

Grainger Ash Pond 1 Applicability Report

§257.100(f)(1) Legacy CCR surface impoundment applicability report.

This Applicability Report for the former Grainger Generating Station's ("Grainger") Ash Pond 1 has been created in accordance with 40 C.F.R. §257.100(f)(1) of the EPA's Legacy CCR Surface Impoundment Rule.

(i) Except as provided in paragraph (f)(1)(iii) of this section, owners and operators of legacy CCR surface impoundments must prepare a report for each legacy CCR surface impoundment no later than Friday, November 8, 2024. The owner or operator has prepared the applicability report when the report has been placed in the facility's operating record as required by § 257.105(k)(1).

This Applicability Report was placed in Grainger's operating record on November 8, 2024.

(i) cont... At a minimum, the report for each legacy CCR surface impoundment must contain:

(A) The name and address of the person(s) owning and operating the legacy CCR surface impoundment with their business phone number and email address.

Santee Cooper (South Carolina Public Service Authority)
1 Riverwood Drive
Moncks Corner, SC 29461
Contact: Brian Holmes, Manager Waste Management, A203
1-843-761-8000 ext. 4975
brian.holmes@santeecooper.com

The property on which the legacy unit, Ash Pond 1, is located will be transferred to the City of Conway, South Carolina at a later date. The legacy unit will continue to be monitored by Santee Cooper in accordance with applicable CCR rules and regulations after the transfer.

(B) The name associated with the legacy CCR surface impoundment.

Grainger Ash Pond 1

(C) Information to identify the legacy CCR surface impoundment, including a figure of the facility and where the unit is located at the facility, facility address, and the latitude and longitude of the facility.

Figure 1 (attached) shows the former generating facility and identifies Ash Pond 1's location.

Grainger Generating Station
State Rd S-26-743
Conway, SC 29526

Longitude: 33.826538°
Latitude: -79.054259°

(D) The identification number of the legacy CCR surface impoundment if one has been assigned by the state.

The South Carolina Department of Environmental Services (SCDES), formally known as the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, has not pursued a state CCR permit program. Therefore, no state identification numbers associated with the CCR Rule have been assigned to any legacy impoundments including the Grainger Ash Pond 1. Prior to completion of closure by removal of Ash Pond 1 in 2019 under SCDES regulatory oversight, the facility National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit number was SC0001104.

(E) A description of the current site conditions, including the current use of the inactive facility.

Grainger, previously known as the Dolphus M. Grainger Generating Station, was formerly an electric generating facility owned and operated by Santee Cooper and is now a brownfield site with constructed wetlands. The 833-acre facility is located in Conway, South Carolina, along US Highway 501, which bisects the facility into western and eastern portions (See Figure 1). An approximately 300-acre industrial cooling pond was located to the west of US Highway 501 and two closed 85-megawatt subcritical coal-fired units and industrial wastewater treatment ponds (ash ponds) were located on the eastern side. The eastern portion of the facility is bordered to the east and south by the south-flowing Waccamaw River and to the northeast and north by the City of Conway. During operation of the two coal-fired units, wastewater containing fly ash and bottom ash was treated in two ash ponds that were part of Grainger's wastewater treatment system. Ash Pond 1, constructed in 1966, occupied approximately 41 acres and Ash Pond 2, constructed in 1977, occupied approximately 39 acres.

Grainger Unit 1 began operation in 1965 and Grainger Unit 2 began operation in 1966. Grainger Generating Station was a fossil fuel electric generating facility with two steam units which used coal as the primary fuel. While operating, ash resulting from coal combustion was sluiced to either Ash Pond 1 or Ash Pond 2 where settling and wastewater treatment occurred. Pursuant to its Industrial Wastewater permit at the time (SC0001104), treated wastewater effluent was discharged to the Waccamaw River.

Grainger Generating Station was retired in 2012 and decommissioning began in 2015 by removal of the power block, removal of all ancillary equipment, and the removal of the coal pile. The NPDES permitted industrial wastewater ponds were closed in accordance with the SCDES requirements.

Ash Pond 1 completed closure by removal in 2019 according to a State Closure Plan approved by SCDES. In July 2020, the site NPDES industrial permit was closed and a deed restriction was filed. Under the SCDES approved Closure Plan, all ponded CCR was removed from the Pond and either beneficially used or disposed of in one of Santee Cooper's permitted Class 3 CCR landfills. Additionally, throughout the footprint of the pond a minimum of one foot of subsurface soil was removed for decontamination purposes and either beneficially used or disposed of in a permitted landfill.

The remaining soil in the Pond was sampled and tested for total metals. Results were submitted to SCDES for approval. Once the residual soil met remediation standards, dikes were breached in select locations to allow natural flow of water and re-establishment of a wetland environment. To achieve this wetland environment, areas of varying topography were established within the footprint of the excavated ash pond to provide areas that would not be fully inundated with water. In 2019, native wetland grasses and tree seedlings were planted in areas on or around the remaining dikes and in areas not inundated with water. The grasses and tree seedlings are currently thriving and providing natural soil coverage and wildlife habitat for wetland species. In

accordance with the Post Closure Care Plan, inspections of the wetlands were conducted annually through 2023 for Ash Pond 1 and through 2024 for Ash Pond 2. The facility currently remains as a natural wetland environment, with opportunities for future economic development being explored.

Owner/Operator or Professional Engineer Applicability Report Certification

In accordance with *40 C.F.R. §257.100(f)(1)(ii)(A)*, I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this demonstration and all attached documents, and that based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the submitted information is true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment.

Signature:



Brian Holmes
Manager Waste Management



Santee Cooper
Grainger Generating Station
Conway, SC

Site Map

Figure 1

September 2024

0 0.125 0.25 0.5 Miles

Legend

- Groundwater Monitoring Wells
- ▭ Pond Boundary