Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

Notice of Availability Session for Mississippi Sand, LLC in LaSalle County

Mississippi Sand, LLC has applied to the Illinois EPA's Bureau of Air (BOA) to build a sand processing plant in LaSalle County on Route 71 near Ottawa. BOA issues permits to stationary sources of air emissions and Mississippi Sand's application covers the construction of crushers, screens, conveyors, a dryer, storage and other operations associated with processing of the sand. BOA permitting does not regulate the mining operation. The operation as described in the application would not be a major source of air emissions for purposes of the federal air pollution rules for Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD), 40 CFR 52.21.

Mississippi Sand has also applied to the Illinois EPA's Bureau of Water (BOW) for a general stormwater National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for construction site activities. The general stormwater construction site activity permit will cover the discharges of stormwater from the construction site activity phase of the project. This includes stormwater from construction of visual screening berms along Route 71, stormwater control structures including drainage ditches, silt fences, and other stormwater control measures built before construction and operation of the mining activities begin.

The Illinois EPA is holding this Public Availability Session to answer questions from the public about the BOA permit application and BOW construction site activity stormwater NPDES permit application. Illinois Department of Natural Resources and Illinois Historic Preservation Agency will also have representatives at the Availability Session and will be providing information to the public concerning their roles in evaluating the project. The applicant, Mississippi Sand, will also have representatives at the Availability Session. The Availability Session will be held on:

Wednesday, May 23, 2012 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm Illinois Valley Community College 815 N Orlando Smith Road Oglesby, IL 61348

Each Agency will have a table at the Availability Session with information and representatives available to answer questions. There will be no formal group presentation and the public is welcome to come and go at any time between 6:00 pm and 9:00 pm.

The Illinois EPA is accepting written comments on the proposal. The Illinois EPA may only consider comments related to the above Illinois EPA Air and Water applications. However, comments received concerning issues as they relate to other Agencies will be duly forwarded to those Agencies for their review. **Comments must be postmarked by May 31, 2012** and sent to: Brad Frost, Community Relations, Illinois EPA, 1021 N. Grand Ave. E., P.O. Box 19506, Springfield, IL 62794-9506, (phone 217/782-7027 or TDD 217/782-9143) or brad.frost@illinois.gov.

The BOA and BOW applications are available for review on the Illinois EPA website at http://www.epa.state.il.us/public-notices/ For information about the applications or Availability Session, please contact Brad Frost at the address or phone numbers listed above.