

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

Notice of Comment Period and Public Hearing
Concerning the Proposed Issuance of a Construction Permit/PSD Approval
to City Water, Light and Power in Springfield

City Water, Light and Power (CWLP), 800 Monroe Street, Springfield, Illinois, has applied for an air pollution control construction permit, pursuant to 35 IAC Part 201, from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) Division of Air Pollution Control to construct a new coal fired boiler at its power plant located at 3100 Stevenson Drive in Springfield. The Illinois EPA has made a preliminary determination to issue a permit for the project and has prepared a draft permit for review. The Illinois EPA is holding a public comment period and a hearing to accept comments from the public on the proposed issuance of a permit for this project, prior to making a final decision on the application.

The Illinois EPA Bureau of Air will hold a public hearing on March 22, 2006 at 7:00 pm in the Southeast High School Auditorium, 2350 East Ash Street, Springfield.

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 7, 2006. Any questions about hearing procedures or requests to address special needs should be made to the Illinois EPA, Crystal Myers-Wilkins, Hearing Officer, 1021 N. Grand Ave. E., P.O. Box 19276, Springfield, IL 62794-9276, 217/782-5544.

Written comments must sent to the Hearing Officer and be postmarked by midnight, April 21, 2006, unless otherwise specified by the Hearing Officer. Written comments need not be notarized.

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 viewed at the Lincoln Library, Sangamon Valley Collection Room, 326 South 7th Street, Springfield or at the Illinois EPA's offices at 4500 S. Sixth Street Road, Springfield, 217/786-6329 and 1340 North 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.

The proposed new boiler would replace two existing coal fired boilers, Lakeside Units 7 and 8. The new boiler would serve a new steam turbine-generator with a nominal

capacity of 250 MW. Other new emission units would include: equipment for handling coal, limestone, ash and gypsum associated with the new boiler; a cooling tower; and other ancillary equipment and operations.

This project is considered a major project under the federal Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) rules, 40 CFR 52.21, for emissions of carbon monoxide (CO), particulate matter (PM) and sulfuric acid mist, with permitted annual emissions of 1282 tons, 401 tons and 53 tons, respectively. This project is not a major project for sulfur dioxide (SO₂) or nitrogen oxides (NO_x). This is due to the use of low- NO_x combustion technology and selective catalytic reduction on the new boiler for NO_x emissions and use of wet flue gas desulfurization or a “scrubber” for SO₂ emissions. As a result, the project will result in a net decrease in emissions of NO_x and SO₂, after the actual decrease in emissions from the shut down of the two Lakeside units.

Under the PSD rules, CWLP must use Best Available Control Technology (BACT) for emissions of CO, PM and sulfuric acid mist from the new boiler and other new and modified emission units associated with the boiler. The new boiler would use good combustion practices and be equipped with a fabric filter or “baghouse”, a scrubber, and a wet electrostatic precipitator. Other units would use appropriate work practices, control devices and equipment design for control of PM emissions. Illinois EPA’s initial review concludes that these proposed measures will provide BACT.

CWLP has submitted an air quality impact analysis for this project pursuant to the PSD rules showing that it will not cause a violation of the ambient air quality standards or applicable PSD increments. For CO, impacts were below significant impact levels set under the PSD rules. For PM, as PM₁₀, the maximum PSD increment consumption is 26.86 µg/m³ 24-hour average and 5.49 µg/m³ annual average, compared to the PSD increments of 30 µg/m³ 24-hour and 17 µg/m³ annual. For PM, as PM_{2.5}, the impacts of the new boiler were not significant, with the maximum daily impact predicted as 1.81 µg/m³ 24-hour average.

The draft permit also includes a case-by-case determination of Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT) for the new boiler, to address the possibility that USEPA’s decision to not regulate emissions of hazardous air pollutants (HAPs) from utility steam generating units under Section 112 of the Clean Air Act is overturned. This MACT determination would require very effective control of emissions of HAPs with “co-benefit” from control measures used for other pollutants or, in the case of mercury, effective use of a control system, such as activated carbon injection, specifically for control of mercury emissions.