

ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
BUREAU OF AIR, PERMIT SECTION
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PROJECT SUMMARY
FOR A CONSTRUCTION PERMIT APPLICATION FROM
Mid America Growers FOR A
Greenhouse IN
Granville, ILLINOIS

Site Identification No.: 155800AAE
Application No.: 09050001
Date Received: May 1, 2009

Schedule
Public Comment Period Begins: September 16, 2009
Public Comment Period Closes: October 16, 2009

Illinois EPA Contacts
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I. INTRODUCTION

Mid America Growers has submitted a construction permit application for one new wood-fired boiler for their greenhouse. The construction of these units requires a permit from the Illinois EPA because of their emissions.

The Illinois EPA has reviewed Mid America Growers application and made a preliminary determination that the application for the proposed project meets applicable requirements. Accordingly, the Illinois EPA has prepared a draft of the air pollution control construction permit that it would propose to issue for this project. The permit is intended to identify the additional control requirements that apply to the proposed project and to set necessary limitations on those emissions. However, before issuing this permit, the Illinois EPA is holding a public comment period to receive comments on the proposed issuance of this permit and the terms and conditions of the draft permit.

II. SOURCE DESCRIPTION

Mid America Growers is a greenhouse which utilizes boilers to supply heat to the plants during the winter months. Facility emission sources include one 29.5 mmBtu/hr wood-fired boiler controlled by a multi-clone and an electrostatic precipitator. This unit is a source of emissions because emissions generated from combustion are Nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and Particulate Matter of 10 microns (PM₁₀).

III. GENERAL DISCUSSION

The limitations established by the construction permit are federally enforceable, that is, the terms and conditions of the permits can be enforced by USEPA under federal law, as well as by Illinois government and the public under state law. These limitations on the operation of a source restrict the potential emissions of the source.

The source has actual emissions which are below the levels at which the plant would be considered a major source under Section 112(g) Clean Air Act. However, in the absence of federally enforceable limitations, the plant potential emissions would be such that the plant would be considered a major source. The permit acts to restrict the plant potential emissions so that it need not be considered a major source. As a result, the source does not need to undergo Section 112(g) review, as would otherwise be required.

The FESOP limits the operation and annual emissions of the plant to below the major-source-thresholds of 100 tons for NO_x, and 100 tons of PM₁₀.

IV. APPLICABLE EMISSION STANDARDS

All emission units in Illinois must comply with state emission standards adopted by the Illinois Pollution Control Board. These emission standards represent the basic

requirements for sources in Illinois. The board has standards for sources of Nitrogen Oxides (NO_x) and Particulate Matter of 10 microns (PM₁₀). The application shows that the plant is in compliance with applicable state (AND FEDERAL) emission standards.

The principal air contaminant of concern is Nitrogen Oxides (NO_x) and Particulate Matter of 10 microns (PM₁₀) which is created by the combustion in the boiler. The facility has limited their throughput that will keep the NO_x and PM₁₀ emissions below the major source threshold level of 100 tons per year for NO_x and PM₁₀.

V. CONTENTS OF THE PERMIT

The permit that the Illinois EPA is proposing to issue would continue to identify the specific emission standards that apply to the emission units at the plant.

The permit would also contain limitations and requirements to assure that this plant is operated as a non-major source. The permit would limit the operation and annual emissions of the plant to below the major-source-thresholds of 100 tons for NO_x and 100 tons for PM₁₀. (Annual emissions of other pollutants from the plant are well below the 100 ton major source threshold.)

This permit would establish limitations in pursuant to Title I of the CAA, specifically 40 CFR 52.21, Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD). The source has requested that the Illinois EPA establish emission limitations and other appropriate terms and conditions in this permit that limit the NO_x and PM₁₀ emissions from the source below the levels that would trigger the applicability of these rules.

The permit would also set limitations on requirements to assure that this facility will be operated as a non-major source. The permit sets limitations on the greenhouse's emissions. These limitations are consistent with the historical operation and capacity of the facility.

The permit conditions would also continue to require appropriate testing of the unit, compliance procedures, including inspection practices as well as recordkeeping and reporting requirements. The source must carry out these procedures on an on-going basis to demonstrate that the plant is being operated within the limitations set by the permit and the plant's emissions are being properly controlled.

VI. REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

It is the Illinois EPA's preliminary determination that the source has met the requirements for issuance of its permit. The Illinois EPA is therefore proposing to issue the permit.

Comments are requested on this proposed action by the Illinois EPA and the proposed conditions on the draft permit. If substantial public interest is shown in this matter, the Illinois EPA will consider holding a public hearing in accordance with 35 IAC Part 166.