

PROJECT SUMMARY

I. INTRODUCTION

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) is proposing to issue two revised lifetime general operating permits (G1400A and G1400B) for aggregate processing plants. The purpose of the general permits is to cover a large number of facilities which have similar operations. The two permits need to be revised to incorporate April 28, 2009 revisions to the New Source Performance Standards (NSPS), 40 CFR Part 60 Subpart 000, Standards of Performance for Nonmetallic Mineral Processing Plants. No other changes will be made to the existing two lifetime general operating permits for aggregate processing plants than to reflect changes made to the above referenced NSPS 40 CFR Part 60 Subpart 000.

The two general permits establish limits on small and large aggregate processing plant operations and emissions (G1400A and G1400B, respectively). These aggregate processing plants generally have emissions that are not at the levels at which they would be classified as major sources, so that an operating permit does not have to be obtained under the Clean Air Act Permit Program. The proposed limits would be accompanied by recordkeeping and reporting requirements to assure that each aggregate processing plant is operated in compliance with the emission standards established by both the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) as well as the Illinois Pollution Control Board.

Once the two revised general operating permits are issued, eligible sources will be able to request coverage by one of the two permits. The revised lifetime general operating permits eliminate the need for applying for construction permits and revised operating permits for specified equipment or operational changes, which may be currently required for some aggregate processing plants. A lifetime state operating permit has no expiration date and normally does not require public notice. The Illinois EPA will maintain a listing of sources that have received these general permits and the listing will be available upon request.

II. EMISSION UNITS AND OPERATIONAL LIMITATIONS

An aggregate processing plant operations include crushing, screening, storage and transfer of nonmetallic minerals, such as stone, sand and gravel, and recycled concrete and asphalt.

The aggregate processing plant operations must be within the following criteria and limitations in order to apply for the small lifetime general operating permit (G1400A):

1. This general permit is applicable to aggregate processing plants that meet all of the following criteria:
 - a. i. The sum of all materials processed by the aggregate processing plant does not exceed 418,390 tons per month and 4,183,900 tons per year.

ii. In lieu of natural moisture, water sprays are used on the emission units associated with the aggregate processing plant (crushers, conveyors and bins with associated transfer points, and stockpiles) to produce a moisture content of 1.5% by weight or higher in order to control particulate matter emissions, rather than by capture systems and collection devices.

iii. All normal traffic pattern access areas surrounding storage piles and all normal traffic pattern roads and parking facilities which are located on the property are paved or treated with water, oils or chemical dust suppressants. All paved areas are cleaned on a regular basis. All areas treated with water, oils or chemical dust suppressants have the treatment applied on a regular basis, or as needed basis.

b. i. The sum of all materials processed by the crushers associated with the aggregate processing plant does not exceed 690,344 tons per month and 6,903,435 tons per year.

ii. The sum of all materials processed by the screens associated with the aggregate processing plant does not exceed 1,267,722 tons per month and 12,677,217 tons per year.

iii. The sum of all materials transferred by the conveyors and transfer points associated with the aggregate processing plant does not exceed 9,865,636 tons per month and 98,656,362 tons per year.

c. The source constitutes an aggregate processing plant which includes facilities performing the following operations: crushing, screening, storage and transfer of nonmetallic minerals, such as stone, sand and gravel, recycled concrete and asphalt, etc.

d. Other company owned facilities, such as concrete batch or asphalt mix plants, or any other process units, are not operated at the aggregate processing plant unless such emission units are exempted from permitting requirements pursuant to 35 IAC 201.146.

2. For purposes of this permit, an affected aggregate processing plant includes all aggregate transfer, weigh-hopper loading, loading and transferring at the site and is one that does not exceed:

a. Ten (10) crushers;

b. Fifteen (15) screens; and

c. 120 conveyors and bins with associated transfer points.

The aggregate processing plant operations must be within the following criteria and limitations in order to apply for the large lifetime general operating permit (G1400B):

1. This general permit is applicable to aggregate processing plants that meet all of the following criteria:
 - a.
 - i. The sum of all materials processed by the aggregate processing plant does not exceed 952,000 tons per month and 9,520,000 tons per year.
 - ii. In lieu of natural moisture, water sprays are used on the emission units associated with the aggregate processing plant (crushers, conveyors and bins with associated transfer points, and stockpiles) to produce a moisture content of 1.5% by weight or higher in order to control particulate matter emissions, rather than by capture systems and collection devices.
 - iii. All normal traffic pattern access areas surrounding storage piles and all normal traffic pattern roads and parking facilities which are located on the property are paved or treated with water, oils or chemical dust suppressants. All paved areas are cleaned on a regular basis. All areas treated with water, oils or chemical dust suppressants have the treatment applied on a regular basis, or as needed basis.
 - b.
 - i. The sum of all materials processed by the crushers associated with the aggregate processing plant does not exceed 1,904,000 tons per month and 19,040,000 tons per year.
 - ii. The sum of all materials processed by the screens associated with the aggregate processing plant does not exceed 3,665,200 tons per month and 36,652,000 tons per year.
 - iii. The sum of all materials transferred by the conveyors and transfer points associated with the aggregate processing plant does not exceed 40,355,280 tons per month and 403,552,800 tons per year.
 - c. The source constitutes an aggregate processing plant which includes facilities performing the following operations: crushing, screening, storage and transfer of nonmetallic minerals, such as stone, sand and gravel, recycled concrete and asphalt, etc.
 - d. Other company owned facilities, such as concrete batch or asphalt mix plants, or any other process units, are not operated at the aggregate processing plant unless such emission units are exempted from permitting requirements pursuant to 35 IAC 201.146.
2. For purposes of this permit, an affected aggregate processing

plant includes all aggregate transfer, weigh-hopper loading, loading and transferring at the site and is one that does not exceed:

- a. Seventeen (17) crushers;
- b. Twenty-seven (27) screens; and
- c. 200 conveyors and bins with associated transfer points.

The revised general permits will allow the construction and operation of additional emission units at an existing aggregate processing plant such that the construction and/or operation of the additional units will not cause an exceedance of any of the criteria or limitations identified above.

III. EMISSIONS

The principal air contaminant emitted from an aggregate processing plant is particulate matter (PM), generated by the handling, storage and transfer of the aggregate material as well as that emitted from roads. Emissions from the aggregate handling, storage and transfer operations may be controlled by using enclosed equipment and structures and dust suppression using water sprays that will reduce emissions of particulate matter. Fugitive dust is also controlled by good housekeeping practices or by the application of water or chemical dust suppressants as required keeping emissions to a minimum.

The revised permits limit the annual emissions of particulate matter from a small aggregate processing plant to less than 25 tons per year and less than 80 tons per year for a large aggregate processing plant. These types of aggregate processing plants are not subject to the requirements to obtain an operating permit through the Illinois EPA's Clean Air Act Permit Program because the potential emissions are below major source thresholds.

IV. APPLICABLE EMISSION STANDARDS

All emission sources in Illinois must comply with the Illinois Pollution Control Board emission standards. The Illinois Pollution Control Board's emission standards represent the basic requirements for sources in Illinois. The Illinois Pollution Control Board has standards for sources of regulated pollutants for aggregate processing sources. An aggregate processing plant in compliance with the revised general operating permits would readily comply with all applicable Illinois Pollution Control Board standards.

The USEPA has also adopted standards for aggregate processing plants called the New Source Performance Standards (NSPS), 40 CFR Part 60 Subpart 000, Standards of Performance for Nonmetallic Mineral Processing Plants. The Illinois EPA is administering the NSPS in Illinois on behalf of the USEPA under a delegation agreement. An aggregate processing plant in compliance with the revised general operating permits would readily comply with all applicable NSPS 40 CFR Part 60 Subpart 000 standards.

V. PROPOSED PERMITS

The conditions of the two revised permits contain limitations and requirements to assure that an aggregate processing plant will be operated in compliance with the applicable state and federal pollution control requirements. The conditions include inspection practices, recordkeeping and reporting requirements that the Permittee must perform on an ongoing basis to demonstrate that the aggregate processing plant is operating within the limitations set by the permit and is properly controlling emissions. The permit also sets limitations on the type and amount of the material processed by such a facility.

VI. REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

It is the Illinois EPA's preliminary determination that the subject aggregate processing plants meet all applicable state and federal air pollution control requirements, subject to the conditions proposed in the two draft revised operating permits. The Illinois EPA is therefore proposing to issue these two revised lifetime general operating permits for these types of operations.

Comments are requested on the proposed conditions on these two draft permits. If substantial public interest is shown in this matter, the Illinois EPA will consider holding a public hearing in accordance with 35 Ill. Adm. Code Part 166.