

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

Notice of Comment Period and Public Hearing  
Concerning the Proposed Issuance of a Construction Permit/PSD  
Approval to  
A. Finkl & Sons in Chicago

A. Finkl & Sons has applied to the Illinois EPA for a Construction Permit for a specialty steel and forgings plant to be located at 1355 East 93rd Street in Chicago. The plant would include a melt shop with an electric arc furnace and ladle metallurgical station. Other downstream units would include a vacuum station for purifying molten steel, forging and reheat furnaces, heat treating furnaces, surface preparation operations, and other related operations.

The plant would be a major source under the federal rules for Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD), 40 CFR 52.21 for emissions of carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen oxide (NO<sub>x</sub>), sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) and particulate matter (PM). The plant would also be a major source for NO<sub>x</sub> emissions under state rules for Major Stationary Sources Construction and Modification (MSSCAM), 35 IAC Part 203, as NO<sub>x</sub> is a precursor to ozone.

Based on its review of the application, the Illinois EPA has made a preliminary determination that the plant is entitled to a construction permit. The Illinois EPA is holding a public comment period and a hearing to accept comments from the public on the proposed issuance of the construction permit for this plant, prior to making a final decision on the application.

**The Illinois EPA Bureau of Air will hold a public hearing on April 9, 2008 at 7:00 pm at Olive-Harvey College, 10001 S. Woodlawn Avenue in Chicago.** The hearing will be held to receive comments and answer questions from the public prior to making a final decision concerning the application. The hearing will be held under the Illinois EPA's "Procedures for Permit and Closure Plans," 35 IAC 166, Subpart A. Lengthy comments and questions should be submitted in writing. Requests for interpreters (including sign language) must be made by March 25, 2008. Any questions about hearing procedures or requests to address special needs should be made to the Illinois EPA, [Dana Vetterhoffer](#) - Hearing Officer, Re: A Finkl & Sons, 1021 N. Grand Ave. E., P.O. Box 19276, Springfield, IL 62794-9276, 217/782-5544.

Written comments must be sent to the Hearing Officer and be postmarked by midnight, May 9, 2008, unless otherwise specified by the Hearing Officer. Written comments need not be notarized.

Persons wanting more information may obtain copies of the draft permits, and project summary at [www.epa.gov/region5/air/permits/ilonline.htm](http://www.epa.gov/region5/air/permits/ilonline.htm) (please look under All Permit Records, Major NSR, New). These documents and the application can also be viewed at the Chicago Public Library – Avalon Branch, 8148 South Stony Island Avenue in

Chicago and the Illinois EPA's offices at 9511 West Harrison in Des Plaines, 847/294-4000 and 1340 N. Ninth St., Springfield, 217/782-7027 (for either Illinois EPA location please call ahead to assure that someone will be available to assist you).

For information or requests about the application or draft permit, please contact: Brad Frost, Community Relations, Illinois EPA, 1021 N. Grand Ave. E., P.O. Box 19506, Springfield, IL 62794-9506, 217/782-2113 or 217/782-9143 TDD.

As a proposed major source, the plant's CO, NO<sub>x</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub> and PM emissions are subject to Best Available Control Technology (BACT) and NO<sub>x</sub> is subject to Lowest Achievable Emission Rate (LAER), under PSD and MSSCAM, respectively. The Illinois EPA's initial review concludes that the proposed emission control measures will provide BACT and LAER. In particular, the electric arc furnace would be controlled by both direct evacuation and enclosure in a closed building with all emissions exhausted through a large baghouse. Emissions would also be minimized by design of the furnace and work practices.

Under MSSCAM, Finkl must obtain NO<sub>x</sub> emissions offsets in a ratio of 1.15 to 1 from existing sources in the Greater Chicago area. Finkl plan to obtain the needed 347 tons of NO<sub>x</sub> emission offsets from its existing plant in Chicago and from other plants, including Corn Products International in Bedford Park.

The air quality analysis submitted by Finkl shows that the proposed plant would not cause violations of the ambient air quality standards for CO, NO<sub>2</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub> or PM<sub>10</sub>. The analysis also shows that the PSD increments would not be exceeded. For PM<sub>10</sub>, the maximum predicted increment consumption, in micrograms per cubic meter, is 28.8 and 11.9, compared to the applicable PSD increments of 30 and 17, for a 24-hr and annual average, respectively. For SO<sub>2</sub>, the predicted increment consumption is 154, 39.8 and 1.12, compared to increments of 700, 91 and 20 for a 3-hr, 24-hr and annual average, respectively. The predicted increment consumption for NO<sub>2</sub> is 8.64 annual average, compared to the increment of 25.