## SCS ENGINEERS

April 17, 2019 File No. 25216072.18

Mr. Rob Saunders Ottumwa Generating Station 20775 Power Plant Road Ottumwa, IA 52501

Subject: Groundwater Monitoring Statistical Method Certification –

Zero Liquid Discharge Pond

Ottumwa Generating Station, Ottumwa, Iowa

Dear Mr. Saunders:

This letter documents the selection of a statistical method for evaluating data from the groundwater monitoring system at the Ottumwa Generating Station (OGS) Zero Liquid Discharge Pond (ZLDP) in accordance with the requirements of 40 CFR 257.93(f). The selected statistical method is appropriate for evaluating the groundwater monitoring data for the coal combustion residual (CCR) management area.

Groundwater monitoring data for the OGS ZLDP CCR unit will be evaluated in accordance with 40 CFR 257.93(f)(3), using a tolerance or prediction interval procedure, in which an interval for each constituent is established from the distribution of the background data and the level of each constituent in each compliance well is compared to the upper tolerance or prediction limit.

A narrative description of the selected statistical method is provided below.

## **Groundwater Monitoring System Information**

The groundwater monitoring system for the ZLDP consists of one upgradient and three downgradient monitoring wells. A separate monitoring system exists for the OGS Ash Pond CCR unit. The two systems share a background well.

## Narrative Description of the Statistical Method

For evaluation of groundwater monitoring results under detection monitoring or assessment monitoring, statistical analysis will be conducted to evaluate whether or not there is a statistically significant increase (SSI) over background values for each required constituent. The statistical analysis will use a prediction interval approach as recommended for detection monitoring in the March 2009 United States Environmental Protection Agency Unified Guidance for Statistical Analysis of Groundwater Monitoring Data at RCRA Facilities. The approach will meet the statistical method requirements of 40 CFR 257.93(g).

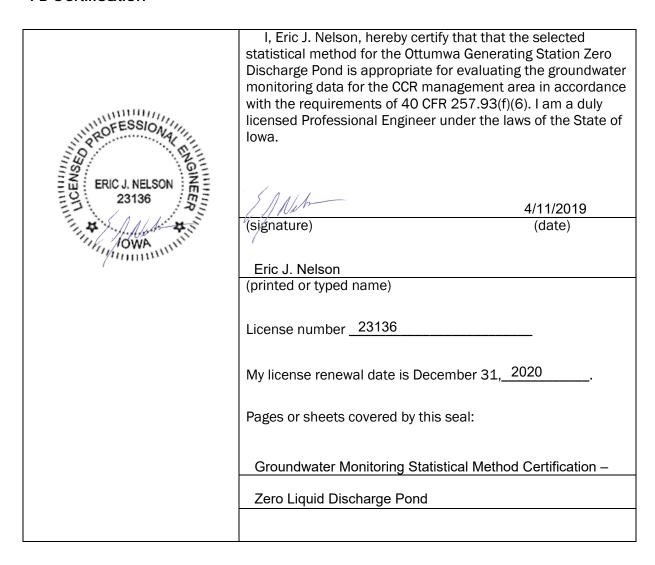
For the prediction interval evaluation, interwell or intrawell testing will be selected based on the considerations outlined in Chapter 6 of the Unified Guidance. Background data for each parameter will be analyzed to assess whether the data fit a normal distribution, or can be transformed to fit a normal distribution (e.g., lognormal). The calculation of the prediction limit(s) for each parameter



will be appropriate for the distribution (parametric, parametric with transformed data, or non-parametric).

Monitoring results from the compliance wells will be compared to the upper prediction limits to evaluate whether an SSI over background has occurred. Assessment monitoring results will also be compared to the site-specific groundwater protection standards developed in accordance with 40 CFR 257.95(h).

## PE Certification



Mr. Rob Saunders April 17, 2019 Page 3

Sincerely,

Eric J. Nelson, PE Senior Project Manager

SCS Engineers

Thomas J. Karwoski Senior Project Manager SCS Engineers

NDK/AJR/TK/SCC

cc: Matt Hanson, Ottumwa Generating Station Jeff Maxted, Alliant Energy

I:\25216072.00\Deliverables\ZDP Documentation\190417\_OGS\_ZLDP\_Stat\_Method\_Letter.docx