



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

MAY 07 2012

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

Jessie Rossman  
Natural Resources Defense Council  
2 North Riverside Plaza, Suite 2250  
Chicago, Illinois 60606

Dear Ms. Rossman:

Thank you for your letter, dated April 12, 2012, expressing concerns with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality's Renewable Operating Permit Program, which is required by Title V of the Clean Air Act. Specifically, you urge the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to object to the Title V Renewable Operating Permits Michigan issued to the B.C. Cobb, Belle River/St. Clair, and River Rouge power plants. In addition, you raise three issues pertaining to the B.C. Cobb permit, and urge EPA to object to this permit on these bases as well.

The issues in your April 12, 2012 letter are included in the Natural Resources Defense Council's (NRDC's) and Sierra Club's May 9, 2011 petition requesting that EPA object to Michigan's Belle River/St. Clair Title V permit, as well as NRDC's and Sierra Club's October 4, 2011 petition requesting that EPA object to Michigan's B.C. Cobb Title V permit. The EPA is thoroughly considering these petition issues. However, please be aware that we cannot directly respond to your concerns in this letter, because Section 505(b)(2) of the Clean Air Act provides that only the Administrator of EPA can respond to Title V permit petitions.

I appreciated meeting with you, Thomas Cmar, and Shannon Fisk on February 23, 2012, to discuss NRDC's and Sierra Club's petitions regarding B.C. Cobb and Belle River/St. Clair, as well as your concerns regarding Michigan's Title V Renewable Operating Permit Program. Thank you for your continued interest in these issues. If you have any further questions, please contact me or Beth Valenziano, of my staff, at (312) 886-2703.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Mooney".

John Mooney  
Chief  
Air Programs Branch  
Air and Radiation Division