

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

Notice of Public Comment Period and Hearing Concerning the
Proposed Issuance of New and Revised Air Pollution Control Permits Related to the
Basic Oxygen Process Furnaces at
United States Steel's Granite City Works

United States Steel Corporation (US Steel), 1951 State St., Granite City, has applied to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) for new and revised air pollution control permits to address an emission reduction project planned for the two basic oxygen process (BOP) furnaces at its steel mill. The BOP furnaces make steel from iron produced at the mill. This project involves construction of a new control system with a filter or "baghouse" for particulate emissions from the charging and tapping of the BOP furnaces. The existing electrostatic precipitator (ESP) will continue to control the particulate emissions of the furnaces from the refining operation. The new system will improve overall control of the particulate emissions of these furnaces. The project will not constitute a modification under the federal rules for Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD), 40 CFR 52.21, or Illinois' rules for Major Stationary Sources Construction and Modification, 35 IAC Part 203. The Illinois EPA has made a preliminary determination that the requested permits should be issued and has prepared draft permits for public review.

The new permit that would be issued for this project would be the construction permit authorizing construction of the baghouse control system.

The first revised permit planned for this project would be a revised operating permit for the mill to address future operation of the BOP furnaces with the new control system. In particular, various changes to operational requirements and other requirements for these furnaces in the current operating permit are needed or appropriate to address future operation with both the new baghouse system for charging and tapping and the existing ESP system for refining. The revision of the operating permit for the mill, Clean Air Act Permit Program (CAAPP) permit 96030056, would be authorized by the new construction permit, with the revision actually being made later by administrative amendment of the CAAPP permit. This is because the new construction permit would be processed in accordance with Section 39.5(13)(c)(v) of the Environmental Protection Act using "integrated processing," i.e., it would be subject to procedural and compliance requirements substantially equivalent to those for a modification of a CAAPP permit.

The second revised permit that would be issued to address this project would be a revision of a previously issued Construction Permit/PSD Approval (Permit 95010001) for an earlier project at the mill, with changes to accommodate this planned project. In particular, the revised permit would not include operational and other requirements for the BOP furnaces and the existing ESP control system that would be inconsistent with future operation of the furnaces with both the baghouse and ESP control systems.

The Illinois EPA Bureau of Air will hold a public hearing on July 18, 2012 at 7:00 pm at the Granite City Township Hall, 2060a Delmar Avenue in Granite City. The hearing will be held to receive comments and answer questions from the public prior to making final decisions concerning the applications. The hearing will be held under the Illinois EPA's "Procedures for Permit and Closure Plans," 35 IAC 166, Subpart A. The Illinois EPA will also be accepting written comments during the comment period. Lengthy comments and questions should be submitted in writing. Requests for interpreters (including sign language) must be made by June 26, 2012. Any questions about hearing procedures or requests to address special needs should be made to the Illinois EPA, Dean Studer, Hearing Officer, Re: US Steel – Baghouse Project, 1021 N. Grand Ave. E., P.O. Box 19276, Springfield, IL 62794-9276 (phone 217/558-8280).

Written comments must be sent to the Hearing Officer and postmarked by midnight, August 17, 2012, unless otherwise specified by the Hearing Officer. Written comments need not be notarized.

Persons wanting more information may obtain copies of the draft permits and project summaries at <http://www.epa.gov/reg5oair/permits/ilonline.html>. These documents and the applications can also be viewed at the Six Mile Regional Library District, 2001 Delmar Avenue in Granite City and the Illinois EPA's offices at 1021 N. Grand Ave. E., Springfield, 217/782-7027 and 2009 Mall Street in Collinsville, 618/346-5120 (for either Illinois EPA location please call ahead to assure that someone will be available to assist you).

For information or requests about the applications or draft permits, 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.