

**Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA)
Notice of Public Hearing**

One Earth Energy, LLC

Public Hearing

Monday March 16, 2009 6:30 p.m.

**Kruse Center
207 North Lawrence
Intersection of State Route 54 and Ninth Street
Gibson City, Illinois**

The IEPA Bureau of Water has prepared a draft National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for One Earth Energy, LLC. The address of the applicant is P.O. Box 526, Gibson City, Illinois 60936, and the facility location is in Ford County, 202 N. Jordan Drive, Gibson City, Illinois.

The proposed facility is a new 110 million gallon per year ethanol plant using the dry mill process. Non-contact cooling water, filter backwash water, reverse osmosis reject water and ion exchange water softener regeneration water will be discharged through a combined outfall. There will be a one-time discharge of cooling tower passivation water and hydrostatic test water prior to commencing operations. Discharge flow is estimated to be 1.139 MGD. A cooling tower constructed of treated lumber and fiberglass will concentrate the source water eight cycles before blowdown. Due to relatively high natural boron concentrations in the deep wells, reverse osmosis treatment will be provided in order to meet the water quality standard in the discharged effluent. This system will ultimately deposit the excess boron in the dry-distillers grain product. Source water will be a combination of deep and shallow well water. All wastewaters will flow through a holding/settling pond with a holding time of 2.59 days before final discharge. The discharge will flow to Drummer Creek.

Drummer Creek (segment EY-01) has a 7Q10 flow of zero cfs and is a General Use water. The stream is fully supporting aquatic life uses according to the Illinois Integrated Water Quality Report and Section 303(d) List – 2006 and the partially approved 2008 version. The 2008 IDNR *Biological Ratings for Illinois Streams* publication lists Drummer Creek as a biologically significant stream. The IDNR WIRT system lists no threatened or endangered species as inhabiting the receiving stream.

The IEPA has made a tentative determination to issue this five-year 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 NPDES permit can be viewed on the IEPA website:

<http://www.epa.state.il.us/public-notices/npdes-notices.html#one-earth-energy>.

Inquiries about permit number IL0078808 should be directed to Darin LeCrone, Acting Manager Industrial Unit, IEPA Bureau of Water Permit Section, 1021 North Grand Avenue East, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276, phone 217-782-0610, or e-mail Darin.LeCrone@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 **February 13, 2009**. Testimony at the hearing is limited to the draft NPDES permit.

The IEPA welcomes substantive written comments. **Written comments must be postmarked or e-mailed** (e-mails should specify **IEPA hearing** in subject line) **by midnight, March 30, 2009, 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 Rachel Doctors
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