



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

SEP 23 2015

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

Mr. Ray Pilapil  
Permit Section Manager  
Bureau of Air  
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
1021 North Grand Avenue East  
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276

Dear Mr. Pilapil:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has the following comments on the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's (IEPA) draft of the Clean Air Act Permit Program (CAAPP) permit for the Midwest Generation, LLC, Waukegan Generating Station, located at 401 East Greenwood Ave, Waukegan, Lake County, Illinois (Permit No. 95090047). Our comments are as follows:

- 1. The draft CAAPP permit does not specify a minimum set of control measures to be applied to coal handling equipment, coal processing equipment, and fly ash equipment to assure continuous compliance with applicable opacity and PM limits.**

The draft CAAPP permit requires the Permittee to implement and maintain control measures to minimize visible emissions (VE) of particulate matter (PM) from coal handling, coal processing, and fly ash equipment and provide assurance of compliance with the applicable emission standards in conditions 7.2.4, and 7.3.4 and 7.4.4.<sup>1</sup> The draft permit states that the Permittee shall implement and maintain *the control measures* for the affected operations, which apply to coal handling, coal processing, and fly ash handling equipment. Condition 7.2.6(a)(i) (emphasis added). The draft permit further requires the Permittee to submit to IEPA a record of the established control measures for each of the affected operations within 60 days of permit issuance.<sup>2</sup>

As written, the draft CAAPP permit does not require the Permittee to implement any specific control measures for coal handling, processing, and fly ash equipment. The draft permit allows the Permittee to select any type of control measure(s), and provides the Permittee discretion to change those control measures. Because it does not require implementation of specific operational requirements sufficient to assure compliance with the applicable opacity and PM limits for coal handling, coal processing, and fly ash equipment,<sup>3</sup> the draft CAAPP permit does

<sup>1</sup> See Conditions 7.2.6, 7.3.6, and 7.3.6.

<sup>2</sup> See, e.g., Condition 7.2.9(b)(ii).

<sup>3</sup> See, generally, Conditions 7.2.8, 7.3.8, and 7.4.8.

not comply with 40 C.F.R. § 70.6(a). In addition, the draft permit does not provide the public with the opportunity to meaningfully comment on the selected control measures.

To address these concerns, we request that IEPA:

- a. Revise conditions 7.2.6(a)(i), 7.3.6(a)(i) and 7.4.6(a)(i) to specify the minimum set of control measures for the coal handling, processing, and fly ash handling equipment;
- b. Revise conditions 7.2.9(b)(i) and (ii), 7.3.9(b)(i) and (ii), and 7.4.9(b)(i) and (ii) to require review and approval by IEPA of the control measures selected by the Permittee; and
- c. Incorporate the specific control measures, including the pertinent information on the control measures (description, frequency, and other information necessary to demonstrate compliance with applicable limitations), corresponding to each emission point into the permit during the planned reopening for cause process.<sup>4</sup>

**2. The frequency of the required VE observations from coal handling equipment, coal processing equipment, and fly ash equipment is inadequate to assure continuous compliance with applicable opacity and PM limits.**

The draft CAAPP permit contains inspection requirements for the coal handling, coal processing and fly ash equipment.<sup>3</sup> These include monthly inspections of the coal handling and coal processing equipment, and weekly (and monthly) inspections of the fly ash equipment. In addition, the draft permit requires that the Permittee perform VE observations using EPA Reference Method 22 once per calendar year.

Given that the majority of the affected equipment operates regularly throughout the year, it is not clear how the draft CAAPP permit inspection requirements and frequency of the required VE observations are adequate to yield reliable and accurate emissions data, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 70.6(a)(3)(i)(B), with respect to the applicable opacity and process weight rate PM limits. During the planned reopening process, once IEPA has the information regarding the control measures discussed in Comment 1, Conditions 7.2.8(b), 7.3.8(b) and 7.4.8(b) should include additional monitoring and/or testing to yield the reliable data that assures compliance on a continuous basis. Finally, IEPA should provide in the Statement of Basis for this permitting action an explanation of how the control measures and monitoring requirements for each transfer point, coal pile, conveyor belt, and other points of fugitive emissions will assure compliance with all applicable opacity and PM limits. This should include a discussion of the relationship between monitoring frequency and applicable emission limits.

We provide these comments to ensure that the permit contains adequate control and monitoring requirements for the coal handling, coal processing and fly ash equipment, and that the permitting record provides necessary information to the public and contains adequate support for the permitting decisions.

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<sup>4</sup> This is appropriate since the current permit will require the submittal of full documentation to support the selected control measures.

We look forward to working with you to address these comments. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact Danny Marcus, of my staff, at (312) 353-8781.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Genevieve Damico". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Genevieve Damico  
Chief  
Air Permits Section