

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

Notice of Public Comment Period for the  
Proposed Issuance of a Construction Permit to  
Board of Trustees of Eastern Illinois University in Charleston

The Board of Trustees of Eastern Illinois University has applied for a permit from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) to construct two biomass gasifier-boiler systems at its facility located at 600 Lincoln Avenue in Charleston. The project would also include two natural gas/fuel oil fired backup boilers, biomass storage and handling systems and other ancillary equipment. The biomass boilers would use virgin wood chip biomass fuel and would also be capable of handling other biomass such as grasses, straw, corn stover, grain pellets and other agri-fuels. As part of the project the university will be shutting down two coal fired boilers and three backup natural gas fired boilers. The net change in emissions from the new project, including shutdown of existing boilers, will not be a major modification for criteria air pollutants as defined by the federal Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) rules, 40 CFR 52.2. Based on its review of the application, the Illinois EPA has made a preliminary determination that this project will comply with the applicable environmental regulations and has prepared a draft permit for public review.

The Illinois EPA is accepting comments prior to making a final decision on the application for this project. **Comments must be postmarked by midnight October 30, 2009.** If sufficient interest is expressed in this matter, a hearing may be held. Comments, questions and requests for information, should be directed to Brad Frost, Bureau of Air, Illinois EPA, P. O. Box 19506, Springfield, IL 62794-9506, phone 217/782-2113, TDD 217/782-9143.

Persons wanting more information may view the draft permit and project summary at [www.epa.gov/region5/air/permits/ilonline.html](http://www.epa.gov/region5/air/permits/ilonline.html) (please look under Construction Permit Records). These documents and the application may also be viewed at the Illinois EPA's offices at 2125 South First Avenue, Champaign, 217/278-5800 and 1340 N. Ninth St., Springfield, 217/782-7027 (please call ahead to assure that someone will be available to assist you). Copies of the documents will be made available upon request.