

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA)  
Notice of Application and Public Hearing for 401 Water Quality Certification

**Prairie Coal Company, L.L.C.**  
**Lost Prairie Mine**  
**Perry County**

**Public Hearing**

**Wednesday, March 21, 2012**  
At approximately 7:00 p.m. following the NPDES Hearing

**Pinckneyville Junior High School**  
**700 E. Water Street**  
**Pinckneyville, Illinois**

The IEPA Bureau of Water has received applications for a Section 401 water quality certification (Log. Nos. C-0386-09 and C-0387-09) for discharge into waters of the United States associated with a Section 404 permit application (COE appl. # 2010-247) received by the United States Army Corps of Engineers. The address of the applicant is Prairie Coal Company, L.L.C., City One Place, Suite 300, St. Louis, MO. 63141.

The applicant has applied for Section 401 water quality certification for impacts associated with the above ground facilities associated with an underground mine. The project area consists of approximately 848 acres located in Sections 29, 30, 31, and 32 T4S, R3W in Perry County. Two portals constructed and two airshafts for ventilation will be constructed to the underground mine. The surface facilities will include roads, a rail load out and transport system, coal and soil stockpiles, coal refuse disposal facilities, preparation plant, an office/maintenance building with parking area, and Sedimentation Pond #1. Sediment Pond #1 is a temporary impoundment and will be reclaimed during the final reclamation process.

The subject facility proposes to build a dam to create Sediment Pond #1 on an unnamed tributary of Wolf Creek. The unnamed tributary of Wolf Creek is classified as General Use Water.

The IEPA has made a tentative determination to issue the Section 401 water quality certification in accordance with 35 Illinois Administrative Code (IAC) Subtitle C (*Water Pollution*), the Illinois Environmental Protection Act and the federal Clean Water Act. The 401 certification process is governed by the provisions of 35 IAC Part 395, *Procedures and Criteria for Certification of Applications for Federal Permits or Licenses for Discharges into Waters of the State*, which can be obtained online at <http://www.ipcb.state.il.us/documents/dsweb/Get/Document-12064/>

Inquiries about the certification should be directed to Engineer Keith Runge, IEPA Division of Water Pollution Control, Permit Section, 1021 North Grand Avenue East, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276, phone 217-782-3362, or e-mail [Keith.Runge@illinois.gov](mailto:Keith.Runge@illinois.gov). The water quality certification application is available for examination at the IEPA offices in Springfield. The public notice/fact sheet including the antidegradation analysis can be viewed on the IEPA website: <http://www.epa.state.il.us/public-notices/sec-401-notices.html#lost-prairie-mine>. Inquiries about the antidegradation analysis can be directed to Scott Twait at 217-782-3362.

Requests for special needs interpreters must be made to the IEPA hearing officer by **February 29, 2012**. The hearing will be held under the provisions of 35 IAC Part 164, *Procedures for Informational Public Hearings*, which can be obtained online at <http://www.ipcb.state.il.us/documents/dsweb/Get/Document-11864/>.

The hearing record is a file containing the hearing transcript and written comments. **Written comments must be postmarked or e-mailed by midnight, April 20, 2012, when the hearing record closes** (e-mails comments **must be sent to** [epa.publichearingcom@illinois.gov](mailto:epa.publichearingcom@illinois.gov) and must specify Lost Prairie Mine 401 or C-0386-09 or C-0387-09 in the subject line). The IEPA welcomes substantive written comments. Comments need not be notarized and are to be sent to:

Hearing Officer Dean Studer  
Lost Prairie Mine 401  
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
1021 North Grand Avenue East  
P. O. Box 19276  
Springfield, IL 62794-9276  
Phone 217-558-8280

E-mail: [epa.publichearingcom@illinois.gov](mailto:epa.publichearingcom@illinois.gov)  
TDD (hearing impaired) 217-782-9143

Questions regarding the hearing process for this proceeding and not intended to be included in the hearing record can be emailed to the hearing officer at [dean.studer@illinois.gov](mailto:dean.studer@illinois.gov).