UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

Center for Energy Regulation & Policy Analysis
School of Energy Resources

Wyoming's Class VI Regulations: Managing the Risk of CO_2 Storage

What the study was about

How the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (WDEQ) regulates Class VI of the Safe Drinking Water Act's (SDWA) Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program, including analysis of recent legislation addressing long-term stewardship of injected carbon dioxide (CO_2).

Why it was needed

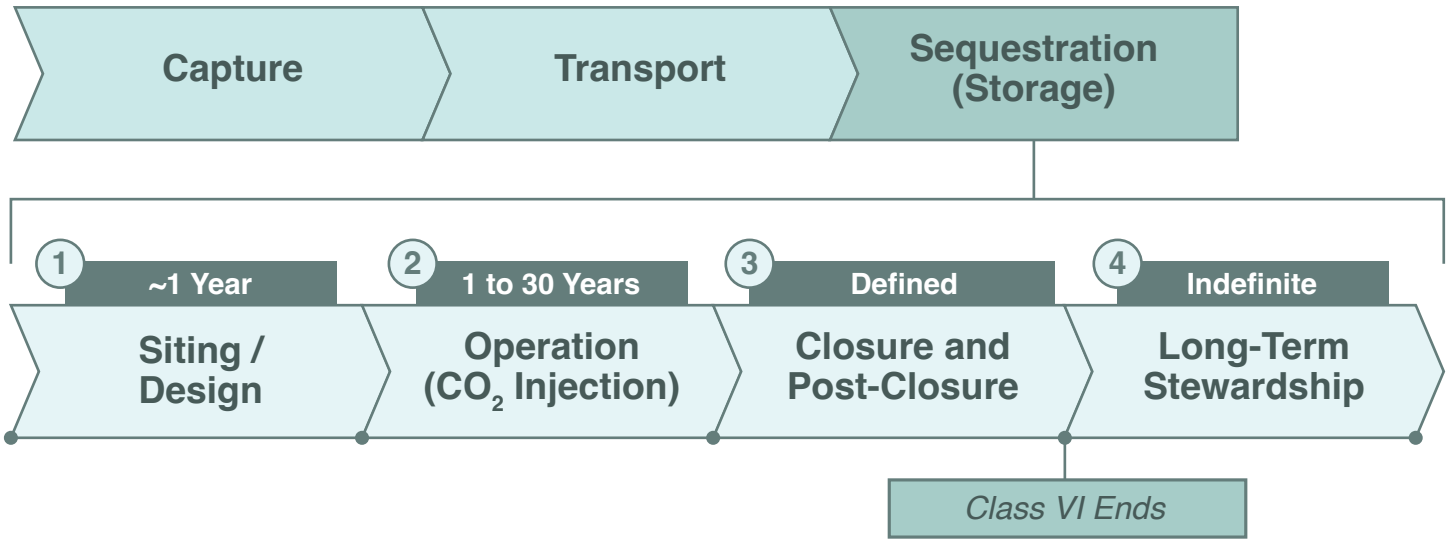
To serve as an educational resource for the general public regarding the safety of dedicated CO_2 storage, and provide guidance to those who may wish to learn more about Wyoming's robust statutory and regulatory framework supporting the CCS industry.

What the authors concluded

Considerable research efforts by the CCS industry, the national labs, and institutions like UW's School of Energy Resources have proven the expected long-term safety of permanent geologic CO_2 storage. WDEQ leads the nation in promulgating effective and efficient regulations to permit Class VI wells, as Wyoming is only the second state to receive this category of primacy from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

With the passage of Senate File 0047 (SF47) by the Wyoming Legislature addressing the long-term stewardship of CO_2 in geologic storage, Wyoming's leadership role has been solidified. Both the general public and CCS project developers can take comfort in Wyoming's robust requirements for emerging CCS projects.

Phases of a Geologic Storage Project

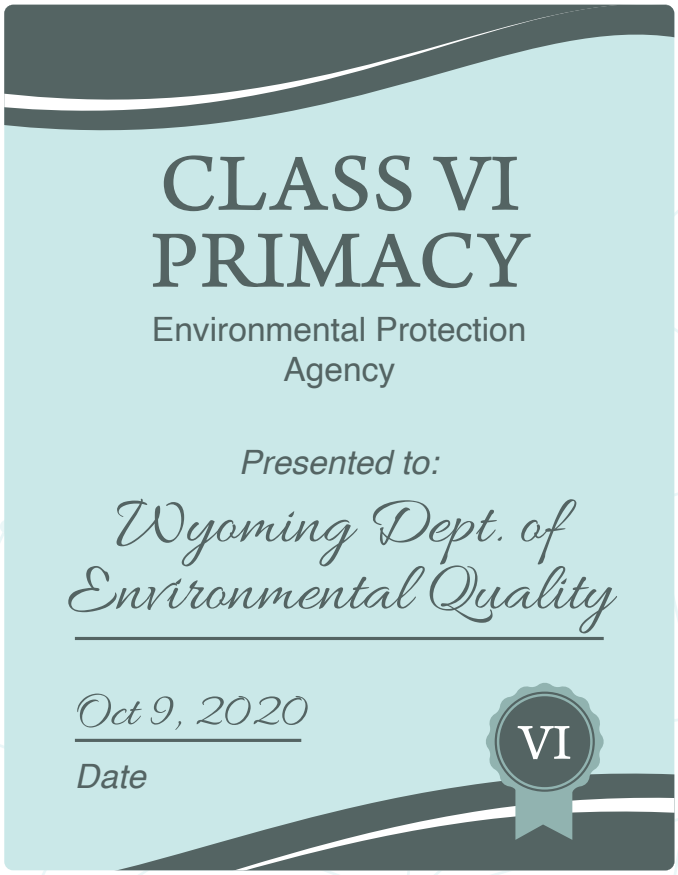


Authors

Madeleine J. Lewis
Associate Research Scientist
Jurisprudence of Underground Law and Energy Research Group
School of Energy Resources
University of Wyoming

Kara B. Fornstrom
Director of the Center for Energy Regulation and Policy Analysis
School of Energy Resources
University of Wyoming

EPA Primacy Approval



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