Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

Notice of Comment Period and Public Hearing Concerning the Proposed Issuance of a Construction Permit/PSD Approval to Mississippi Lime Company in Prairie du Rocher

Mississippi Lime Company, 16147 US Highway 61, Ste. Genevieve, Missouri, 63127, has applied to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) for a construction permit and Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) approval to construct a lime plant at 7849 Bluff Road in Prairie du Rocher. The plant will produce lime by "calcination" or high-temperature roasting of crushed limestone in rotary kilns. The proposed facility would have two lime kilns. The proposed lime plant is considered a major new source for emissions of sulfur dioxide (SO_2), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), carbon monoxide (CO) and particulate matter (PM, PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$) under the federal rules for Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD), 40 CFR 52.21.

Based on its review of the application, the Illinois EPA has made a preliminary determination that the application meets the standard for issuance and has prepared a draft permit for public review and comment. The Illinois EPA is holding a public comment period and a hearing to accept comments from the public on the proposed issuance of a permit for this project, prior to making a final decision on the application.

The Illinois EPA Bureau of Air will hold a public hearing on November 18, 2010 at 7:00 pm at the Prairie Du Rocher Elementary School, Gymnasium, 714 Middle Street in Prairie du Rocher. The hearing will be held to receive comments and answer questions from the public prior to making a final decision concerning the application. 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 November 3, 2010. Any questions about hearing procedures or requests to address special needs should be made to the Illinois EPA, Dean Studer, Hearing Officer, Re: Mississippi Lime, 1021 N. Grand Ave. E., P.O. Box 19276, Springfield, IL 62794-9276, 217/782-7027.

Written comments must be sent to the Hearing Officer and postmarked by midnight, December 18, 2010, unless otherwise specified by the Hearing Officer. Written comments need not be notarized.

Persons wanting more information may obtain copies of the draft permit and project summary at http://www.epa.gov/reg5oair/permits/ilonline.html. These documents and the application can also be viewed at 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., Box 19506, Springfield, IL 62794-9506, 217/782-2113 or 217/782-9143 TDD.

The Illinois EPA's initial review concludes that the emission control measures proposed by Mississippi Lime will provide Best Available Control Technology (BACT) for the lime plant. These measures include the use of preheaters or similar heat recovery devices for improved fuel efficiency, use of low excess air to minimize formation of NOx, good combustion practices to minimize formation of CO, the natural absorptive capacity of lime kiln dust for control of SO_2 and the use of fabric filters (baghouses) to control PM, PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$.

The air quality analyses submitted by Mississippi Lime and reviewed by the Illinois EPA shows that the plant, as proposed, will not cause violations of the ambient air quality standards for PM_{10}, $PM_{2.5}$, SO_2, NO_2, and CO. The air quality analysis also shows compliance with the allowable increments for PM_{10}, SO_2, and NO_2. For PM, as PM_{10}, the maximum increment consumption should be no more than 29 $\mu g/m^3$ 24-hour average, and 8 $\mu g/m^3$ annual average, compared to increments of 30 and 17 $\mu g/m^3$, respectively. For NO_2, the maximum increment consumption should be no more than 12 $\mu g/m^3$ annual, compared to the increment of 25 $\mu g/m^3$. For SO_2 the plant's air quality impacts will not be significant.

Mississippi Lime has also evaluated the impact of the proposed plant on the Class I Wilderness Areas at the Mingo Wildlife Refuge which is located approximately 120 kilometers south of the proposed plant. This analysis shows that the plant will not violate the Class I air quality increments applicable in these areas.