



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

PUBLIC INTEREST CENTER

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NEWS RELEASE

For Release: July 23, 2008
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Ohio EPA Accepts Public Comments About AMP-Ohio Draft Permits

Ohio EPA will hold a public information session and hearing at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 5, 2008, to take public comments on draft permits for wastewater discharges and a new landfill associated with AMP-Ohio's proposed coal-fired power plant in Letart Falls (Meigs County). The public meeting will be held at Southern Elementary School, located at 920 Elm Street in Racine.

AMP-Ohio's proposed landfill would be located on Hill Road between State Route 124 and East Letart Road. It would accept flyash, bottom ash and possibly gypsum from the power plant. There would be discharges of pollutants from the wastewater treatment facilities serving the landfill and the power plant. There also would be discharges of cooling water from the power plant and an earthen impoundment (lagoon) for disposing sediment dredged from the river.

The wastewater discharge permit would limit discharges of pollutants into the Ohio River and its tributaries. The draft permit also includes requirements for the cooling water intake structure. The discharges may result in a change from current water quality conditions, but they cannot cause violations of water quality standards that protect human health and the environment. The Agency's review of the discharge permit application is to ensure that discharges from the project will comply with Ohio's water quality standards, other applicable discharge standards and federal requirements for cooling water intake structures.

Interested parties may submit written or oral comments regarding draft actions. Ohio EPA places a high priority on public involvement and encourages citizens to become involved in the decision-making process. During the August 5 information session, representatives from Ohio EPA will explain the proposed project and answer questions. During the hearing, which follows the information session, the public can submit comments for the record.

The purpose of the hearing is to obtain additional information that will be considered before Ohio EPA issues or denies the final permits. In addition to oral comments provided at the public meeting, Ohio EPA will equally consider written comments received through August 26, 2008. Interested parties can send comments regarding the draft wastewater discharge permit to Ohio EPA-Division of Surface Water, Attention: Permits Processing Unit, P.O. Box 1049, Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049. Comments regarding the draft solid waste permit-to-install can be sent to Ohio EPA-Division of Solid and Infectious Waste Management, Attention: Systems Management Unit, P.O. Box 1049, Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049.

Interested parties also may request to be placed on a mailing list for information by writing to these same addresses. Copies of the pending permit-to-install and wastewater discharge permit applications, draft permits and technical support information are available for review at Ohio EPA's Southeast District Office, 2195 Front Street, Logan, Ohio 43138 by first calling (740) 385-8501.

Copies of the draft permits and additional information are also available at www.epa.state.oh.us/pic/amp-ohio.html.

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