

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA)
Notice of Public Hearing for NPDES Permit

Newton Power Station

Public Hearing

Tuesday August 30, 2011 6 p.m.

**Jasper County Courthouse
100 West Jourdan Street
Newton, Illinois**

The IEPA Bureau of Water has prepared a draft modified National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for the Newton Power Station. The address of the discharger is Ameren Energy Generating Company, 1901 Chouteau Ave, MC-602, P.O. Box 66149, St. Louis, Missouri, and the facility address is 6725 North 500th Street, Jasper County, Newton, Illinois.

The following modifications are proposed: Inclusion of phosphorus limits at outfalls A01 and 003; an increase in flow at outfall 001 from 8.31 million gallons per day (MGD) to 17.2 MGD; inclusion of phosphorus and additional metals monitoring at outfall 001; inclusion of influent total suspended solids and phosphorus monitoring; and, a revision in Special Condition 22 to reflect a name change for a currently-used additive from BETZ-Clam-Trol CT-2 to Spectrus CT 1300. Comments at the hearing will be limited to these draft modifications to the NPDES permit.

IEPA is requesting that comments on the draft permit be sent to the address below by **August 15, 2011**. This will assist IEPA in addressing issues of public concern at the hearing.

The facility has applied for a modified NPDES permit because of anticipated increases in flow from secondary ash pond discharge at outfall 001. Reasons for the increased flow include inaccuracies associated with past flow calculations (proposed modification requires actual flow measurement) and installation of activated carbon injection to control mercury and SO_x.

emissions from both generating units resulting in unmarketable fly ash and an increase in fly ash sluice water from generating Unit 1, the addition of fly ash sluice water from generating Unit 2, and an increase in wastewater sump flows.

Newton Lake is an artificial cooling lake which receives the wastewater from all of the outfalls authorized in this NPDES permit. The lake is listed on the Illinois Integrated Water Quality Report and Section 303(d) partially approved 2008 List as well as on the draft 2010 Report and list for impairments of fish consumption use, with a cause of mercury, and aesthetic quality use with causes of algae (non-pollutant), total phosphorus and total suspended solids. Newton Lake, Water Segment RCR, is fully supportive of aquatic life uses, is not subject to enhanced dissolved oxygen standards, and is not classified as a biologically significant water.

The IEPA has made a tentative determination to issue this modified NPDES permit for discharge into waters of the state in accordance with 35 Illinois Administrative Code Subtitle C (*Water Pollution*), the Illinois Environmental Protection Act and the federal Clean Water Act.

The public notice/fact sheet which contains the draft antidegradation assessment and the draft modified NPDES permit can be viewed on the IEPA website:

<http://www.epa.state.il.us/public-notice/npdes-notice.html#ameren-newton>.

Inquiries about permit number IL0049191 should be directed to Brian Cox, Permit Engineer, Industrial Unit, IEPA Bureau of Water Permit Section, 1021 North Grand Avenue East, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276, phone 217-782-0610, or e-mail Brian.Cox@illinois.gov.

The hearing will be held under the provisions of 35 Illinois Administrative Code 166, *Procedures for Permit and Closure Plan Hearings*, which can be obtained online at <http://www.ipcb.state.il.us/documents/dsweb/Get/Document-11865>. Requests for special needs interpreters must be made to the IEPA hearing officer by **August 4, 2011**.

The IEPA welcomes substantive written comments. Written comments must be postmarked or e-mailed (e-mails should specify **Ameren Newton Power Station NPDES Modification** in subject line and must be sent to epa.publichearingcom@illinois.gov) **by midnight, September 29, 2011**, when the hearing record closes. The hearing record is a file containing the hearing transcript and written comments. Comments need not be notarized and should be sent to:

Hearing Officer Dean Studer

Re: Ameren Newton Power Station NPDES Modification

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

1021 North Grand Avenue East

P. O. Box 19276

Springfield, IL 62794-9276

Phone 217-558-8280

TDD (hearing impaired) 217-782-9143

E-mail Dean.Studer@illinois.gov