



North CCR Surface Impoundment 2022 Annual Inspection Report

Walter Scott, Jr. Energy Center



MidAmerican Energy Company
Walter Scott, Jr. Energy Center

Council Bluffs, Iowa
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MidAmerican Energy Company Walter Scott, Jr. Energy Center North CCR Surface Impoundment 2022 Annual Inspection Report

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MidAmerican Energy Company Walter Scott, Jr. Energy Center North CCR Surface Impoundment 2022 Annual Inspection Report

Professional Engineer Certification

"I hereby certify that the North CCR Surface Impoundment at the Walter Scott, Jr. Energy Center, owned and operated by the MidAmerican Energy Company, has been inspected and this report prepared in accordance with the Coal Combustion Residual Rule 40 CFR 257.83(b). I am a duly licensed Professional Engineer under the laws of the State of Iowa."

	<p>I hereby certify that these engineering documents were prepared by me or under my direct personal supervision and that I am a duly licensed Professional Engineer under the laws of the State of Iowa.</p>
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <p><i>Gregory M. Shafer</i></p> <p>Gregory M. Shafer Iowa License No. P26072 My license renewal date is December 31, 2023.</p> </div> <div> <p><i>1/7/2023</i></p> <p>Date</p> </div> </div> <p>Pages or sheets covered by this seal: All.</p>

1 Introduction

On April 17, 2015, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published the final rule for the regulation and management of coal combustion residuals (CCR) under Subtitle D of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act [RCRA, 42 United States Code (U.S.C.) §6901 et seq.]. The CCR Rule defines a set of requirements for the disposal and handling of CCR within CCR units (defined as either landfills or surface impoundments). MidAmerican Energy Company (MEC) is subject to the CCR Rule and therefore must have a qualified professional engineer conduct an annual inspection on all CCR surface impoundments in accordance with 40 CFR Section 257.83. HDR conducted the 2022 annual inspection of the Walter Scott, Jr. Energy Center (WSEC) North CCR Surface Impoundment (North Impoundment) on September 22, 2022, on behalf of MEC. This report contains the results and observations of the inspection.

1.1 Purpose

The CCR Rule requires inspections of CCR units and reports to be completed and filed on an annual basis. The completion date of the previous inspection report (i.e. date placed in the facility operating record) establishes the deadline to complete the subsequent inspection and report. The requirements of the annual inspection for CCR surface impoundments include:

- A review of available information regarding the status and condition of the CCR unit - §257.83 (b)(1)(i),
- A visual inspection of the CCR unit and appurtenant structures to identify signs of distress or malfunction - §257.83 (b)(1)(ii),
- A visual inspection of any hydraulic structures underlying the base or passing through the dike of the CCR unit for structural integrity and continued safe and reliable operation - §257.83 (b)(1)(iii),
- An inspection report that includes the following:
 - Changes in geometry since the last inspection - §257.83 (b)(2)(i),
 - Location and type of existing instrumentation and maximum recorded readings - §257.83 (b)(2)(ii),
 - Approximate minimum, maximum, and present depth and elevation of impounded water and CCR - §257.83 (b)(2)(iii),
 - Storage capacity of the impounding structure at time of inspection - §257.83 (b)(2)(iv),
 - Approximate volume of impounded water and CCR in unit at time of inspection - §257.83 (b)(2)(v),
 - Appearance of actual or potential structural weakness of the CCR unit - §257.83 (b)(2)(vi),
 - Any other changes which may have affected the stability or operation of the CCR unit since the last inspection - §257.83 (b)(2)(vii).

MEC, as owner and operator of the WSEC North CCR Surface Impoundment, must notify the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) Director within 30 days of placing the North CCR Surface Impoundment Annual Inspection Report in the operating record and date of posting to the CCR website (40 CFR §257.106(g)(5) and §257.107(g)(5)).

1.2 Background

The Walter Scott Jr. Energy Center is a coal-fired generating plant located within Council Bluffs, Iowa, along the east shore of the Missouri River. WSEC has an existing CCR landfill and two inactive CCR surface impoundments. This annual inspection report covers the North Impoundment.

The North Impoundment is located on the east side of the WSEC plant site, east of the coal pile and railroad tracks. It is east of Mosquito Creek, north of Pony Creek and west of Interstate 29, and encompasses approximately 156 acres. There is a storm water outfall to Pony Creek and a rail line within the North Impoundment is oriented north to south near the west side. The stormwater outfall is closed and no CCR contact water is discharged. A facility site map showing location of North Impoundment is included in Appendix A.

At the time of the inspection, construction activities related to the North and South CCR Surface Impoundment closure projects were underway. The projects include removal, consolidation, and grading the existing CCR and installation of a final cover system. Grading activities began in 2020 and are scheduled to be completed in 2023. The specifics of the project are described in the Closure Plan for the North & South CCR Surface Impoundments, Burns & McDonnell, Revision 1, 3/10/2020, and are published on the CCR website. A portion of the Closure Plan is quoted below and describes the closure, specifically from Section 2.2, Closure Method.

“The CCR will be removed in its entirety in the south and west 29 acres of the North Impoundment as well as the 7 acres west of the rail line that contains CCR. This material will be consolidated into the northeast 120 acres of the impoundment.

Additionally, the CCR in the northeast 120 acres will be removed from the groundwater table and relocated so that there will not be an intermittent, recurring, or sustained hydraulic connection between any portion of the base of the CCR unit and the uppermost aquifer due to normal fluctuations in groundwater elevations (including the seasonal high-water table). The CCR material will be consolidated and covered as described in Section 2.2.1.

The CCR material in the South Impoundment will be excavated and relocated to the North Impoundment, at which time the South Impoundment will be closed by removal of CCR in accordance with 40 CFR §257.102(c). CCR removal will be verified by visual methods and confirmed with topographical survey data in comparison with the Impoundment bottom design surfaces.”

At the time of this inspection, CCR excavation and relocation activities were ongoing within the North Impoundment. Capping with HDPE Geomembrane, drainage composite and soils were also occurring.

2 Review of Available Information

Section 257.83(b)(1)(i) of the CCR Rule requires that available information regarding the status and condition of the CCR surface impoundment, such as the previous weekly and annual inspections, are to be reviewed. Several documents pertaining to the operation and structural integrity of the North Impoundment were reviewed before, during and after the site inspection, including:

- Annual inspection report prepared by HDR dated January 7, 2022. MEC indicated that all items from the previous year inspection had been addressed.
- The North Impoundment weekly inspection records (per Section 257.83(a)) from September 29, 2021 through September 21, 2022.
- Closure Plan for the North & South CCR Surface Impoundments, Burns & McDonnell, Revision 1, 3/10/2020. CQA Documentation provided by HDR.
- Topographic survey provided by Burns & McDonnell.

Review of the above documents did not uncover any unresolved issues that indicated operational, safety or structural concerns of the North Impoundment.

3 Visual Site Inspection

Sections 257.83(b)(1)(ii) and (b)(1)(iii) of the CCR Rule requires a visual inspection of the CCR surface impoundment be performed. A site inspection of the North Impoundment was performed on September 22, 2022 by Greg Shafer, PE, of HDR Engineering, Inc. (HDR). Office reviews of available information were conducted by Greg Shafer.

The weather during the site visit was mostly clear and calm with temperatures ranging from 60 to 61 degrees Fahrenheit. The wind was calm with a light breeze out of the northeast shifting to the southeast at about 5 to 7 miles per hour (mph).

3.1 Extent of Inspection

The visual inspection involved walking the entire perimeter of the North Impoundment, along the upper closure project working area on the north side, and along the crest of the containment berms. The intent of the visual inspection is to identify signs of any distress or malfunction of the CCR surface impoundment and appurtenant structures and check the hydraulic structures for structural integrity and continued safe and reliable operation.

The field visit focused on the following:

- Perimeter embankments/berms condition (surface cracking, erosion, slides/sloughs, inadequate slope protection, poor vegetation, animal burrows, settlement, seepage).

- Interior berms condition.
- Storm water outfall structure condition.
- Perimeter drainage including channels and culverts.

As previously noted, the North Impoundment is an inactive CCR surface impoundment with CCR excavation, relocation and grading activities occurring.

3.2 Inspection Findings

Based on the observations made at the time of the visual inspection, the following are the findings of the North Impoundment inspection:

- Interior and exterior berms were stable, with well-maintained ground cover.
- Small animal burrows were not identified during this annual inspection. MEC routinely repairs burrows upon identification.
- Full vegetation was established throughout the containment berms.
- Some weed growth was noted at a few locations within the access roadways.
- The stormwater outfall structure was visually inspected for signs of distress or malfunction, and none were observed. As noted in Section 1.2, the outfall is closed, and no discharge occurs.

The North Impoundment appeared to be well maintained and in good working order. No significant deficiencies were observed during the inspection.

4 Changes in Geometry

Section 257.83(b)(2)(i) of the CCR Rule requires that any changes in geometry be noted since the previous annual inspection.

The current geometry of the North Impoundment is changed from the previous annual inspection. Excavation and grading activities are consistent with the Closure Plan described in the above Section 1.2.

5 Instrumentation

Section 257.83(b)(2)(ii) of the CCR Rule requires location and type of existing instrumentation and maximum recorded readings of each instrument since the previous annual inspection.

There is no instrumentation at the North Impoundment.

6 Approximate Depth - Impounded Water and CCR

Section 257.83(b)(2)(iii) requires the approximate minimum, maximum and present depth and elevation of the impounded water and CCR to be identified since the previous annual

inspection. Depth of CCR varies throughout the site during closure activities due to excavating and stockpiling. Depths range from approximately 10 to 60 feet.

All the surface water has been removed from the North Impoundment.

7 Storage Capacity

Section 257.83(b)(2)(iv) requires the storage capacity of the impounding structure at the time of inspection to be identified.

As was reported in the previous annual inspection report, there is no further storage available within the North Impoundment and it is undergoing closure activities.

8 Approximate Volume - Impounded Water and CCR

Section 257.83(b)(2)(v) requires the approximate volume of CCR and water in the North Impoundment to be estimated as part of the annual report.

There is no impounded water. The approximate volume of CCR in the North Impoundment has changed from the previous estimated volume of 2,422,300 cubic yards. The additional volume from the South Impoundment excavation activities associated with the closure was estimated to be 640,000 cubic yards. Therefore, the total approximate volume of CCR is 3,062,300 cubic yards. This is consistent with the Closure Plan.

9 Appearance of Structural Weakness

Section 257.83(b)(2)(vi) of the CCR Rule requires any appearances of actual or potential structural weakness or conditions that could disrupt or potentially disrupt operation and safety of the CCR surface impoundment and appurtenant structures be noted in the annual inspection report.

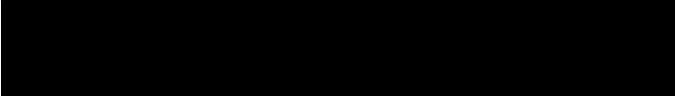
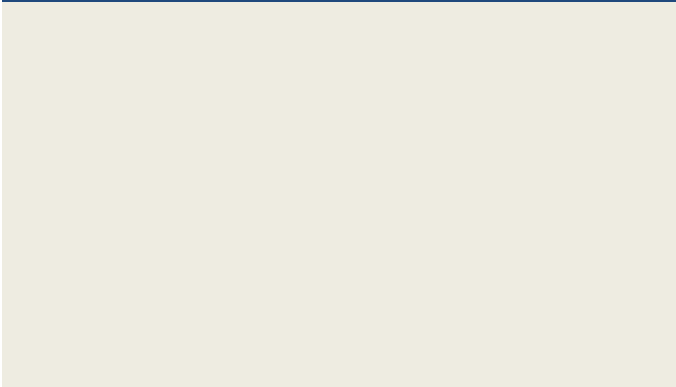
Based on the visual inspection findings reported above in Section 3 on the North Impoundment, no apparent or potential structural weaknesses were observed.

10 Changes Affecting Stability or Operation

Section 257.83(b)(2)(vii) of the CCR Rule requires that changes that affect stability or operation of the impounding structure be identified since the last annual inspection. Based on review of weekly inspections, there were no reported, observed, or suspected changes that have affected stability or negatively impacted the operation of the North Impoundment.



Appendix A
Facility Site Map





NOTE: AERIAL IMAGE PROVIDED BY GOOGLE EARTH.



2022 ANNUAL INSPECTION REPORT
WALTER SCOTT, JR. ENERGY CENTER - NORTH CCR IMPOUNDMENT
FACILITY SITE MAP

APPENDIX A

DATE
JANUARY 2023