

## **EPA to set regulations for CO2 sequestration**

Oct. 12 -- EPA officials will begin establishing regulations for injecting the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide into deep rock formations for long-term storage.

The agency expects to introduce the proposed new standards issued by summer 2008, said Environmental Protection Agency spokeswoman Enesta Jones.

Scientists, companies and the government are exploring the process known as geologic sequestration, which is touted as a way to help reduce the effects of climate change. The Department of Energy recently announced funding for three, large-scale exploratory sequestration projects.

Regulations are being developed to ensure a consistent and effective permit system under the Safe Drinking Water Act for commercial-scale injections. EPA specialists are collaborating with the Department of Energy to create the regulations and evaluate the potential impacts on health, safety and the environment.

The Safe Drinking Water Act established the Underground Injection Control program to allow fluids to be injected into the subsurface without endangering underground sources of drinking water.

Canada and the United States have enough storage capacity deep underground to bury greenhouse gas from power plants for 900 years, but expenses for doing so haven't yet been calculated, according to an Energy Department study.

The three Energy Department projects are estimated to cost \$318 million total. These partnership projects will conduct large-volume tests for the storage of 1 million or more tons of carbon dioxide in deep saline reservoirs. They will take place in the North Dakota area, in an area between Texas and Florida and in the Southwest.

\*\*\*\*\*

To have your own access to news stories like this one, go to <http://www.wastenews.com>.