



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

JUL 17 2014

Mr. Richard Nelson, Field Supervisor
Rock Island Illinois Field Office
United States Fish and Wildlife Service
1511 47th Avenue
Moline, Illinois 61265

Dear Mr. Nelson:

Pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has reviewed the biological information and analysis related to a Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) permit for the proposed Cronus Chemicals, LLC fertilizer plant near Tuscola, Douglas County, Illinois, to determine what impact there may be to any threatened or endangered species in the area around the facility. Cronus Chemicals, LLC is proposing to construct a urea and ammonia manufacturing plant that includes reformer furnaces, flares, a natural gas-fired boiler and multiple ancillary operations. The facility is expected to operate on a seasonal basis, consistent with agricultural demand for ammonia. Conestoga-Rovers & Associates has prepared an analysis for the project on behalf of the facility, dated July 16, 2014 (See enclosure). EPA has reviewed the analysis provided by Conestoga-Rovers & Associates and has determined that the project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, any federally listed species. The purpose of this letter is to seek concurrence from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on our determination. If you have any questions with respect to this letter, please contact Rachel Rinehart, of my staff, at (312) 886-7017.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rachel Rinehart".

for Genevieve Damico
Chief
Air Permits Section

Enclosure

cc: Ray Pilapil, IEPA



**CONESTOGA-ROVERS
& ASSOCIATES**

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Springfield, Illinois 62711-8180
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July 16, 2014

Reference No. 084547

Ms. Rachel Rineheart
USEPA Region 5
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Mail Code: AR-18J
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3507

Dear Ms. Rineheart:

Re: Threatened and Endangered Species Review
Cronus Chemicals, LLC, Tuscola, Illinois

Attached to this transmittal is our analysis of the potential impact on threatened and endangered species from the construction of a fertilizer plant just west of Tuscola, Illinois. This analysis was completed in accordance with the "Recommended Scope of Analysis for Endangered Species Evaluation" (a.k.a. Roadmap) provided to us on April 17, 2014. This analysis demonstrates that the proposed fertilizer plant project will have "no adverse impact" on any threatened or endangered species.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 217-717-9004.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Wieneke'.

Mark Wieneke

MJW/sem/1
Encl.

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