Semiannual Progress Report Selection of Remedy – Lansing Generating Station

Lansing Generating Station Lansing, Iowa

Prepared for:



SCS ENGINEERS

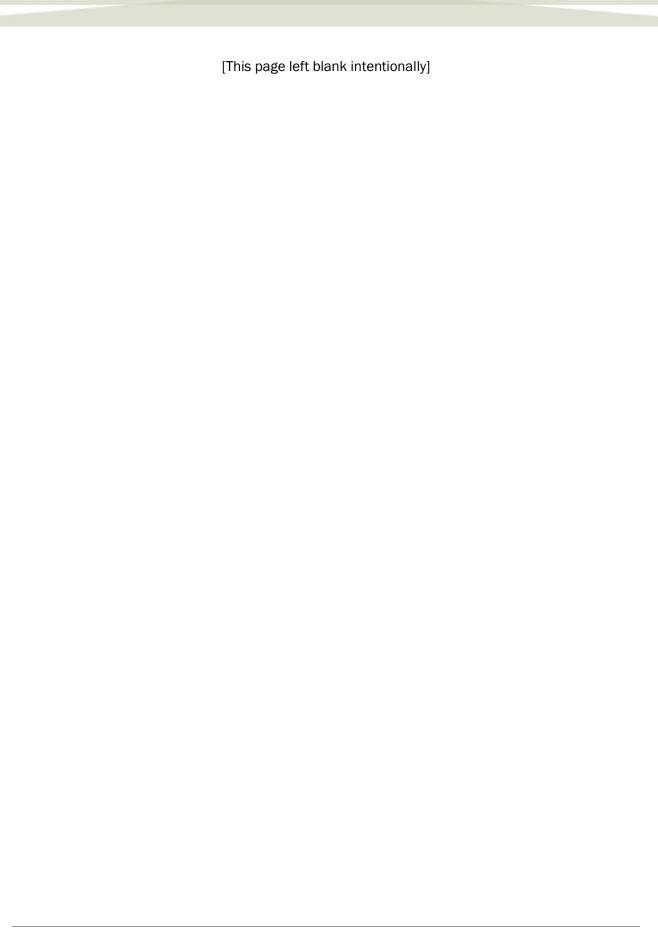
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2830 Dairy Drive Madison, WI 53718-6751 608-224-2830

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1.0 INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

The Semiannual Progress Report for remedy selection at the Interstate Power and Light Company (IPL) Lansing Generating Station (LAN) was prepared to comply with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) regulations regarding the Disposal of Coal Combustion Residuals (CCR) from Electric Utilities [40 CFR 257.50-107], or the "CCR Rule" (Rule). Specifically, the selection of remedy process was initiated to fulfill the requirements of 40 CFR 257.97.

1.1 BACKGROUND

The Assessment of Corrective Measures (ACM) for the LAN Landfill and Upper Ash Pond was completed on September 12, 2019. The ACM was completed in response to the detection of arsenic at a statistically significant level above the GPS in groundwater samples from downgradient monitoring well MW-302.

This Semiannual Progress Report summarizes data collected and remedy evaluation progress made since the ACM was completed in September 2019, and outlines planned future activities to complete the selection of remedy process.

1.2 SITE INFORMATION AND MAPS

LAN is located along the west bank of the Mississippi River, south of the City of Lansing, in Allamakee County, Iowa. The address of the generating station is 2320 Power Plant Drive in Lansing, Iowa (**Figure 1**). The facility includes a coal-fired generating plant, a CCR landfill, the LAN Upper Ash Pond, and a coal stockpile.

The two CCR units at the facility (LAN Landfill and Upper Ash Pond) are monitored with a multi-unit groundwater monitoring system and are the subject of this Semiannual Progress Report.

The pending closure of the LAN Upper Ash Pond was discussed in the IPL Notification of Intent to Close CCR Surface Impoundment, dated April 3, 2019. A map showing the CCR units and all background (or upgradient) and downgradient monitoring wells with identification numbers for the CCR groundwater monitoring program is provided as **Figure 2**.

Groundwater flow at the site is generally to the north-northwest, and the groundwater flow direction and water levels fluctuate seasonally due to the proximity to the river. Depth to groundwater as measured in the site monitoring wells varies from 1 to 75 feet below ground surface due to topographic variations across the facility and seasonal variations in water levels.

2.0 SUMMARY OF WORK COMPLETED

Work completed to support remedy selection for the LAN Landfill and Upper Ash Pond is summarized in **Table 1**. Activities completed within the 6-month period covered by this Semiannual Progress Report are discussed in more detail below.

2.1 MONITORING NETWORK CHANGES

Three additional groundwater monitoring wells were installed in December 2019. Monitoring wells MW-302A, MW-304A, and MW-306A are piezometers that were installed to provide vertical

groundwater flow data and additional groundwater quality information. The monitoring well locations are shown on **Figure 2**.

2.2 GROUNDWATER MONITORING

Groundwater samples were collected in October 2019, December 2019, and February 2020. The October 2019 monitoring event was part of the routine semiannual assessment monitoring program. The wells sampled included the wells in the original monitoring system (MW-6, MW-301, MW-302, and MW-303) and the three additional wells (MW-304, MW-305, and MW-306) installed in June 2019. Additional samples were collected at MW-306 in December 2019 and February 2020.

A summary of groundwater samples collected since submittal of the ACM is provided in Table 2.

2.3 EVALUATION OF CORRECTIVE MEASURE ALTERNATIVES

A qualitative assessment of potential Corrective Measure Alternatives using the selection criteria in 40 CFR 257.97(b) and (c) was provided in the September 2019 ACM. **Table 3** summarizes the assessment completed for the ACM. No updates or changes to the assessment have been made based on additional information obtained since the issue of the ACM. Additional groundwater data collection and analysis is necessary for the evaluation of the monitored natural attenuation (MNA) option. Updates to the assessment, and development of the quantitative evaluation system discussed in the ACM, will be completed in the future based on updates to the conceptual site model, delineation of the nature and extent of impacts, and collection of additional data relevant to remedy selection.

3.0 PLANNED ACTIVITIES

Planned activities related to the remedy selection process include the following:

- Collect groundwater samples at piezometers MW-302A, MW-304A, and MW-306A.
- Continue semiannual assessment monitoring for the existing monitoring well network and new monitoring wells.
- Evaluate MNA feasibility, including additional evaluation of groundwater flow and groundwater quality.
- Update conceptual site model based on findings of nature and extent investigation.
- Continue evaluation of remedial options.
- Conduct public meeting (40 CFR 257.96(e)).

Tables

- 1 Timeline for Completed Work Selection of Remedy
- 2 CCR Rule Groundwater Samples Summary
- 3 Preliminary Evaluation of Corrective Measure Alternatives

Table 1. Timeline for Completed Work - Selection of Remedy Lansing Generating Station / SCS Engineers Project #25220082.00

Date	Activity					
May 2019	Additional monitoring wells installed to investigate nature and extent (MW-304, MW-305, and MW-306)					
June 2019	Sampled new monitoring wells (MW-304, MW-305, and MW-306)					
September 2019	Completed ACM					
September 2019	Completed the Well Documentation Report for new wells					
October 2019	Conducted semiannual assessment monitoring event					
October/November 2019	Planning field investigation for extent and quantity of source areas and geotechnical properties for remedy evaluation					
October to December 2019	Planning, permitting, and access arrangements for three additional monitoring wells (piezometers) to investigate the vertical extent of impacts					
December 2019	Additional monitoring wells (piezometers) installed to investigation vertical groundwater flow and groundwater quality					
December 2019	Sampled assessment well MW-306					
January 2020	Completed Statistical Evaluation of October 2019 groundwater monitoring results					
January 2020	Completed 2019 Annual Groundwater Monitoring and Corrective Action Report					
February 2020	Sampled assessment well MW-306					

Table 1. Timeline for Completed Work - Selection of Remedy Lansing Generating Station / SCS Engineers Project #25220082.00

Created by:	NDK	Date: 2/19/2020
Last revision by:	MDB	Date: 2/26/2020
Checked by:	TK	Date: 2/26/2020

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Table 2. CCR Rule Groundwater Samples Summary Lansing Generating Station / SCS Engineers Project #25220082.00

Sample Dates	Background Well			Downgrad	ient Wells		
	MW-6	MW-301	MW-302	MW-303	MW-304	MW-305	MW-306
10/2/2019	Α	Α	Α	Α	А	А	Α
12/5/2019							Add.
2/5/2020							Add.
Total Samples	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

Abbreviations:

A = Assessment Monitoring Sample Add. = Additional Sampling Event

NI = Not Installed -- = Not Sampled

 Created by:
 NDK
 Date: 2/19/2020

 Last revision by:
 MDB
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 TK
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Table 3. Preliminary Evaluation of Corrective Measure Alternatives Lansing Generating Station / SCS Engineers Project #25220082.00

	Alternative #1	Alternative #2	Alternative #3	Alternative #4	Alternative #5
	No Action	Close and Cap in place with MNA	Consolidate and Cap with MNA	Excavate CCR and Dispose On Site with MNA	Excavate CCR and Dispose Off Site
CORRECTIVE ACTION ASSESSMENT - 40 C	CFR 257.97(b)				·
257.97(b)(1) Is remedy protective of human health and the environment?	Potentially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
257.97(b)(2) Can the remedy attain the groundwater protection standard?	Potentially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
257.97(b)(3) Can the remedy control the source(s) of releases so as to reduce or eliminate, to the maximum extent feasible, further releases of constituents in Appendix IV to this part into the environment?	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
257.97(b)(4) Can the remedy remove from the environment as much of the contaminated material that was released from the CCR unit as is feasible?	Not Applicable - No release of CCR	Not Applicable - No release of CCR	Not Applicable - No release of CCR	Not Applicable - No release of CCR	Not Applicable - No release of CCR
257.97(b)(5) Can the remedy comply with standards for management of wastes as specified in §257.98(d)?	Not Applicable	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
LONG- AND SHORT-TERM EFFECTIVENESS	- 40 CFR 257.97(c)(1)				
257.97(c)(1)(i) Magnitude of reduction of existing risks	No reduction of existing risk	Existing risk reduced by achieving GPS	Same as Alternative #2	Same as Alternative #2	Same as Alternative #2
257.97(c)(1)(ii) Magnitude of residual risks in terms of likelihood of further releases due to CCR remaining following implementation of a remedy	No reduction of existing risk Residual risk is limited for all alternatives due to limited extent of impacts and lack of receptors	Magnitude of residual risk of further releases is lower than current conditions due to final cover eliminating infiltration through CCR Residual risk is limited for all alternatives due to limited extent of impacts and lack of receptors	Same as Alternative #2 with potential further reduction in release risk due to CCR material footprint However, limited to no additional overall risk reduction is provided due to lack of current/anticipated future receptors for groundwater impacts	Same as Alternative #3 with further reduction in release risk due to composite liner and cover However, limited to no additional overall risk reduction is provided due to lack of current/anticipated future receptors for groundwater impacts	Same as Alternative #3 with further reduction in release risk due to removal of CCR from site However, limited to no additional overall risk reduction is provided due to lack of current/anticipated future receptors for groundwater impacts
257.97(c)(1)(iii) The type and degree of long-term management required, including monitoring, operation, and maintenance	Not Applicable	30-year post-closure groundwater monitoring Groundwater monitoring network maintenance and as-needed repair/replacement Final cover maintenance (e.g., mowing and as- needed repair) Periodic final cover inspections Additional corrective action as required based on post-closure groundwater monitoring	Same as Alternative #2	Same as Alternative #2 with increased effort for new leachate collection and management systems	Limited on-site post-closure groundwater monitoring until GPSs are achieved for impoundment Receiving disposal facility for impounded CCR will have same/similar long-term monitoring, operation, and maintenance requirements as Alternative #2

Table 3. Preliminary Evaluation of Corrective Measure Alternatives Lansing Generating Station / SCS Engineers Project #25220082.00

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LONG- AND SHORT-TERM EFFECTIVENESS - 40 CFR 257.97(c)(1) (continued)								
257.97(c)(1)(iv) Short-term risks - Implementation								
Excavation	None	Limited risk to community and environment due to limited amount of excavation (likely <100K cy) required to establish final cover subgrades and no off-site excavation	Same as Alternative #2 with increased risk to environment due to increased excavation volumes required for consolidation (>100K cy but <357K cy = published maximum CCR inventory as of February 2018 per Written Closure Plan)	Same as Alternative #3 with increased risk to environment due to increased excavation volumes (>840K cy) and temporary CCR storage during disposal site construction required for removal and on-site re-disposal	Same as Alternative #4 with reduced risk to environment from excavation due to limited onsite storage			
Transportation	None	No risk to community or environment from offsite CCR transportation; Typical risk due to construction traffic delivering final cover materials to site	Same as Alternative #2 with reduced risk from construction traffic due to reduced final cover material requirements (smaller cap footprint)	Same as Alternative #2 with increased risk from construction traffic due to increased material import requirements (liner and cap construction required)	Highest level of community and environmental risk due to CCR volume export (>840K cy)			
Re-Disposal	None	Limited risk to community and environment due to limited volume of CCR re-disposal (likely <100K cy)	Same as Alternative #2 with increased risk to environment due to increased excavation volumes (likely >100K cy but <357K cy) required for consolidation	Same as Alternative #3 with increased risk to environment due to increased excavation volumes (~840K cy) and temporary CCR storage during disposal site construction required for removal and on-site re-disposal	Same as Alternative #4 with increased risk to community and environment due to re-disposal of large CCR volume (~840K cy) at another facility Re-disposal risks are managed by the receiving disposal facility			
257.97(c)(1)(v) Time until full protection is achieved	Unknown	To be evaluated further during remedy selection Impoundment closure and capping anticipated by end of 2021 Landfill closure and capping anticipated by end of 2021 Groundwater protection timeframe to reach GPS potentially 2 to 10 years following closure construction, achievable within 30 year post-closure monitoring period	Similar to Alternative #2. Potential for increase in time to reach GPS due to significant source disturbance during construction. Potential for decrease in time to reach GPS due to consolidation of impounded CCR	Similar to Alternative #2 Potential for increase in time to reach GPS due to significant source disturbance during construction Potential decrease in time to reach GPS due to CCR source isolation within liner/cover system	Similar to Alternative #2 Potential for increase in time to reach GPS due to significant source disturbance during construction Potential decrease in time to reach GPS due to CCR source removal			
257.97(c)(1)(vi) Potential for exposure of humans and environmental receptors to remaining wastes, considering the potential threat to human health and the environment associated with excavation, transportation, re-disposal, or containment	No change in potential exposure	Potential for exposure is low Remaining waste is capped	Same as Alternative #2	Same as Alternative #2	No potential for on-site exposure to remaining waste since no waste remains on site Risk of potential exposure is transferred to receiving disposal facility and is likely similar to Alternative #2			
257.97(c)(1)(vii) Long-term reliability of the engineering and institutional controls	Not Applicable	Long-term reliability of cap is good Significant industry experience with methods/controls Capping is common practice/industry standard for closure in place for remediation and solid waste management	Same as Alternative #2 with potentially increased reliability due to smaller footprint and reduced maintenance	Same as Alternative #3	Success of remedy at LAN does not rely on long- term reliability of engineering or institutional controls Overall success relies on reliability of the engineering and institutional controls at the receiving facility			
257.97(c)(1)(viii) Potential need for replacement of the remedy	Not Applicable	Limited potential for remedy replacement if maintained Some potential for remedy enhancement due to residual groundwater impacts following source control	Same as Alternative #2 with reduced potential need for remedy enhancement with consolidated/smaller closure area footprint	Same as Alternative #2 with further reduction in potential need for remedy enhancement composite with liner	No potential for remedy replacement Limited potential for remedy enhancement due to residual groundwater impacts following source control			

Table 3. Preliminary Evaluation of Corrective Measure Alternatives Lansing Generating Station / SCS Engineers Project #25220082.00

	Alternative #1	Alternative #2	Alternative #3	Alternative #4	Alternative #5			
	No Action	Close and Cap in place with MNA	Consolidate and Cap with MNA	Excavate CCR and Dispose On Site with MNA	Excavate CCR and Dispose Off Site			
SOURCE CONTROL TO MITIGATE FUTURE F	RELEASES - 40 CFR 257.97(c)(2)							
257.97(c)(2)(i) The extent to which containment practices will reduce further releases	No reduction in further releases	Cap will reduce further releases by minimizing infiltration through CCR	Same as Alternative #2 with further reduction due to consolidated/smaller closure footprint	Same as Alternative #3 with further reduction due to composite liner and 5-foot groundwater separation required by CCR Rule	Removal of CCR prevents further releases at LAN Receiving disposal site risk similar to Alternative #3			
257.97(c)(2)(ii) The extent to which treatment technologies may be used	Alternative does not rely on treatment technologies	Alternative does not rely on treatment technologies	Alternative does not rely on treatment technologies	Alternative does not rely on treatment technologies	Alternative does not rely on treatment technologies			
IMPLEMENTATION - 40 CFR 257.97(c)(3)								
257.97(c)(3)(i) Degree of difficulty associated with constructing the technology	Not Applicable	Moderately complex construction due to impounded CCR thixotropic characteristics Potentially lowest level of dewatering effort dewatering required for cap installation only	Moderately complex construction due to impounded CCR thixotropic characteristics Moderate degree of logistical complexity Moderate level of dewatering effort - dewatering required for material excavation/placement and capping	Moderately complex construction due to composite liner and cover High degree of logistical complexity due to excavation and on-site storage of -840K cy of CCR while new lined disposal area is constructed High level of dewatering effort - dewatering required for excavation of full CCR volume	Moderately complex construction due to CCR thixotropic characteristics High degree of logistical complexity including the excavation and off-site transport of ~840K cy of CCR and permitting/development of off-site disposal facility airspace High level of dewatering effort - dewatering required for excavation of full CCR volume			
257.97(c)(3)(ii) Expected operational reliability of the technologies	Not Applicable	High reliability based on historic use of capping as corrective measure	Same as Alternative #2	Same as Alternative #2	Success at LAN does not rely on operational reliability of technologies; Overall success relies on offsite disposal facility, which is likely same/similar to Alternative #2			
IMPLEMENTATION - 40 CFR 257.97(c)(3)	(continued)							
257.97(c)(3)(iii) Need to coordinate with and obtain necessary approvals and permits from other agencies	Not Applicable	Need is low in comparison to other alternatives State Closure Permit required	Same as Alternative #2	Need is high in comparison to other alternatives State Closure Permit required State Landfill Permit may be required	Need is highest in comparison to other alternatives State Closure Permit required Approval of off-site disposal site owner required May require State solid waste comprehensive planning approval Local road use permits likely required			
257.97(c)(3)(iv) Availability of necessary equipment and specialists	Not Applicable	Necessary equipment and specialists are highly available Highest level of demand for cap construction material	Same as Alternative #2 Lowest level of demand for cap construction material	Same as Alternative #2; Moderate level of demand for liner and cap construction material	Availability of necessary equipment to develop necessary off-site disposal facility airspace and transport ~840K cy of CCR to new disposal facility will be a limiting factor in the schedule for executing this alternative No liner or cover material demands for on-site implementation of remedy			
257.97(c)(3)(v) Available capacity and location of needed treatment, storage, and disposal services	Not Applicable	Capacity and location of treatment, storage, and disposal services is not a factor for this alternative	Capacity and location of treatment, storage, and disposal services is unlikely to be a factor for this alternative	Available temporary on-site storage capacity of staged re-disposal of ~840K cy of CCR while composite liner is constructed is significant limiting factor	Off-site disposal capacity, facility logistical capacity, or the time required to develop the necessary off-site disposal and logistical capacity is a significant limiting factor			
COMMUNITY ACCEPTANCE - 40 CFR 257	COMMUNITY ACCEPTANCE - 40 CFR 257.97(c)(4)							
257.97(c)(4) The degree to which community concerns are addressed by a potential remedy (Anticipated)	To be determined based on input obtained through public meetings/outreach to be completed	To be determined based on input obtained through public meetings/outreach to be completed	To be determined based on input obtained through public meetings/outreach to be completed	To be determined based on input obtained through public meetings/outreach to be completed	To be determined based on input obtained through public meetings/outreach to be completed			

Created by: LAB/SK Last revision by: EJN Checked by: TK Date: 6/20/2019 Date: 9/10/2019 Date: 9/12/2019

Figures

- 1 Site Location Map
- 2 Site Plan and Monitoring Well Locations

