

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

Notice of Public Meeting Proposed Revision of a Construction Permit Metropolitan Biosolids Management in Cicero

The Illinois EPA will be holding an informational public meeting to answer questions about a proposed revision to the construction permit for Metropolitan Biosolids Management. **The public meeting will be on October 6, 2015 at 7 pm at the Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 1937 S. 50th Avenue in Cicero.**

Metropolitan Biosolids Management (MBM) has applied to the Illinois EPA Bureau of Air for a revision to the construction permit for its facility located at 6001 W. Pershing Road in Cicero. This facility dries sludge from the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago's Stickney Water Reclamation Plant (Stickney Works). The requested revision to the permit involves the fuel-fired heaters at the facility. These heaters, which are separate units from the sludge dryers, supply the heat for the drying process by heating the thermal oil that is circulated through the dryers. Natural gas is currently burned in the three heaters and the scrubber system installed on the heaters is not used. The construction permit for the facility also allows for digester gas generated by the Stickney Works and oil to be burned in the heaters.

MBM is requesting a revision to the permit to address use of digester gas in a single heater while natural gas is still used in the other two heaters. This reflects the amount of digester gas that would now be available from the Stickney Works for use at the MBM facility. For this scenario, MBM is requesting that use of the scrubber system for the heaters also not be required. This is because the scrubber system for the heaters was designed for control of all three heaters when burning oil. It would not be practical to use it for only a single heater burning digester gas. This revision to the permit would involve an increase in the SO₂ emissions of the heater that would use digester gas but not an increase in the overall permitted SO₂ emissions of the three heaters. The requested revision to the permit would not affect the requirements for the sludge drying process. In particular, the sludge drying process would continue to be required to be controlled by its multi-stage emission and odor control system.

The Illinois EPA will accept written public comments on the revised draft permit. **Written comments must be received no later than midnight October 16, 2015.** Comments, questions and requests for information should be directed to Jillian Hawkins, Office of Community Relations, Illinois EPA 1021 N. Grand Ave. East, PO Box 19506, Springfield, IL 62794-9506, phone 217/524-0922, TDD 217/782-9143, jillian.hawkins@illinois.gov.

Copies of the draft permit and other documents, may be obtained from the contact listed above or online at <http://www.epa.gov/reg5oair/permits/ilonline.html>.

The facility is located in a potential Environmental Justice area. More information concerning Environmental Justice may be found at <http://www.epa.illinois.gov/topics/environmental-justice/>