



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF Environmental Protection

Bob Martinez Center
2600 Blair Stone Road
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2400

Ron DeSantis
Governor

Jeanette Nuñez
Lt. Governor

Noah Valenstein
Secretary

October 20, 2020

Via Electronic Mail to Patrick Hicks at patrick.hicks@peroxychem.com

Mr. Patrick Hicks, PhD
PeroxyChem LLC
One Commerce Square
2005 Market Street
Suite 3200
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Re: **GeoForm ER**
The FDEP Innovative Technology Application Number: 1916

Dear Mr. Hicks:

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Division of Waste Management (Division) hereby accepts GeoForm ER for anaerobic bioremediation and abiotic degradation of suitable contaminants in groundwater and soil.

Enclosure 1 is a voucher for a confidential disclosure of the proprietary ingredients submitted by PeroxyChem. Enclosure 2 contains regulatory information. Enclosure 3 provides calculation of an Alternative Groundwater Cleanup Target Level (AGCTL) for un-ionized ammonia.

For vadose remediation such as soil blending, the underlying waters may be affected by the leaching GeoFormER formulation. This remediation approach is not subject to the regulatory requirements of Chapters 62-528 and 62-520, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.). Therefore, only a regulatory advisory for a Remedial Action Plan preparers and reviewers is included in Enclosure 2 for assistance with compliance with Chapters 62-780 and 62-777, F.A.C. For in situ groundwater remediation, via direct injection of GeoForm ER, there are underground injection control regulations that must be observed. Since injection-type, in situ aquifer remediation is likely to be the most common application of GeoFormER, the bulk of the regulatory requirements discussed herein will be directed to that topic.

While the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) does not provide endorsement of specific or brand name remediation products or processes, it does recognize the need to determine their acceptability from an environmental standpoint with respect to applicable rules and regulations, and the interests of public health safety. Vendors, upon receipt of an acceptance, must market their product or process on its merits regarding performance, cost, and safety in comparison to competing alternatives in the marketplace. This acceptance letter shall not be construed as either an approval of the product or a certification of its performance.

Additionally, Department acceptance of any product or process does not imply it has been deemed applicable for any particular cleanup situation, or that it is preferred over other treatment or cleanup techniques. A site-specific evaluation of applicability should be considered for any product or process, whether conventional or innovative, and adequate site-specific design details must be provided in a Remedial Action Plan.

It is not a requirement that a remediation product or process obtain an acceptance from the Department in order to be proposed for use in a site-specific Remedial Action Plan, but the plan must contain information to show that it meets all applicable and appropriate rules and regulations. For GeoFormTM ER, a copy of this acceptance letter containing regulatory compliance advice should be included in the appendix of each site-specific Remedial Action Plan that proposes its use.

The Department reserves the right to revoke its acceptance of a product or process if any component has been falsely represented.

If you have any questions, contact Elena Compton at (850) 245-8911, through Mail Station 4535 at the letterhead address, or by e-mail at Elena.Compton@FloridaDEP.gov.

Sincerely,



Elena Compton, M.S., P.E.
Professional Engineer III
DBSP, FDEP
850-245-8911

Enclosures: (1) Voucher; (2) Regulatory Information; (3) Alternative Groundwater Cleanup Target Level (AGCTL) for un-ionized ammonia



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October 15, 2020

Mr. Patrick Hicks, PhD
PeroxyChem LLC
One Commerce Square
2005 Market Street
Suite 3200
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Re: **Proprietary Ingredients: GeoForm ER**

Dear Mr. Hicks:

The Division of Waste Management hereby acknowledges the submittal of confidential disclosures, dated April 28, 2020 (received May 1, 2020) by PeroxyChem LLC. The disclosures provided the proprietary ingredients and their concentrations in GeoForm ER.

Without this voucher for the disclosures and the advice provided by the Division in Enclosure 2 based on its review of all the ingredients, users of GeoForm ER would not know how to comply with the requirements of Rule 62-520.310(8)(c), Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.) for a temporary Zone of Discharge.

For underground injection control purposes, aquifer remediation plans proposing the use of GeoForm ER must indicate the volume and complete chemical composition of the fluid to be injected. Since the identities of some ingredients are proprietary, it will suffice to indicate just specify the overall volume and concentration of GeoForm ER and then provide a footnote indicating that the confidential disclosure dated April 28, 2020, is already on file with the Division. Please direct questions regarding this voucher to Elena Compton at 850-245-8911.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Elena G. Compton".

Elena Compton, M.S., P.E.
Professional Engineer III
DBSP, FDEP

1. Groundwater cleanup standards: The onus shall be on users of GeoForm ER to ensure that all applicable groundwater standards will be met at the time of project completion for the contaminants of concern being remediated, and any by-products produced as a result of chemical or biochemical reactions induced or assisted by GeoForm ER listed in the subject letter. The following chapters of the Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.) are cited: Chapter 62-550, F.A.C., for primary and secondary water quality standards; Chapter 62-520, F.A.C., for groundwater classes, for groundwater permitting, and for monitoring requirements; Chapter 62-528, F.A.C., for underground injection control, particularly Part V, for Class V, Group 4 aquifer remediation projects; Chapters 62-780 F.A.C., for cleanup criteria, allowance of alternative cleanup target levels and conditional closure requirements; and Chapter 62-777, F.A.C., for cleanup target levels.
2. Injection well permit: Per Rule 62-528.630(2)(c), F.A.C., the issuance of an enforceable, site-specific Remedial Action Plan Approval Order by the Department for injection-type aquifer remediation constitutes the granting of a Class V injection well construction/clearance permit.
3. Underground Injection Control (UIC): Remedial Action Plans proposing injection-type aquifer remediation shall include the information required by Rules 62-528.630(2)(c)1 through 6, F.A.C., for the purposes of the UIC program. Reviewers of those plans, upon issuance of a Department-enforceable Remedial Action Plan Approval Order, must transmit this information to the UIC program in Tallahassee by submitting a completed copy of the "UIC Notification". The notification is in the form of a memorandum currently located on the Internet at https://floridadep.gov/sites/default/files/UIC-Notice-RemediationProducts-032411_PETROLEUM.pdf
4. General information about temporary Zones of Discharge (ZOD): For groundwater remediation, the composition of a fluid to be injected must meet the primary and secondary drinking water standards set forth in Chapter 62-550, F.A.C., and the minimum groundwater criteria of Chapter 62-520, F.A.C. [and Chapter 62-777], pursuant to UIC Rule 62-528.600(2)(d), F.A.C. Aquifer remediation products that do not meet these requirements must seek relief from water quality criteria by one of two mechanisms as follows. Permission for a temporary ZOD may be obtained via Rule 62-520.310(8)(c), F.A.C. If permission for a ZOD cannot be obtained by rule, then it will be necessary to seek a variance from Department rules in accordance with Section 120.542, Florida Statutes.

Rule 62-520.310(8)(c), F.A.C., allows for a temporary ZOD for closed-loop re-injection systems, for the prime constituents of the reagents used to remediate site contaminants, and for groundwater secondary standards. In order to obtain permission for a temporary ZOD by rule, a site-specific Remedial Action Plan must indicate: (a) the chemical ingredients of concern in the fluid to be injected that will be present in excess of groundwater standards; (b) the size of the ZOD that is needed; (c) the amount of time that the ZOD will be needed; and (d) a plan for monitoring the injected chemical ingredients of concern.

The size of the temporary ZOD will usually be the injection well radius of influence when the treatment system is a single injection point. For a multiple point system, the ZOD can usually be expressed and illustrated as the total area covered by all the injection points, located side-by-side with overlapping radii of influence.

5. Upon expiration of the time-period granted for the ZOD by way of Rule 62-520.310(8)(c), F.A.C., the concentrations of the above referenced analytes must meet their respective groundwater standards or their natural-occurring background values at the specific cleanup site, whichever is less stringent.

Conditional closure is also allowable provided the closure criteria of Rule 62-780.680, F.A.C., are met and there are no exceedances of a primary standard due to impurities in the product. Note that such conditional closure may require a modification of the size or duration of the ZOD. This modification must be approved in an enforceable order of the department, such as a conditional Site Rehabilitation Completion Order.

6. Site-specific Remedial Action Plans shall describe the volume and concentration of GeoForm ER that will be injected.
7. Specific ZOD information for GeoForm ER:
- a. The concentration of GeoForm ER in pre-injection fluids must not exceed 15% concentration.
 - b. For the ZOD parameters: arsenic, antimony, cadmium, cobalt, lead, nickel, manganese, thallium, fluoride, nitrate, nitrite, ammonia, sulfate, Total Recoverable Petroleum Hydrocarbons (TRPH), and Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) shall be monitored. Reviewers of Remedial Action Plans should check the box as shown below when filling out the UIC Notification memorandum:

“☐ ZOD permission by rule 62-520.310(8)(c), F.A.C., for reagent chemical species and/or parameter(s) in the fluid to be injected (or re-injected) that exceed secondary groundwater standards. ...”.
8. Required UIC ZOD compliance monitoring for GeoForm ER to comply with Rule 62-520.310(8)(c), F.A.C.: arsenic, antimony, cadmium, cobalt, lead, nickel, manganese, thallium, fluoride, nitrate, nitrite, ammonia, sulfate, TRPH, and TDS.
9. Quarterly monitoring should suffice in most cases. Upon expiration of the time period granted for the ZOD by way of Rule 62-520.310(8)(c), F.A.C., the concentrations of the above referenced analytes must meet their respective groundwater standards or their natural-occurring background values at the specific cleanup site, whichever is less stringent, or appropriate controls are put in place to allow conditional closure under rule 62-780.680, F.A.C.
- a. Arsenic, antimony, cadmium, lead, nickel, thallium, nitrite, and nitrate are primary drinking water contaminants with current standards as follows: arsenic = 10 ug/ L (microgram per liter), antimony = 6 ug/L, cadmium = 5 ug/L, lead = 15 ug/L, nickel = 100 ug/L, thallium = 2 ug/L, nitrite = 1,000 ug/L, and nitrate = 10,000 ug/L.
 - b. Cobalt and TRPH are “minimum criteria systemic toxicants” and have Groundwater Cleanup Target Levels (GCTL) of 140 ug/L and 5,000 ug/L, respectfully.
 - c. Iron, manganese, sulfate, and TDS are secondary drinking water pollutants with the following standards: iron = 300 ug/L, manganese = 50 ug/L, sulfate = 250,000 ug/L, and TDS = 500,000 ug/L.

- d. Fluoride has primary and secondary drinking water standards: 4,000 ug/L and 2,000 ug/L respectively.
 - d. Ammonia is currently identified in Chapter 62-777, F.A.C., as a “minimum criteria systemic toxicant” and it has a Groundwater Cleanup Target Level (GCTL) of 2,800 ug/L. However, the oral reference dose upon which this number is based has been withdrawn from the U.S. Environmental Agency’s (EPA) Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) database. Therefore, the FDEP has calculated an alternative groundwater cleanup target level in accordance with Chapter 62-780, F.A.C. This Alternative Groundwater Cleanup Target Level (AGCTL) calculation is attached as Enclosure 3. The Department recommends using the referenced AGCTL for ammonia.
10. Utilization of wells: If a remediation site has sufficient monitoring wells, then the Division of Waste Management has no objection to the use of some existing monitoring wells for the injection of GeoForm ER. However, no “designated” monitoring well, dedicated to the tracking of remediation progress (by sampling) shall be used to apply GeoForm ER. Nor shall wells used for the injection of GeoForm ER be used as dedicated wells for tracking remediation progress. This will avoid a premature conclusion that the site meets cleanup goals. By making sure that designated tracking wells are not used for treatment, there will be more assurance that the treatment process has permeated the entire site and that it did not remain localized to the area immediately surrounding each injection well.
11. Three categories of groundwater monitoring:
- a. Active remediation monitoring for a cleanup site’s contaminants of concern: During the period of active remediation, groundwater shall be monitored in accordance with the requirements of the approved RAP as set forth in Section 62-780.700, F.A.C.
 - b. Post Active Remediation Monitoring for a cleanup site’s contaminants of concern: At least one (1) year of quarterly post remediation groundwater monitoring for the contaminants of concern shall be conducted at a minimum of two (2) wells: one located in the area of highest contamination, the other at the downgradient edge of the contamination plume, pursuant to Section 62-780.750, F.A.C.
 - c. Monitoring of the UIC zone of discharge: When GeoForm ER is utilized, in order to comply with Rule 62-520.310(8)(c), F.A.C., the ZOD shall be monitored for arsenic, antimony, cadmium, cobalt, lead, nickel, manganese, thallium, fluoride, nitrate, nitrite, ammonia, sulfate, TRPHs, and TDS, as discussed in paragraph 7b above.
12. Injection operations:
- a. Avoidance of migration: For injection-type in-situ aquifer remediation projects, injection of GeoForm ER shall be performed in such a way and at such a rate and volume that no migration GeoForm ER, or the contaminants of concern in the aquifer, or surface water results, pursuant to Rule 62-528.630(3), F.A.C.

- b. Underground Injection Control operating permit: Although an operating permit is not required for aquifer remediation wells pursuant to Rule 62-528.640(1)(b) and (c), F.A.C., since no movement of the contamination plume is expected to accompany the treatment process, the Department requests that the information items listed in Rule 62-528.640(1)(b), F.A.C., be considered and included in Remedial Action Plan proposals as a matter of good and thorough design practice. Briefly summarized, they are quality of water in the aquifer, quality of the injected fluid, existing and potential uses of the affected aquifer, and well construction details.
- 13. Abandonment of wells: Upon issuance of a Site Rehabilitation Completion Order or a declaration of “No Further Action”, injection wells shall be abandoned pursuant to Rule 62-528.645, F.A.C. The Underground Injection Control Section of the Department shall be notified so that the injection wells can be removed from the inventory-tracking list.
- 14. Open-pit application: Open-pit application is not injection, and it is not necessary to notify the Underground Injection Control Section, but this should not be construed as carte blanche to introduce to the pit any substance at any concentration with no regard to potential toxicological effects. There is no objection to the introduction of GeoForm ER to an open excavation pit in which the groundwater has been exposed, as long as at least six (6) parts of water are available for each one (1) part of GeoForm ER, aiming not to exceed 15% of GeoForm ER concentration in the pit. The Division of Waste Management also recommends that the groundwater in the area of the pit be monitored for the same zone of discharge parameters that would have been monitored, had the application actually been an injection.
- 15. For soil blending in vadose zone: Prior to considering this technology, it is recommended to perform the following batch test: take one (1) part of GeoForm ER and mix it with six (6) parts of soils that are proposed to be blended with. Collect two samples of the mix and analyze them for arsenic, antimony, cadmium, cobalt, lead, nickel, manganese, and thallium, utilizing the Synthetic Precipitation Leaching Procedure (SPLP). If no primary drinking water standards exceedances are reported and technology is selected for site remediation, the Division of Waste Management recommends that the groundwater in the area of the blended soils to be monitored for the same zone of discharge parameters that would have been monitored, had the application actually been an injection.

Table 1 – AGCTLs in µg/L total ammonia based on a range of common temperature and pH values for Florida groundwater

pH	20°C	21°C	22°C	23°C	24°C	25°C	26°C	27°C	28°C	29°C	30°C
5.5	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000
5.6	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000
5.7	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000
5.8	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000	340,000
5.9	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000	330,000	310,000	290,000	270,000
6.0	360,000	360,000	360,000	350,000	330,000	300,000	280,000	260,000	250,000	230,000	210,000
6.1	350,000	320,000	300,000	280,000	260,000	240,000	230,000	210,000	200,000	180,000	170,000
6.2	270,000	260,000	240,000	220,000	210,000	190,000	180,000	170,000	160,000	150,000	130,000
6.3	220,000	200,000	190,000	180,000	160,000	150,000	140,000	130,000	120,000	120,000	110,000
6.4	170,000	160,000	150,000	140,000	130,000	120,000	110,000	110,000	98,000	92,000	86,000
6.5	140,000	130,000	120,000	110,000	100,000	96,000	90,000	84,000	78,000	73,000	68,000
6.6	110,000	100,000	95,000	88,000	82,000	77,000	71,000	67,000	62,000	58,000	54,000
6.7	87,000	81,000	75,000	70,000	65,000	61,000	57,000	53,000	49,000	46,000	43,000
6.8	69,000	64,000	60,000	56,000	52,000	48,000	45,000	42,000	39,000	37,000	34,000
6.9	55,000	51,000	48,000	44,000	41,000	38,000	36,000	33,000	31,000	29,000	27,000
7.0	44,000	41,000	38,000	35,000	33,000	31,000	28,000	27,000	25,000	23,000	22,000
7.1	35,000	32,000	30,000	28,000	26,000	24,000	23,000	21,000	20,000	18,000	17,000
7.2	28,000	26,000	24,000	22,000	21,000	19,000	18,000	17,000	16,000	15,000	14,000
7.3	22,000	20,000	19,000	18,000	17,000	15,000	14,000	13,000	13,000	12,000	11,000
7.4	18,000	16,000	15,000	14,000	13,000	12,000	11,000	11,000	10,000	9,300	8,700
7.5	14,000	13,000	12,000	11,000	10,000	9,800	9,200	8,500	8,000	7,500	7,000

Shaded values are based on the acute exposure AGCTL

AGCTLs were calculated using an f value rounded to 5 significant digits and an un-ionized ammonia concentration of 210 µg/L

AGCTLs were rounded to two significant figures