

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

Notice of Public Comment Period Proposed Issuance of a Construction Permit/PSD Approval Invenergy Nelson Expansion LLC in Rock Falls

Invenergy Nelson Expansion LLC has applied to the Illinois EPA Bureau of Air for a construction permit primarily for two new electrical generating units at its existing electricity power plant located at 1311 Nelson Road in Rock Falls. The new units will be installed to serve as peaking units, which provide electricity during periods of high demand. The proposed project is a major modification of emissions of NO_x, PM, PM₁₀, and PM_{2.5}, and greenhouse gases (GHG) and subject to the federal rules for Prevention of Significant Deterioration of Air Quality (PSD), 40 CFR 52.21.

Based on its review of the application, the Illinois EPA has made a preliminary determination that this project will comply with the applicable air pollution control regulations and has prepared a draft permit for public review.

The Illinois EPA is accepting comments prior to making a final decision on this application. Comments must be postmarked by midnight August 27, 2016. If sufficient interest is expressed in this matter, a hearing or other informational meeting may be held. Comments, questions and requests for information should be directed to Jillian Hawkins, Office of Community Relations, Illinois EPA PO Box 19276, Springfield, IL 62794-9506, phone 217/524-0922, TDD 217/782-9143, jillian.hawkins@illinois.gov.

The repositories for these documents and the application are located at the Illinois EPA's offices at 4302 North Main Street in Rockford, 815/987-7760 and 1021 N. Grand Ave. East in Springfield, 217/782-7027 (please call ahead to assure that someone will be available to assist you). The draft permit and project summary may also be viewed at <http://www.epa.gov/caa-permitting/region-5-electronic-permits>. Copies of the documents will be made available upon request to the contact listed above.

The planned project is major as defined by the PSD rules for emissions of NO_x, PM, PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, and greenhouse gases (GHG). Under the PSD rules, a source or project that is subject to PSD must use best available control technology (BACT) to control emissions of pollutants subject to PSD. A demonstration of BACT was provided for the project in the permit application for emissions of pollutants that are subject to PSD from the various emission units for the project. The Illinois EPA's review concludes that the emission control measures proposed by Invenergy Nelson Expansion LLC will constitute BACT.

An ambient air quality analysis also had to be performed for NO₂, PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, CO and SO₂. This analysis determined that the proposed project will not cause or contribute to a violation of the applicable National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) or to a violation of the applicable PSD Increments. The analysis showed that the consumption of PSD increments by the project would not be significant.

An analysis was also conducted of potential impacts of the proposed project on ozone air quality. Based on the analysis provided by Invenergy Nelson Expansion, the increase in the 8-hour ozone concentration resulting from the proposed project will be 0.4 ppb. Adding a background concentration of 62.0 ppb yields a total 8-hour ozone concentration of 62.4 ppb. As this is below the current 8-hour ozone standard of 70 ppb, the proposed project is not expected to threaten ozone air quality.