

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA)
Notice of Water Discharge Permit Public Hearing
NPDES Permit No. IL0080071

Sunrise Coal, L.L.C.
Bulldog Mine
Vermilion County

Public Hearing
Wednesday, August 12, 2015 5:30 pm

Salt Fork Junior High School
7087 N 600 E Road
Sidell, Illinois 61876

The Illinois EPA Bureau of Water has prepared a draft new National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for Sunrise Coal, L.L.C., whose address is 1183 Canvasback Drive, Terre Haute, IN 47802. The Bulldog Mine facility is a proposed facility in Vermilion County (approximately three miles southeast of Homer, Illinois) and proposes to discharge into unnamed an unnamed tributary of Olive Branch (see <http://www.epa.illinois.gov/Assets/iepa/public-notices/2015/sunrise-coal-llc/public-notice.pdf> for additional information).

The Illinois EPA is holding a hearing to accept comments from the public on the proposed issuance of a permit for this project, prior to making a final decision on the permit application. Issues relevant to this proceeding include the antidegradation analysis and whether the application documents meet the requirements of the federal Clean Water Act and Subtitles C and D, 35 Ill. Adm. Code for permit issuance. Because Illinois EPA 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 of their recommendation. Issues related to the mining operations are not relevant in this proceeding and should be directed to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Office of Mines and Minerals.

The applicant operates surface facilities for an underground coal mine (SIC 1222). Mine operations result in the discharge of waste classified as alkaline mine drainage.

The Illinois EPA has made a tentative determination to issue this NPDES permit for discharge into waters of the state in accordance with 35 Ill. Adm. Code Subtitle C (Water Pollution), Subtitle D (Mine Related Water Pollution), the Illinois Environmental Protection Act and the federal Clean Water Act. The draft NPDES permit and the public notice/fact sheet were public noticed on March 27, 2015. The antidegradation assessment, which is part of the public notice, and other documents for this proceeding can be viewed on the IEPA website: <http://www.epa.illinois.gov/public-notices/npdes-notices/index#sunrise-coal-llc> (please copy this website address into your browser).

The draft permit, public notice/fact sheet, the regulations governing the conduct of the hearing and other documents can be reviewed and copied at the Illinois EPA, 1021 N. Grand Avenue East, Springfield, Illinois; 217-782-0610. Please call ahead for an appointment.

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 62794-92976, 217/524-3038 or by email at barb.lieberoff@illinois.gov

The hearing will be conducted under 35 Ill. Adm. Code 166 in accordance with provisions of 35 Ill. Adm. Code 309.115 through 309.119. Requests for special needs interpreters must be made to the Illinois EPA hearing officer by July 23, 2015. The hearing record is a file containing the hearing transcript and written comments. **Written comments must be physically received by September 11, 2015; mailed comments must be postmarked in sufficient time to arrive at Illinois EPA by September 11, 2015 when the hearing record closes.**

E-mails containing written comments must be sent to epa.publichearingcom@illinois.gov and should specify **Bulldog Mine NPDES or IL0080071 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. Comments need not be notarized and should be sent to:

Hearing Officer Dean Studer, Mail Code #5

Re: Bulldog Mine 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

Questions related to the hearing process and procedures, not comments on this permit, can be emailed to the hearing officer at dean.studer@illinois.gov.