Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

Notice of Public Comment Period and Hearing
Draft Clean Air Act Permit Program Permit
Midwest Generation, LLC - Powerton Station

The Illinois EPA is planning to issue revisions to the Clean Air Act Permit Program (CAAPP) permit for the Powerton Station, located at 13082 E. Manito Road, in Pekin. The facility is a coal-fired power plant owned by Midwest Generation, LLC. Revisions to the permit are planned under procedures for a reopening proceeding specified at Section 39.5(15)(c) of the Environmental Protection Act. These revisions, if issued as planned, would address additional air pollution control requirements that are applicable to the facility to bring the permit up-to-date. In addition, other revisions to the permit are planned that would qualify as significant modifications to the permit. For instance, the permit would be revised to fully approve the Compliance Assurance Monitoring Plan for the emissions of particulate matter from the four coal-fired boilers (two on Unit 5 and two on Unit 6 vented through a common stack). In this regard, the emissions testing that was required by the conditional approval of this plan has been completed. Other revisions would also be made to certain provisions of the permit to reflect refinements made in the CAAPP permits for other coal-fired power plants in Illinois and other refinements now being requested by the source.

Based on its review, the Illinois EPA has made a preliminary determination that these revisions would meet the applicable standards for issuance. A comprehensive draft CAAPP permit has been prepared for public review, consistent with the CAAPP’s procedures for permit reopening and significant modification.

The Illinois EPA will hold a public hearing on November 15, 2016 at 7:00 pm at the Miller Senior Center, 551 S. 14th Street in Pekin. The hearing will be held by the Illinois EPA to receive comments and answer questions from the public prior to making a final decision concerning the draft CAAPP permit. The hearing will be held under the Illinois EPA’s “Procedures for Permit and Closure Plans,” 35 IAC 166, Subpart A. Requests for interpreters (including sign language) must be made by November 1, 2016. Lengthy comments and questions should be submitted in writing. Email comments originating on third party systems or servers intended for submittal of multiple emails of the same or nearly the same content will not be accepted without prior approval from the hearing officer. Any questions about hearing procedures or requests to address special needs should be made to the Illinois EPA, Dean Studer – Hearing Officer, Re: Powerton Station, 1021 N. Grand Avenue East, PO Box 19276, Springfield, IL 62794-9276, 217/558-8280, epa.publichearingcom@illinois.gov.

The Illinois EPA will accept written public comments on the draft permit during the comment period. Written comments must be received no later than midnight December 15, 2016 unless otherwise specified by the Hearing Officer.
A repository of documents for these permitting actions is available at the Pekin Public Library, 301 S. Fourth Street in Pekin, and at the Illinois EPA’s office, 1021 N. Grand Avenue East in Springfield, 217/782-7027 (please call ahead to assure that someone will be available to assist you). Copies of the draft CAAPP permit and its statement of basis may also be available on the Illinois EPA website at http://www.epa.illinois.gov/public-notices/general-notices/index and upon request.

The CAAPP is Illinois’ operating permit program for major sources of emissions, as required by Title V of the Clean Air Act (CAA). In addition to addressing the requirements of Title V, CAAPP permits may also contain conditions derived from Title I of the CAA, which are incorporated from the pre-construction permit programs for new and modified emission units. Such Title I conditions can be supplemented or revised through the use of CAAPP’s procedures and are denoted in a CAAPP permit as T1N and T1R respectively. The draft CAAPP permit would not contain any T1N or T1R conditions.