

Huron-Manistee National Forests
Baldwin and White Cloud Ranger Districts
CSX Transportation Groundwater Monitoring Wells Permit Reissuance

The Huron-Manistee National Forests proposes to reissue an expiring permit to CSX Transportation for the continued use and maintenance of groundwater monitoring wells on the Baldwin and White Cloud Districts. In 1978 there was a CSX train derailment in section 10 of Merrill Township, Newaygo County. The derailment caused a release of liquid including I, I-dichloroethene. Active groundwater monitoring and remediation has been ongoing at the site for the last 30+ years. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) is requiring CSX to continue their monitoring. At the time of the spill the property was owned by the State of Michigan. In 1987 the Forest Service acquired the property. The current permit expires at the end of 2011; a new permit would be issued for a term of 20 years. Issuance of a new permit is an administrative action. There would be no new construction or disturbance permitted by this decision.

The groundwater monitoring wells currently under permit are located in sections 3 and 10 of Merrill Township (T15N, R13W) in Newaygo county.

When preparing the new permit any updates of well locations and descriptions would be made to correct discrepancies and to add new or amended conditions to the permit.

If you have any comments or would like additional information regarding this proposal please contact Diane Walker, at the Baldwin/White Cloud office, P.O. Box Drawer D, Baldwin, MI 49304; (231) 745-4631; TTY (231) 745-8297.