

March 31, 2005

(AR-18J)

Ms. Joy Wiecks  
Fond du Lac Band  
1720 Big Lake Road  
Cloquet, MN 55720

Dear Ms. Wiecks:

This letter is in response to your inquiry regarding the time by which you must file a Petition to Object to permit #13700063-003 (USX Corporation - US Steel Group, Inc.) issued by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA).

As you are aware, pursuant to Section 505(b)(2) of the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. § 766(1)(d)(b)(2), and 40 C.F.R. § 70.8(d), "any person [provided other conditions are met] may petition the Administrator within 60 days after the expiration of the [United States Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA)] 45-day review period." Therefore, the time by which you must file any petition is based on the expiration of the USEPA's 45-day review period.

MPCA issued the "draft/proposed" for public comment pursuant to Minn. R. 7007.0950(Sub. 1)(B)(2) on December 11, 2004. The associated Technical Support Document provided: "EPA 45-day Review Period: December 11, 2004 - to be determined due to comments received." On January 7, 2005, Christine Berini, of the Fond du Lac Air Program provided comments on the "draft/proposed" permit. MPCA subsequently revised the "draft/proposed" permit which was sent to USEPA on February 8, 2005.

Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. 70.8(a) and (c), and §§ Minn. R. 7007.0950(Sub. 2)(B)(2), USEPA may object to the revised proposed permit within 45 days of the receipt of the revised proposed permit, and any necessary supporting information. Therefore, USEPA's 45-day review period began on February 8, 2005, and will end on March 25, 2005. You will then have 60 days (until May 24, 2005) to file a Petition to Object.

Please contact Kaushal Gupta of my staff at (312) 886-6803 if you have any questions regarding the above.

Sincerely,

/s/

Pamela Blakley, Chief  
Air Permits Section

cc: Caronlina Espejel-Schutt, Supervisor  
Air Quality Permits Section, Industrial Division  
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency