



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

JAN 15 2008

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

(R-19J)


The Honorable Jerry F. Costello
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Costello:

Thank you for your December 21, 2007, letter to Stephen L. Johnson, Administrator, U. S. Environmental Protection Agency. In your letter, you urge quick attention to the August 22, 2007, appeal of the ConocoPhillips Clean Air Act-Prevention of Significant Deterioration permit, a matter currently before EPA's Environmental Appeals Board (EAB). I have been asked to respond to your letter.

We appreciate your concerns and the importance of this project to your constituents. The EAB is an independent and impartial body that makes the final decision on administrative appeals under all major environmental statutes that EPA administers. Once the EAB makes its decision, it will be posted on its website (<http://www.epa.gov/eab/>). Again, thank you for your letter. If you have any further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Mary Canavan, the Region 5 Congressional Liaison, at 312-886-3000.

Sincerely,


for Mary A. Gade
Regional Administrator