

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Bureau of Air, Permit Section
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Project Summary for an Application from
Midstate Core Company for Renewal of the
Federally Enforceable State Operating Permit (FESOP) for
225 North Hilton, Decatur, Macon County

Site Identification No.: 115015AKA
Application No.: 90050058

Schedule

Public Comment Period Begins: June 26, 2014
Public Comment Period Closes: July 26, 2014

Illinois EPA Contacts

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I. INTRODUCTION

Midstate Core Company currently operates under federally enforceable state operating permit (FESOP) which has expired. The company requested a renewal of their FESOP to continue to operate as non-major source for the purposes of the Clean Air Act Permit Program (CAAPP). This plant requires an air pollution control operating permit because it is a source of emissions. The Illinois EPA has prepared a draft of the renewed permit that it would propose to issue for the plant. However, before issuing the permit, the Illinois EPA is holding a public comment period to receive comments on this proposed action and the terms and conditions of the draft permit that it would propose to issue.

II. SOURCE DESCRIPTION

Midstate Core Company manufactures sand cores for metallurgical industry. The production process involves sand receiving, storage and mixing with liquid resin. The gaseous catalyst, triethylamine, is blown through the “raw” cores initiating chemical reaction causing resin solidifying. During this process part of the solvent evaporates to the atmosphere as a Volatile organic Material (VOM) which also contains Hazardous Air Pollutant (HAP).

III. GENERAL DISCUSSION

Federally Enforceable State Operating Permits (FESOPs) 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 permits can establish federally enforceable limitations on the operation and emissions of a source that restrict the potential emissions of the source.

The source has been operating this plant under a FESOP because the actual emissions of the plant are below the levels at which the plant would be considered a major source under Title V of the Clean Air Act and regulations promulgated thereunder. However, in the absence of federally enforceable limitations, the plant’s potential emissions would be such that the plant would be considered a major source for this program. 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 obtain a Clean Air Act Permit Program (CAAPP) permit for the plant, 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 VOM, 10 tons for an individual HAP and 25 tons for combined HAPs.

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 specific standards for units emitting particulate matter (PM), e.g., 35 IAC, Part 212, Subpart B: VISIBLE EMISSIONS, SUBPART K: FUGITIVE PARTICULATE MATTER and SUBPART L: PARTICULATE MATTER EMISSIONS FROM PROCESS EMISSION UNITS and for units emitting volatile organic material, e.g., 35 IAC, Part 215, Subpart G - Use of Organic Material.

The application shows that the plant is in compliance with applicable state and federal emission standards.

V. CONTENTS OF THE PERMIT

The renewed 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. As explained, the facility's operations are subject to 35 IAC Part 212, Subpart B and Subpart K which limit opacity and visible emissions of particulate matter and 35 IAC Part 212, Subpart L limits mass emission of particulate matter. 35 IAC Part 215, Subpart G limits total VOM emission to below 8 pounds per hour level.

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 10 tons for an individual HAP and 25 tons for combined HAPs.

The permit conditions would also continue to require appropriate 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 renewal of its permit. The Illinois EPA is therefore proposing to renew 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.