

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

Notice of Comment Period and Public Hearing
Concerning the Proposed Issuance of Construction Permits/PSD Approvals
to United States Steel Corporation in Granite City and
Gateway Energy & Coke Company, LLC in Granite City

Gateway Energy & Coke Co., LLC, c/o SunCoke Co., Parkside Plaza, 11400 Parkside Dr., Knoxville, TN, 37934, has applied for a permit from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) to construct a heat recovery coke plant on Edwardsville Road in Granite City (Application No. 06070020). The proposed plant is designed to have 120 coke ovens in three batteries with the capability of producing up to 740,000 tons of coke per year. The coke would be used at the neighboring United States Steel (USS) Granite City Works in the production of iron or sold for use at other sources. The proposed plant would also generate steam, which would be sent to the Granite City Works, from the waste heat from the coke manufacturing process.

United States Steel (USS) Corp., 600 Grant St., Pittsburgh, PA, 15219, under a separate application (Application No. 06070088), has applied for a coke conveyance system. This system would transfer and handle coke from the Gateway plant to USS.

Gateway's proposed coke plant and USS's coke conveyance system are considered to be a single project for purposes of the federal rules for Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD), 40 CFR 52.21, and the state rules for Major Stationary Sources Construction and Modification (MSSCAM), 35 IAC Part 203. This project would be a major modification for emissions particulate matter (PM) under MSSCAM and PSD, as it would potentially be accompanied by significant increases in PM emissions.

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

The Illinois EPA Bureau of Air will hold a public hearing on November 8, 2007 at 7:00 pm at the Knight's of Columbus, 4225 Old Alton Road in Granite City. The hearing will be held to receive comments and answer questions from the public prior to making a final decision concerning the applications. 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 October 22, 2007. Any questions about hearing procedures or requests to address special needs should be made to the Illinois EPA, John Kim - Hearing Officer, Re: Gateway Energy, 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, December 8, 2007, 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 (please look under All Permit Records, Major NSR, New). These documents and the application can also be viewed at the Six Mile Regional Library District, 2001 Delmar Avenue in Granite City and the Illinois EPA's offices at 2009 Mall Street in Collinsville, 618/346-5120 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 major modification, the PM emissions from the new units that are part of the project are subject to Best Available Control Technology (BACT) and Lowest Achievable Emission Rate (LAER), under PSD and MSSCAM, respectively. Baghouses for the charging, coking, and crushing/screening operations, multicyclone for the pushing operations, baffles and cleaned water for the quenching operation, and paving/watering for roads and storage piles are proposed. The Illinois EPA's initial review concludes that these measures and other proposed control measures will provide BACT and LAER for the project.

Under MSSCAM, Gateway and USS must obtain emissions offsets from the existing sources in the St. Louis/Metro-East nonattainment area for the net increase in particulate matter emissions from the project.

The air quality analysis submitted by Gateway and reviewed by the Illinois EPA shows that the proposed project will not cause violations of the ambient air quality standards for PM₁₀ or applicable PSD increments. For PM, as PM₁₀, the maximum PSD increment consumption is 28.8 mg/m³ 24-hour average and 11.9 mg/m³ annual average, compared to the PSD increments of 30 mg/m³ 24-hour and 17 mg/m³ annual.