How to Obtain a State Air Permit for Petroleum Dry Cleaning

Do I need an air pollution control permit for my dry cleaning operation?

All petroleum solvent dry cleaners require an air pollution control permit. Only coin operated dry cleaners are exempted from air pollution control permit requirements.

What are the general requirements for petroleum dry cleaners?

The following are general requirements:

- State construction/operating permit from the Bureau of Air at the Illinois EPA.
- Limitations may be imposed on usage of petroleum product.
- Requirements for recordkeeping and reporting (e.g., petroleum usage, leak repair, etc.) should be kept on site for the most recent three years.
- An Annual Emission Report is required to be filed by May 1 of each year.
- An Annual Site Fee (typically $100) must be paid to the Illinois EPA based on the total amount of emissions at the site.
- The following are general requirements for cleaners that use over 25 tons/yr (7776 gal/yr) of petroleum solvent in the Chicago non-attainment area or over 100 tons/yr (31,104 gal/yr) of petroleum solvent for the rest of the state.
  - Title V permit
  - Emission limits
  - Requirements for leak inspections
  - Good housekeeping requirements (e.g., keep washer and dryer door closed, keep lids closed on solvent containers, etc.)

Note: Petroleum dry cleaners whose total manufacturer rated dryer capacity is equal to or greater than 84 lbs and were installed after December 14, 1982 have even stricter federal requirements. (This is the total of all dryers at the plant. Dryers installed between December 14, 1982 and September 21, 1984 with a plant consumption of less then 4700 gallons are exempt from the federal requirements.)

If subject to the federal rules:

- Any new dryer installed after December 14, 1982 must be a solvent recovery dryer and use cartridge filters.
- Additional requirements include testing, more recordkeeping, leak detection and repair.

If you fall within this range, then it is recommended that you contact the Illinois EPA Permit Section for assistance.
How do I obtain an air permit?

The following forms are needed to apply for a state construction and/or operating permit for a petroleum dry cleaner.

- APC-200 Application for a Permit to Construct and/or Operate
- APC-220 Data and Information Process Emission Source
- APC-260 Data and Information Air Pollution Control Equipment (only if controls are used, e.g., condensers)

Mail completed forms to:

Illinois EPA
Attn: Don Sutton
Manager, Permit Section #11
P.O. Box 19506
Springfield, IL 62794-9506

Forms can be obtained from the Illinois EPA Permit Section by calling 217-782-2113 and are available on the internet at:

www.commerce.state.il.us/doingbusiness/Reg_Env/StateAirPermit.htm

Are there other solvents available for use in dry cleaning operations?

There are several solvent options for dry cleaners. Some alternative solvents include: aqueous solutions, CO2, DF-2000, siloxanes (which are silicone based solvents), and perchloroethylene (perc). Perc dry cleaning operations are subject to federal and state environmental requirements. A fact sheet for perc dry cleaning operations is available through the helplines below.

For small business assistance contact:

Illinois EPA Office of Small Business
1021 N. Grand Ave. East, Box 19276
Springfield, IL 62794-9276
Small Business Environmental Helpline 888-372-1996 (toll-free)

Small Business Environmental Assistance Program
Illinois Dept. of Commerce and Community Affairs
620 E. Adams
Springfield, IL 62701
Small Business Environmental Assistance Helpline 800-252-3998

For more information about this or other fact sheets contact:

Dennis McMurray
Illinois EPA
1021 N. Grand Ave. East, Box 19276
Springfield, IL 62794-9276
217-785-1871

Hearing impaired: 217-782-9143.