographic quadrangle maps

**Professional Engineer Certification [Per 40 CFR § 257.102-104]
Green CCR Impoundment Closure and Post-Closure Care Plan**

I hereby certify that myself or an agent under my review has prepared this Closure and Post-Closure Care Plan System Plan (Plan), and being familiar with the provisions of the final rule to regulate the disposal of coal combustion residuals (CCR) as solid waste under subtitle D of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), attest that this Plan has been prepared in accordance with good engineering practices and meets the intent of 40 CFR Part 257.102-104. To the best of my knowledge and belief, the information contained in this Plan is true, complete, and accurate.



David A. Lamb P.E.

State of Kentucky License No. 17822

Date: 9-13-17



 <p>ASSOCIATED ENGINEERS, INC. ENGINEERS • GEOLOGISTS • SURVEYORS</p>	BIG RIVERS ELECTRIC		Job Number: 15-0140D
	SEBREE GENERATING STATION: GREEN CCR SURFACE IMPOUNDMENT		Date: 3/05/2016
			Scale: AS SHOWN
			Drawn By: E.J.A.
2740 North Main St. • Madisonville, KY 42431 1001 Fredonia St. • Owensboro, KY 42301 Phone: (270) 821-7752 • Fax: (270) 821-7789 Phone: (270) 684-8450 • Fax: (270) 684-8441 www.associatedengineers.com			

Attachment A. Aerial Photo of the Green CCR Surface Impoundment



Attachment B. Topographic Map showing the Green CCR Surface Impoundment