STATE OF ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

	IN THE MATTER OF:)	
))	HEARING NO.
)	THE AMENDMENTS TO 35 ILL.)	R23-18(A)
)	ADM. CODE) 201.202. AND 212)	

Report of proceedings before HEARING OFFICER CHLOE SALK, Illinois Pollution Control Board, at Michael A. Bilandic Building 160 North LaSalle Street, Room N505, Chicago, Illinois, commencing at the hour of 9:00 a.m. on the 1st day of November, 2023, upon the purpose of Merit and Economic cause.

PRESENT:

MICHELLE GIBSON, Lead Board Member TIM FOX, Board Member

ALSO PRESENT:

DEREK REESE, American Petroleum Institute
BYRON TAYLOR, East Dubuque Nitrogen Fertilizer
DAVID LORING, Rain Carbon LLC
ANDREW SAWULA, Midwest Generation & Dynergy
MELISSA BROWN, Environmental Regulatory Group
ALEC MESSINA, American Petroleum Institute
DIANE BETTERHOFFER, IEPA

* * * * *



- 1 HEARING OFFICER SALK: My name is Chloe Salk,
- 2 and I'm the Hearing Officer for this rulemaking
- 3 proceeding entitled amendments to 35 Illinois
- 4 Administrative Code 201 and 212. The Board Docket
- 5 number for this rulemaking is R 23-18A. Also present
- 6 today from the Board are Michelle Gibson, the lead Board
- 7 member assigned to this Docket, and Tim Fox, who is in
- 8 audience today. Going through our recent procedure, the
- 9 Board held the first hearing in this matter on September
- 10 27. While the deadline to pre-file testimony for the
- 11 second hearing was October 18, no participant pre-filed
- 12 testimony.
- 13 However, on that date, the Illinois
- 14 Environmental Protection Agency, or IEPA, filed a
- 15 comment requesting further information on each proposal
- 16 from the participant's pre-filed questions based on any
- 17 pre-filed testimony that was due by October 25, and no
- 18 participant pre-filed questions.
- 19 On October 26, the Illinois Attorney General's
- 20 Office or AG's Office, filed a motion requesting a third
- 21 hearing on October 27. The Sierra club responded in
- 22 support of the AG's motion.
- 23 And on to our housekeeping the hearing. This
- 24 hearing is governed by the Board's procedural rules
- 25 under Section 102.426 of those rules, all information



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- 1 that is relevant and is not repetitious or privileged
- 2 will be admitted by the hearing officer into the record.
- 3 Please bear in mind that any questions posed today by
- 4 the Board and its staff are intended solely to help
- 5 develop a clear and complete record for the Board's
- 6 decision, and those questions do not reflect any
- 7 determination or judgment on the proposal, testimony, or
- 8 questions.
- 9 For the sake of the court reporter, please
- 10 speak clearly and avoid speaking at the same time as
- 11 another person. So that we can help produce a clear
- 12 transcript. If you are asking a question, please state
- 13 your name and the organization you represent prior to
- 14 any questions. Also, if talking about sections of the
- 15 rules, please fill out the section letter such as
- 16 620.101 D as in dog.
- 17 Mr. Court Reporter, please feel free to stop
- 18 me or anyone else at any point if we are talking too
- 19 fast, talking too softly, or if you need something
- 20 repeated. As I mentioned no participant pre-filed
- 21 testimony for this hearing. Therefore, we will see
- 22 first if there are any witnesses who didn't pre-file
- 23 testimony who wish to testify today.
- 24 Next, we will go on to anyone who has
- 25 questions. Then we will see whether any participant



- 1 wishes to comment on the proposed rules. We will then
- 2 discuss whether the participants are willing to comply
- 3 with IEPA request for more information and set deadlines
- 4 for submitting that information. We will also discuss
- 5 the response deadline for the AG's motion. There will
- 6 also be an opportunity for any participant to offer
- 7 testimony or comment on the Board's request that the
- 8 Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, or DCEO
- 9 perform an economic impact study of the proposal.
- 10 Are there any questions about our order of
- 11 proceeding?
- 12 (No verbal response.)
- 13 HEARING OFFICER SALK: Okay, seeing none. Is
- 14 there anyone present today here who did not pre-file
- 15 testimony but does wish to offer testimony?
- MR. REESE: Yes.
- 17 HEARING OFFICER SALK: Would you like to come
- 18 up to the front.
- MR. REESE: Okay.
- 20 HEARING OFFICER SALK: Thank you. Would the
- 21 court reporter please swear in the witness.
- THE REPORTER: Please raise your right hand.
- 23 (Whereupon:
- 24 DEREK REESE
- 25 Was called upon to tell the truth, and did so as follows



- 1 herein after being duly sworn.)
- 2 HEARING OFFICER SALK: If you could please
- 3 state your name first for the record, and then you may
- 4 begin.
- 5 MR. REESE: Okay. John Derek Reese, American
- 6 Petroleum Institute. Good morning, my name is Derek
- 7 Reese, this is my third appearance before the Board, so
- 8 I'll save us all a bit of time by simply referencing my
- 9 background that I've shared in previous testimony.
- 10 Given the limited amount of time between the
- 11 filing of Illinois EPA's comment and this hearing, API
- 12 intends to further address Illinois EPA's comment in a
- 13 post-hearing filing. In the interim, however, I would
- 14 like to briefly highlight a few key points in response
- 15 to those comments before quickly turning to API's
- 16 proposal in general.
- 17 With regards to Illinois EPA's comment filed
- 18 last week, API strongly disagrees with the agency's
- 19 characterization of our pre-submittal discussions
- 20 concerning what is needed for adoption and approval of
- 21 an Alternative Emissions Limit or AEL. While the agency
- 22 noted certain information that it thought the Board
- 23 might find relevant, the agency never stated that such
- 24 information, such as modeling, was necessary for Board
- 25 adoption, USEPA approval, or for the agency to move



- 1 forward.
- 2 The agency is now requesting CEMS data, that
- 3 stands for Continuous Emissions Monitoring System, from
- 4 each of the refineries. API will respond further to
- 5 this request in its post-hearing filing, but would like
- 6 to note that each of the refineries reports its FCC CO
- 7 CEMS data to the Illinois EPA on a semi-annual basis in
- 8 two separate reports under NSPS J and NESHAP UUU; that's
- 9 the Federal standards. Illinois EPA has this data
- 10 on-hand already.
- 11 The agency is also requesting modeling as to
- 12 each of the four refineries. However, Marathon has
- 13 submitted monitoring data collected at two proximate
- 14 locations for a 3-year period, showing no violation of
- 15 the CO NAAQS, that's national ambient air quality
- 16 standards, including five FCC startup events. In fact,
- 17 the highest measured concentration for the three-year
- 18 period are 5 percent and 13 percent of the one-hour and
- 19 eight-hour CO standards, respectively. Additionally,
- 20 Illinois has never had a CO NAAQS non-attainment
- 21 designation, even when the previous SSM provisions were
- 22 in place, which should speak to the agency's concerns
- 23 with API's proposal moving forward.
- 24 Finally the state publishes an annual
- 25 monitoring network plan, which takes into account the



- 1 highest concentration of pollution in a given area as
- 2 well as pollution resulting from significant sources or
- 3 source categories. To our knowledge, Illinois EPA has
- 4 never recommended in its annual updates, and the most
- 5 recent one was September 2023, that any CO monitor be
- 6 relocated nearer to one of the refineries. Given that
- 7 the proposed AELs do not result in an emissions increase
- 8 from allowable emissions, as defined in 35 IAC 202
- 9 Revised in R2023-018. Historical monitoring by the
- 10 state and by Marathon reasonably demonstrate that the
- 11 proposed FCC AELs do not constitute backsliding and will
- 12 not cause a violation of the NAAQS.
- 13 Lastly Illinois EPA's comment filed last week,
- 14 was its first meaningful participation in this sub
- 15 Docket rulemaking. Illinois EPA has not testified or
- 16 questioned witnesses as to the AEL proposals in the
- 17 initial rulemaking, nor have they testified or
- 18 questioned witnesses in this sub Docket. The filing of
- 19 the aforementioned comments clearly suggested Illinois
- 20 EPA has thoughts about the proposal, but participants
- 21 have been unable to question the agency as to its
- 22 position on the AEL proposals. If a third hearing is
- 23 held in this matter, API urges the Board to request that
- 24 Illinois EPA provide witnesses for testimony and
- 25 questioning at suh hearing.



- 1 It is important to note, that the R 23-18
- 2 rulemaking was done via the fast track procedure with
- 3 very limited stakeholder engagement prior to filing.
- 4 Opportunities for substantive discussion with Illinois
- 5 EPA on the AEL proposals has been limited throughout
- 6 this entire process. With other SIP rulemaking already
- 7 overdue, such as NOx RACT API wishes to highlight for
- 8 the Board the need for increased engagement with the
- 9 agency on topics that have wide-ranging and significant
- 10 impacts to the regulated community.
- 11 Turning now to the proposal before the Board,
- 12 API's proposal concerns the carbon monoxide emission
- 13 standards for petroleum and petrochemical processes in
- 14 Section 216.361. This provision, especially the 200
- 15 part per million limit, is unique to Illinois when
- 16 compared to other states. Most states only require the
- 17 use of combustion of CO for catalytic cracker during
- 18 normal operations, without the addition of a numeric
- 19 concentration limit. States that do have a numeric CO
- 20 limit, have higher limits, and include provisions
- 21 specific to transient operations.
- 22 For example, the South Cost Air Quality
- 23 District has a 500 parts per million limitation, which
- 24 also allows for specific startup duration and limits the
- 25 number of annual startups from FCCUs use. The Bay Area



- 1 Quality District has a 400 part per million CO standard,
- 2 but it also includes startup, shutdown, and curtailment
- 3 exemption. Illinois' 200-part standard with no
- 4 allowance for startup or hot standby, is a unique
- 5 problem with respect to FCCU startup and hot standby
- 6 events when compared to other states.
- 7 As previously testified to, it is technically
- 8 infeasible for many FCCUs to achieve the conditions
- 9 necessary to meet Illinois' CO standard during periods
- 10 of startup and hot standby. Due to the nature of
- 11 combustion, there is no control technology that can be
- 12 added to achieve the CO standard during these events.
- 13 In addition to the potential compliance issue, an AEL is
- 14 needed to help ensure the safe operation of FCCUs used.
- 15 Without the adoption of an AEL, the removal of
- 16 the SMB provisions has placed refineries in a position
- 17 where they will unfairly and unnecessarily be faced with
- 18 allegations of noncompliance during startup or hot
- 19 standby in order to avoid a known process safety
- 20 hazards. Illinois EPA's offer to use enforcement
- 21 discretion simply not a viable option. Thank you for
- 22 your time today, and I am happy to answer any questions
- 23 you may have.
- 24 HEARING OFFICER SALK: So we will now move on
- 25 to questions, does anyone have any questions?



- 1 (No verbal response.)
- 2 HEARING OFFICER SALK: Okay. All right.
- 3 Hearing none -- oh, yes. But.
- 4 MS. BETTERHOFFER: I just have one follow up--
- 5 HEARING OFFICER SALK: If you could come up to
- 6 the front just for our court reporter, please. Yeah.
- 7 Or even sit --
- 8 MS. BETTERHOFFER: I just have one follow up
- 9 question. Can you clarify specifically what reports the
- 10 refineries have submitted to the Illinois EPA that have
- 11 included the CEMS data that the agency indicated in its
- 12 comments filed report.
- MR. REESE: Sure. So those are the
- 14 semi-annual that we filed under SPSJA, and then you have
- 15 your semiannual reports for your mac standard UUU --
- 16 that's for petroleum refineries. So those are those two
- 17 semi-annual reports that come in to the region and to
- 18 you.
- MS. BETTERHOFFER: Thank you.
- MR. REESE: You're welcome.
- 21 HEARING OFFICER SALK: Anyone else have any
- 22 questions?
- 23 (No verbal response.)
- 24 HEARING OFFICER SALK: No all right. Thank
- 25 you so much. All right. Is there anyone else that



- 1 wanted to offer testimony today?
- 2 (No verbal response.)
- 3 HEARING OFFICER SALK: ALL right. Hearing
- 4 none, we will move on to comments. Is there anyone
- 5 present here today who wishes to offer a public comment?
- 6 (No verbal response.)
- 7 HEARING OFFICER SALK: Seeing none, we will
- 8 then move on to discussing IEPA's request for more
- 9 information from each proposal. So first, I'd like to
- 10 go to each participant who filed the proposal and ask if
- 11 they will be submitting information to IEPA and if so,
- 12 what day could they submit that information?
- 13 HEARING OFFICER SALK: We'll go first to Rain
- 14 Carbon.
- MR. LORING: Would you like me to come up to
- 16 the front.
- 17 HEARING OFFICER SALK: Oh, yeah. That'd be
- 18 great. Thank you.
- 19 MR. LORING: David Loring, L-O-R-I-N-G. On
- 20 behalf of Rain Carbon. We will be responding to
- 21 Illinois EPA's comments. We are working and have been
- 22 working with the agency collaboratively to work through
- 23 some of the questions, modeling, and then some of the
- 24 questions as well as or had asked on how many hours of
- 25 operation that Rain Carbon's facilities have been



- 1 functioning and breakdown. It's hard to guess or to
- 2 estimate exactly how much time we need. My guess is
- 3 it's going to be a couple of months that we would need
- 4 to work with Illinois EPA to address their questions on
- 5 modeling. And then probably have additional time for
- 6 Illinois EPA to review what Rain Carbon submits and then
- 7 be able to sort of provide that in written form to the
- 8 Board for their consideration.
- 9 HEARING OFFICER SALK: Okay. Do you have any
- 10 date by which you have a better estimation of, like,
- 11 when you could submit that or --
- 12 MR. LORING: Yes. One thing we've been
- 13 thinking about is perhaps in a month or a few weeks from
- 14 today. Maybe there would be a status hearing or status
- 15 call and we can provide an update. Rain Carbon is
- 16 working diligently on its end to address and respond to
- 17 those modeling questions and the other questions that
- 18 were raised by Illinois EPA. We expect to have some
- 19 discussions with the agency between now and then. So I
- 20 think a few weeks to a month from now would be
- 21 appropriate for us to have a more firm date on we think
- 22 we be able to have finality on the agency's comments.
- 23 HEARING OFFICER SALK: Okay. All right.
- 24 Thank you so much. All right. We will next go to ERG.
- MS. BROWN: Thank you very much Melissa Brown,



- 1 on behalf of Illinois Environmental Regulatory Group.
- 2 At this time we're still assessing obviously the
- 3 agency's comments, and, but I think for us we could
- 4 commit to providing a response to the agency's comments
- 5 within three weeks.
- 6 HEARING OFFICER SALK: And do you anticipate
- 7 within that providing more information that IEPA
- 8 requested or --
- 9 MS. BROWN: We are unsure at this point.
- 10 HEARING OFFICER SALK: Great. Thank you.
- 11 Next we'll turn to API.
- 12 MR. MESSINA: Thank you. My name is Alec
- 13 Messina, M-E-S-S-I-N-A on behalf of The American
- 14 Petroleum Institute. And we had anticipated filing a
- 15 response as well. I wanted to, certainly learn from
- 16 this hearing if there were additional information that
- 17 would come out before having a discussion. I think that
- 18 we could also meet the 3 weeks suggested by counsel for
- 19 IERG.
- 20 As to your question, I think that there is
- 21 some information that we can provide. There are other
- 22 items that are going to require additional discussion
- 23 with my client. We also will probably need to have a
- 24 follow up meeting with the Agency because there is some
- 25 confusion as to some of the questions. As an example,



- 1 there is a before the burn notion that was something
- 2 that was not familiar to any of the members of The
- 3 American Petroleum Institute. So I suspect we will
- 4 have -- we will need to schedule a meeting with the
- 5 agency quickly so we can be responsive in this
- 6 proceeding.
- 7 HEARING OFFICER SALK: Okay. Thank you. All
- 8 right next to it turn to EDNF.
- 9 MR. TAYLOR: Good morning. My name is Byron
- 10 Taylor, B-Y-R-O-N Taylor. On behalf of East Dubuque
- 11 Nitrogen Fertilizer. We would ask for 60 days to
- 12 provide our full responses to the questions and requests
- 13 posed by the agency. There are four requests, one is
- 14 CEMS data; continuous emission monitoring data, that
- 15 data has already been provided to the agency.
- 16 The second request was for certain startup and
- 17 shutdown data for the number of instances. And a good
- 18 chunk of that information has already been provided.
- 19 We're trying to collect the rest of it and submit it
- 20 properly to the agency. And then there are two requests
- 21 that we're going to have to have more discussions with
- 22 the agency about.
- And we're perfectly happy to do that, we have
- 24 had some discussions with them in the past, and we'll
- 25 continue to do so. And those remaining outstanding



- 1 requests are for certain modeling information. And for
- 2 actually conducting a particulate matter stack test.
- 3 And there's certain issues that we need to discuss with
- 4 them and understand. And so we think we can respond to
- 5 those requests in 60 days.
- 6 HEARING OFFICER SALK: Okay.
- 7 MR. TAYLOR: And there was one other
- 8 suggestion that the agency had, it wasn't a request for
- 9 data. But it was -- we had proposed to reduce our
- 10 allowable emission rate in half, and the agency
- 11 suggested that we might be able to reduce it even
- 12 further. Based on the data that they already have and
- 13 we've responded to that suggestion that in our written
- 14 comments that were filed, I think on the 26 of October.
- 15 HEARING OFFICER SALK: Okay. Thank you so
- 16 much.
- 17 MR. TAYLOR: Thank you.
- 18 HEARING OFFICER SALK: All right. And lastly,
- 19 we'll turn to Midwest Generation and Dynergy.
- 20 MR. SAWULA: Good morning. Andrew Sawula,
- 21 S-A-W-U-L-A. From ArentFox Schiff on behalf of Midwest
- 22 Generation and the Dynergy entities. And I think
- 23 similar to Rain Carbon, we are still assessing the
- 24 questions we have been working collaboratively with
- 25 Illinois EPA. And we will be responding with at least



- 1 some additional information in response to those
- 2 questions. I think that some of that information may be
- 3 assembled relatively soon, other information might take
- 4 longer.
- 5 And I believe that within 3 or 4 weeks we
- 6 would be in a much better position to know whether we've
- 7 already responded to everything that we need to or how
- 8 much time we believe we may need for an additional
- 9 response. So if the Board held a status call in about a
- 10 month, I think we'd be in a better position hopefully we
- 11 would have a better sense of what our answers look like.
- 12 HEARING OFFICER SALK: All right. Thank you
- 13 so much. Okay. Well, it looks like based off of
- 14 responses, perhaps we can set a deadline from a month
- 15 from now. For at least initial responses if that sounds
- 16 okay to everyone. And after we discuss some further
- 17 things maybe we can discuss setting up the status
- 18 conference after the Board has ruled on some other
- 19 things as well. But I think it's a little premature for
- 20 that. So I would say let's have Friday December 1, as a
- 21 deadline for initial responses to IEPA's comments.
- 22 And if, you know, people need additional time
- 23 for additional responses, that's fine. And we can
- 24 discuss that as well later. All right. So then we will
- 25 move on to discuss the AG's motion for the Board to hold



- 1 a third hearing. So the AG filed the motion on October
- 2 26 so the 14 day deadline for responses is Thursday
- 3 November 9, does that work for everyone or do people
- 4 need more time to respond to that motion?
- 5 (No verbal response.)
- 6 HEARING OFFICER SALK: I'm not hearing any
- 7 objection to the November 9, deadline, so we'll keep
- 8 that. All right. So then we'll move onto the economic
- 9 impact study, section 27B, as in boy of the
- 10 Environmental Protection Act, provides that the Board
- 11 must request that DCEO conduct an economic impact study
- 12 of proposed rules before the Board adopts them.
- 13 The Board must then make either the study or
- 14 the department's explanation for not conducting one
- 15 available to the public at least 20 days before public
- 16 hearing. In a letter dated August 17, the Board's
- 17 chair, Barbara Flynn Curry requested that DCEO conduct
- 18 an economic impact study of this rule making proposal.
- 19 The Board specifically requested a response no
- 20 later than October 2, and the Board did not receive a
- 21 response to this request from DCEO. Is there anyone
- 22 present today who would like to testify regarding the
- 23 board's request for a study and DCEO's response?
- 24 (No verbal response.)
- 25 HEARING OFFICER SALK: Okay. Seeing none, let



- 1 me again quickly determine whether there is anyone
- 2 present who wants to testify or comment today.
- 3 (No audible response.)
- 4 HEARING OFFICER SALK: Okay. Seeing none, Mr.
- 5 court reporter, I wanted to check with you to see when
- 6 you expect to have the transcript ready if perhaps
- 7 Wednesday November 8, would work, or if you need
- 8 additional time.
- 9 THE REPORTER: Wednesday November 8, is fine.
- 10 HEARING OFFICER SALK: Okay. All right. So
- 11 we will have copies of the transcript available at the
- 12 Board by Wednesday, November 8. Once it is filed with
- 13 the Board, the transcript will be posted promptly to the
- 14 Board's website under this Docket number R23-18a. And
- 15 then the Board will also rule on the motion for a third
- 16 hearing after the response deadline has run. Are there
- 17 any other matters that need to be addressed at this
- 18 time.
- MS. BETTERHOFFER: Diane Betterhoffer with
- 20 Illinois EPA, Betterhoffer; B-E-T-T-E-R-H-O-F-F-E-R. I
- 21 actually just had a quick clarification. You had
- 22 indicated that it's a little premature to talk about
- 23 dates for maybe and status call. How do you intend to
- 24 notify all the participants of when the status call will
- 25 be, will there be a hearing officer order?



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               HEARING OFFICER SALK: Yes, I definitely
 1
 2
    anticipate a hearing officer order for that, yes.
              MS. BETTERHOFFER: Thank you.
 3
              HEARING OFFICER SALK: Are there any other
 4
 5
    questions?
                    (No verbal response.)
 7
               HEARING OFFICER SALK: Anything else?
 8
    right. Neither seeing or hearing any, thank you to
    everyone for participating the second hearing is
 9
    adjourned.
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    COUNTY OF COOK
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    electronic reporter doing business in the State of
    Illinois; reported the proceedings that were held on the
    date, time and place set out on the title page hereof;
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    and that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript
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    of report of proceedings so taken aforesaid.
               I further certify that I am not related to any
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    of the parties, and I have no financial interest in the
    outcome of this matter.
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               Michael Marciniak
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              MICHAEL R. MARCINIAK.
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              Certified Electronic Reporter, CER-2316
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              Notary Public
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