

Public Notice
Proposed Issuance of a Prevention of Significant Deterioration Permit
to the Premcor Refining Group in Hartford

The Premcor Refining Group has applied for a permit from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) to construct a new wet gas scrubber to control the existing Fluid Catalytic Cracking Unit (FCCU) at the Premcor Hartford Refinery located at 201 East Hawthorn Avenue in Hartford. The company has applied for this permit to comply with a Consent Decree with the USEPA that addresses changes made to the FCCU without first obtaining a Prevention of Significant Deterioration permit. The changes made to the FCCU resulted in a significant increase in emissions from the FCCU Unit. This permit would allow the company to install a wet gas scrubber on the FCCU which would reduce emissions from the unit. The permit is issued subject to the federal Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) rules, 40 CFR 52.21, because the changes made to the FCCU prior to getting EPA approval resulted in a significant increase in emissions. The Illinois EPA is accepting comments prior to making a final decision on this project.

This application was submitted prior to Premcor Refining Group's announcement that it planned to close the refinery. Premcor has elected to continue to pursue this permit, as it could affect the ultimate disposition of the refinery. However, this action does not indicate a change in Premcor's current plans for the refinery.

The proposed project is subject to PSD review as a major modification for sulfur dioxide and particulate matter emissions. The company must demonstrate that the project will use Best Available Control Technology. The company has proposed the use of the wet gas scrubber to control emissions of SO₂ and PM₁₀.

The analysis of air quality impacts from this project is required by the PSD rules. The modeling indicates that there will not be a significant ambient air quality impact from the source.

Persons wanting more information may obtain copies of the draft permit, and project summary at www.epa.gov/region5/air/permits/ilonline.htm (please look under All Permit Records, PSD, New). These documents and the application can also be obtained from the Illinois EPA's offices at 2009 Mall Street in Collinsville, 618/346-5120 and 1340 North Ninth St., Springfield, 217/782-7027 (please call ahead to assure that someone will be available to assist you). Copies of the documents will be made available upon request.

The Illinois EPA is accepting comments prior to making a final decision on this project. Comments must be postmarked by midnight July 19, 2002. If sufficient interest is expressed in the permit, a hearing may be held. Requests for information, comments, and questions should be directed to Brad Frost, Division of Air Pollution Control, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, PO. Box 19506, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9506, phone 217/782-2113, TDD phone number 217/782-9143.

