

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA)  
Notice of Water Discharge Permit Public Hearing

**Peabody Gateway North Mining, L.L.C.  
Gateway North Mine**

**Public Hearing  
Wednesday, June 20, 2012  
NPDES Permit Hearing at 5 p.m.**

**City of Sparta Council Chambers  
114 West Jackson  
Sparta, Illinois**

The IEPA Bureau of Water has prepared a draft National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for Peabody Gateway North Mining, L.L.C. for Gateway North Mine. The address of the discharger is Peabody Gateway North Mining, L.L.C., 7100 Eagle Crest Boulevard, Suite 100, Evansville, IN. 47715-8152. The facility is located in Randolph County, ½ mile west of Coulterville, Illinois.

Illinois EPA is holding this hearing for the purpose of taking comments on the draft permit prior to taking final action on the permit application. Issues relevant to this proceeding include the antidegradation analysis and the applicant's compliance with requirements of the federal Clean Water Act and Subtitles C and D, 35 Illinois Adm. Code. Because Illinois is mandated by state law to issue a permit if the applicant meets the requirements for obtaining a permit, those recommending denial of the permit application should be prepared to state the regulation that is the basis of their recommendation.

The applicant proposes a new underground coal mine (SIC 1222). Mining operations result in the discharge of water classified as alkaline mine drainage. Application is made for two (2) new discharges located in Randolph County. The stream segment IL02 of Marys River receiving the flow from the unnamed tributary into which Outfalls 001 discharges is not on the draft 2010 303(d) list of impaired waters.

The unnamed tributary receiving the discharges from Outfall 002 is not on the draft 2010 303d list of impaired waters; however, this unnamed tributary is ultimately tributary to Coulterville Lake which is on the draft 2010 303(d) list of impaired waters. The following parameters have been identified as the pollutants causing impairments of Coulterville Lake: atrazine and manganese for public water supply use; total suspended solids (TSS), phosphorus (total) and aquatic algae for aesthetic quality use.

The NPDES permit and the public notice/fact sheet were public noticed on April 25, 2012. The antidegradation assessment, which was part of the public notice, and other documents for this proceeding can be viewed on the IEPA website: <http://www.epa.state.il.us/public-notices/npdes-notices.html#peabody-gateway-north-mining>.

The information in the antidegradation assessment came from the Application for OMM Permit No. 412, responses to the review letter and the OMM's modification letter and the July 8, 2011 letter with the alternatives and economic benefits analysis prepared by Midwest Reclamation Resources, Inc.

The draft permit, public notice/fact sheet, the regulations governing the conduct of the hearing and other documents can be reviewed and copied at the Illinois EPA, 1021 N. Grand Avenue East, Springfield, Illinois; 217-782-0610. Please call ahead for an appointment. Requests for special needs interpreters must be made to the IEPA hearing officer by **June 1, 2012**.

Inquiries about the draft permit IL0079481 should be directed to Larry Crislip, Manager, Permit Section, IEPA Mine Pollution Control Program, 2309 W. Main St., Marion, IL, 618-993-7200, e-mail [Larry.Crislip@Illinois.gov](mailto:Larry.Crislip@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>.

The hearing will be conducted in accordance with provisions of Sections 309.115 through 309.119. These documents can be obtained online at <http://www.ipcb.state.il.us/documents/dsweb/Get/Document-33358>.

The hearing record is a file containing the hearing transcript and written comments. **Written comments must be postmarked or e-mailed by midnight, July 20, 2012, when the hearing record closes** (e-mails with written comments **must be** sent to [epa.publichearingcom@illinois.gov](mailto:epa.publichearingcom@illinois.gov) and should specify Gateway North Mine NPDES or IL0079481 in the subject line). The IEPA welcomes substantive written comments, no DVDs will be accepted in this proceeding. Comments need not be notarized and should be sent to:

Hearing Officer Dean Studer  
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

All other comments not directly pertaining to this permit can be emailed to the hearing officer at [dean.studer@illinois.gov](mailto:dean.studer@illinois.gov).