



Public Meeting Thursday February 22nd – East Chicago Central High School

BP Whiting Refinery Air Permit Renewal

The BP petroleum refinery in Whiting, Indiana is one of the largest in the country, with dozens of separate emission sources. The refinery's draft Clean Air Act Title V renewal permit is nearly 2,500 pages long and filled with technical information. The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) is hosting a public meeting on February 22 to discuss the draft permit. Here are some questions for IDEM that could help clarify what's in the permit and how to best use the public meeting process.



General Questions

On Public Input

- What is IDEM's purpose in holding this public meeting? What kind of public input is IDEM looking for?
- **Are there any particular provisions in this draft permit that IDEM would like to receive public input on? Or provisions where public input might shape revisions?**
- The draft permit is 2,353 pages long. Can you offer any guidance on how we should review the permit so that we can understand its terms and effectively comment on specific provisions?
- There are dozens of categories of emissions sources listed in this permit. Should the public be more concerned about some sources than others?

On Permitting

- Permit reviewers are identified as Doug Logan and Jared France. Could you provide us with professional background on these IDEM employees so that we can understand their qualifications to draft this permit?
- The Technical Support Document states that BP Products submitted the application for this permit renewal on April 1, 2019. **Can you tell us why it took so long to issue a draft permit?**

*Public Meeting
Feb 22nd, 2024
6pm CT (7pm EST)
Calumet College of
St. Joseph - Rm 200*

On Permit Terms

- Does the renewed permit require BP to monitor, measure, and report the quantity of emissions from upsets like the one last June, the recent spills from tanks, and the massive flare-off on Feb. 1?
- As I understand it, the refinery has certain limits on each kind of pollutant it can emit. If BP exceeds these emission limits, it is usually subject to penalties. However, if the refinery has an upset, like a power outage or frozen pipe fitting, exceedances of emission limits are not subject to penalties – is that correct?
- **What public reporting requirements does the renewed permit have?** Beyond reporting to the National Response Center, is BP required to provide any warning, notice, or information to local governments or residents when it has an upset that results in excess emissions?

