

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA)
Notice of Water Discharge Permit Public Hearing
NPDES Permit **IL0080084**

Cronus Chemicals
Public Hearing
Thursday, November 19, 2015
NPDES Hearing at 6:30 p.m.

North Ward Elementary School
1201 North Prairie Street
Tuscola, Illinois 61953

Public Notice Number MEL:15051301.docx is hereby given by Illinois EPA, Division of Water Pollution Control, Permit Section, 1021 North Grand Avenue East, Post Office Box 19276, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276 (herein Agency) that a draft new National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit Number, IL0080084 has been prepared under 40 CFR 123.25 and the Illinois Environmental Protection Act for Cronus Chemicals, 150 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 2800, Chicago, IL 60601 for discharge into the Kaskaskia River from a new agricultural fertilizer facility at 785 East Highway 36, Tuscola, Illinois 61953 (Douglas County). The public notice period begins September 30, 2015.

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, the Illinois Environmental Protection Act and 35 Illinois Adm. Code, Subtitle C. 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 for their recommendation.

The applicant is proposing the operation of an anhydrous ammonia plant which will produce 800,000 tons per year of anhydrous ammonia, the majority of which will be converted to 1.4 million tons of granular urea for use as an agricultural fertilizer (SIC 2873). The discharge consists of 1.40 MGD (million gallons per day) of cooling tower blowdown, 0.13 MGD of reject and concentrate wastewater, 0.004 MGD of washdown water, 0.12 MGD of filter backwash and regen, and stormwater from outfall A01, 0.015 MGD of sanitary wastewater from outfall B01, and an intermittent discharge of stormwater runoff from outfall 002.

The draft permit, public notice/fact sheet and other relevant documents can be reviewed at the Illinois EPA, 1021 N. Grand Avenue East, Springfield, Illinois; please call ahead for an appointment (217-782-0610). The draft permit and the associated public notice/fact sheet and the hearing notice are available on the Illinois EPA website at (it may be necessary to copy the web address into the window of your browser) <http://www.epa.illinois.gov/public-notices/npdes-notices/index#cronus-chemicals>.

For information or requests about the draft permit, please contact Barb Lieberoff, Office of Community Relations, Illinois EPA, 1021 N Grand Ave East, P.O. Box 19276., Springfield IL, 62794-9276, 217-524-3038, e-mail barb.lieberoff@Illinois.gov.

The hearing will be conducted under 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> in accordance with provisions of Sections 309.115 through 309.119 which can be obtained online at <http://www.ipcb.state.il.us/documents/dsweb/Get/Document-33358>. Requests for special needs interpreters must be made to the IEPA hearing officer by **October 16, 2015**.

The hearing record is a file containing the hearing transcript and written comments. **Written comments must be physically received by December 9, 2015, when the hearing record closes.**

E-mails containing written comments must be sent to epa.publichearingcom@illinois.gov and should specify Cronus Chemicals NPDES or IL0080084 in the subject line. Email comments originating on third party systems or servers intended for submittal of multiple emails of the same or nearly the same content will not be accepted without prior approval from the hearing officer. The IEPA welcomes substantive written comments. Comments need not be notarized and should be sent to:

Hearing Officer Dean Studer
Re: Cronus Chemicals NPDES
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
1021 North Grand Avenue East
P. O. Box 19276
Springfield, IL 62794-9276
Phone: 217-558-8280

Email Comments: epa.publichearingcom@illinois.gov
TDD (hearing impaired) 217-782-9143

Correspondence regarding the **hearing process** can be emailed to the hearing officer at dean.studer@illinois.gov. Email comments on the draft permit must be sent to epa.publichearingcom@illinois.gov.