

Notice of Public Hearing and Comment Period
Bureau of Air Construction Permit
Bureau of Land Development Permit
Green Era Renewable Energy & Urban Farming Campus

Green Era Renewable Energy & Urban Farming Campus (Green Era) has applied to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) Bureau of Air (BOA) and Bureau of Land (BOL) for permits to develop a Liquid and Solid Food Waste Recycling Facility at 650 West 83rd Street in Chicago, Illinois. The facility will process 80,000-tons/year food waste to produce compost and biomethane; the biomethane will be injected into the local natural gas utility system. Both solid and liquid food waste will be processed from the greater Chicago metro area and surrounding Cook County.

Green Era has applied for a construction permit from BOA. The construction permit establishes the emissions regulations, compliance and monitoring of air pollutants from the facility. The project is not considered major for purposes of the state's rules for Major Stationary Sources Construction and Modification (MSSCAM), 35 Ill. Adm. Code Part 203. The source is not a major source under Illinois' rules for the Prevention of Significant Deterioration, 35 Ill. Adm. Code Part 204.

Green Era has also applied for a BOL permit to develop a food waste composting facility. The facility operations will include receiving the food waste inside a processing building and anaerobic digestion of food wastes in an aboveground tank. The facility will be regulated under the requirements established in 35 Ill. Adm. Code Part 807. Upon completion of development, the facility will be required to obtain an operating permit. Food waste can only be accepted after approval of the operating permit application by the Illinois EPA BOL.

The Illinois EPA has reviewed the applications and made preliminary determinations that both applications meet standards for issuance and has prepared draft BOA and BOL permits for public review and comment.

The Illinois EPA is holding a public hearing on Thursday, November 17, 2022 at 7:00 pm at the Auburn Gresham Healthy Lifestyle Hub located at 839 West 79th Street in Chicago to receive public comments regarding the draft permits and permit applications. The hearing will be held pursuant to 35 Ill. Adm. Code Part 166, Subpart A (Procedures for Permit and Closure Plan Hearings). The Illinois EPA will present opening statements concerning the draft permits and hearing procedures prior to accepting comments from the public during the hearing.

Questions regarding hearing procedures or requests for interpretation (including sign language) must be made by 5:00 pm on Tuesday, October 18, 2022 by contacting the Illinois EPA Hearing Officer by email at EPA.PublicHearingCom@Illinois.gov, by calling (217) 785-8724 or the TDD phone number (866) 273-5488.

The Illinois EPA is also accepting written public comments on the draft permits until midnight, Monday, December 19, 2022. If you would like to provide written comments, please email your comments to EPA.PublicHearingCom@Illinois.gov, RE: Green Era. Written comments may also be mailed to the Illinois EPA, attention Jeff Guy, Hearing Officer, P.O. Box 19276, 1021 North Grand Avenue, Springfield, Illinois 62974-9276. Please reference 'Green Era' in your email or letter. 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 Illinois EPA Hearing Officer.

A repository of documents for these permitting actions is available at the Woodson Public Library located 9525 South Halsted Street, Chicago, Illinois 60628 and Illinois EPA offices located at 1021 North Grand Avenue, Springfield, Illinois 62974-9276 and 9511 West Harrison Street, Des Plaines, Illinois 60016. The draft permits, public notice, and other pertinent documents are available on the Illinois EPA General Notices Webpage at: <https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/public-notices/Pages/general-notices.aspx>. For information regarding the draft permit, please contact Sabrina Bailey, Illinois EPA Office of Community Relations, by email at Sabrina.Bailey@illinois.gov.

In addition to the public hearing, the Illinois EPA will be holding a virtual (online) public meeting on November 1, 2022 at 6:00 pm to explain the procedures for the public hearing and describe how to make effective public comments during the comment period. The Illinois EPA will not be accepting public comments during the meeting. Details for the virtual meeting are below.

If you have questions or need assistance with Webex, please contact the Illinois EPA Hearing Officer by email at EPA.PublicHearingCom@Illinois.gov or by calling (217) 785-8724.

Cisco Webex Meeting Information

Date: Tuesday, November 1, 2022

Time: 6:00 pm

Meeting Link:

<https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/j.php?MTID=m5bc38b36a5aa7a53e0fb421ce1727a36>

Meeting Number: 2467 284 6505

Webinar Password: 1234

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