

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

October 4, 2007

MIDWEST GENERATION, LLC, JOLIET)	
GENERATING STATION,)	
)	
Petitioner,)	
)	
v.)	PCB 08-24
)	(Permit Appeal - Air)
ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL)	
PROTECTION AGENCY,)	
)	
Respondent.)	

ORDER OF THE BOARD (by A.S. Moore):

On September 6, 2007, Midwest Generation, LLC, Joliet Generating Station (Midwest Generation), filed a petition (Pet.) asking the Board to review an August 8, 2007 determination of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Agency). See 415 ILCS 5/40(a)(1) (2006); 35 Ill. Adm. Code 105.206(a). The Agency issued a construction permit with conditions for Midwest Generation’s electric generation facility located at 1800 Channahon Road, Joliet, Will County. Midwest Generation appeals on the ground that the Agency has inappropriately included conditions. Midwest Generation also requested that the Board grant a partial stay of the construction permit by staying specified conditions or portions of conditions. In an order dated September 20, 2007, the Board accepted Midwest Generation’s petition for hearing but reserved ruling on the requested stay pending the Agency’s response.

In its request for a partial stay, Midwest Generation argues that, “[h]istorically, the Board has granted partial stays in permit appeals where a petitioner has so requested.” Pet. at 5 (citations omitted). Stressing the risk that it will suffer irreparable harm and that the environment will not benefit from improved pollution control, Midwest Generation asks “that the Board exercise its inherent discretionary authority to grant a partial stay of the construction permit” *Id.* at 5-6. Specifically, Midwest Generation seeks to stay specified portions of Conditions 1(b)(ii), 2(a), 2(a) Note, 4, 5(a), 5(b), 5(b)(i), 5(c), and 6, as indicated in Exhibit 2 filed with its petition. *Id.*; see also *id.*, Exh. 2.

Section 101.500(d) of the Board’s procedural rules provides that, “[w]ithin 14 days after service of a motion, a party may file a response to the motion. If no response is filed, the party will be deemed to have waived objection to the granting of the motion, but the waiver of objection does not bind the Board or the hearing officer in its disposition of the motion.” 35 Ill. Adm. Code 101.500(d). The Agency has filed no response to Midwest Generation’s request for a partial stay.

In Community Landfill Co. and City of Morris v. IEPA, PCB 01-48, 01-49, slip op. at 4 (Oct. 19, 2000), the Board found "that it has the authority to grant discretionary stays from

permit conditions." The Board noted it "has previously granted or denied discretionary stays in permit appeals, both when the Agency did and did not consent to such stays." *Id.* (citations omitted). The Board elaborated that "[t]he permit appeal system would be rendered meaningless in many cases, if the Board did not have the authority to stay permit conditions." *Id.*

The Board has reviewed Midwest Generation's Exhibit 2, entitled "Joliet Construction Permit, redlined to indicate the specific language Midwest Generation requests be stayed." Pet., Exh. 2. The Board notes that Exhibit 2 strikes all or part of Conditions 1(b)(ii), 2(a), 2(a) Note, 4, 5(a), 5(b), 5(b)(i), 5(c), and 6 of Midwest Generation's construction permit. *See id.*

With only one exception, the Board grants the requested stay as those contested conditions are reflected in the edited permit filed as Exhibit 2 to Midwest Generation's petition for review and request for stay. Specifically, the Board notes that Midwest Generation has neither appealed nor sought to stay Condition 5(b)(ii). However, that condition describing records is rendered virtually meaningless without giving effect to the portion of the first paragraph of Condition 5(b) requiring the permittee to maintain them. Accordingly, the Board declines to stay the following portion of the first paragraph of Condition 5(b): "The Permittee shall maintain the following records for the sorbent injection system:".

The edited permit filed as Exhibit 2 to Midwest Generation's petition for review and request for stay indicates the scope of the partial stay granted by the Board as plainly as any summary the Board might provide. The Board has amended Condition 5 in that exhibit as described in the preceding paragraph. Accordingly, the Board incorporates that document into this order. For the parties' convenience, that document is attached to this order as Attachment A.

The partial stay remains in effect until the Board takes final action on the construction permit appeal, or until the Board orders otherwise.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

I, John T. Therriault, Assistant Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, certify that the Board adopted the above order on October 4, 2007, by a vote of 4-0.



John T. Therriault, Assistant Clerk
Illinois Pollution Control Board



CONSTRUCTION PERMIT

PERMITTEE

Midwest Generation EME, LLC - Joliet Generating Station
Attn: Andrea Crapisi
440 South LaSalle Street, Suite 3500
Chicago, Illinois 60605

Application No.: 07060013 I.D. No.: 197809AAO
Applicant's Designation: Date Received: June 4, 2007
Subject: Sorbent Injection Systems for Units 6, 7, and 8
Date Issued: August 8, 2007
Location: Joliet Generating Station, 1800 Channahon Road, Joliet

Permit is hereby granted to the above-designated Permittee to CONSTRUCT equipment consisting of a sorbent injection system to control mercury emissions for each of the Unit 6, 7, and 8 boilers, as described in the above referenced application. This Permit is subject to standard conditions attached hereto and the following special condition(s):

- 1a. This Permit authorizes construction of sorbent injection systems for each of the existing coal-fired boilers for Units 6, 7 and 8 (affected boilers). The new sorbent injection systems would control mercury emissions by injecting sorbent, i.e., halogenated activated carbon, into the flue gas from these existing coal-fired boilers prior to the electrostatic precipitators (ESPs) for each affected boiler.
- b.
 - i. This permit is issued based on this project being an emissions control project, whose purpose and effect will be to reduce emissions of mercury from the existing coal-fired boilers and which will not significantly increase emissions of other PSD pollutants. As such, the terms and conditions of the existing permits will continue to govern emissions and operation of the boilers except as specifically indicated.
 - ii. This permit is issued based on negligible particulate matter (PM) emissions from the storage and handling of sorbent for the sorbent injection systems. ~~For this purpose emissions shall not exceed 0.44 tons/year. However, the Permittee shall comply with all applicable requirements of 35 Ill. Adm. Code Part 212 that apply to the storage and handling of sorbent.~~
- c. This permit does not authorize any modifications to the affected boilers or generating units, which would increase capacity or potential emissions.
- 2a. ~~The Permittee shall comply with applicable emission standards and requirements related to mercury emissions for the affected boilers pursuant to 35 IAC Part 225, Subpart B and/or Subpart F, by the applicable dates specified by these rules.~~

~~Note: The Permittee expects that it will comply with certain provisions of 35 IAC Part 225, Subpart F, which is still proposed, as an~~

~~alternative to compliance with 35 IAC Part 225, Subpart B. If the Permittee elects to comply with 35 IAC Part 225, Subpart F, certain provisions of subpart B would not be applicable, and the provisions of Subpart F would set the dates when certain other requirements do become applicable.~~

- b. This permit does not affect the authorizations in existing operating permits for the affected boilers, pursuant to 35 IAC 201.149, 201.161 and 201.262, that allow the Permittee:
 - i. To operate an affected boiler in violation of certain state emission standards during startup of the boiler or the terms and conditions that accompanied such authorization.
 - ii. To continue to operate an affected boiler in violation of certain state emission standards during malfunction or breakdown of the boiler, including control devices and ancillary systems, or the terms and conditions that accompanied such authorization.
- 3. At all times, the Permittee shall, to the extent practicable, maintain and operate the sorbent injection systems including storage and handling of sorbent, in a manner consistent with good air pollution control practice for minimizing emissions from the existing coal-fired boilers and the source.
- 4a. ~~The Permittee shall comply with all applicable requirements of 35 IAC Part 225, by the dates specified in the rules, related to monitoring of mercury emissions from the affected boilers.~~
- b. ~~If the sorbent injection systems can be adjusted remotely by personnel in the control room, the Permittee shall install, operate, and maintain instrumentation for measuring rate of sorbent injection for each affected boiler with the status of the system.~~
- 5a. ~~The Permittee shall maintain following records for the coal supply for the affected boilers:~~
 - i. ~~Applicable records required by 35 IAC Part 225, by the dates specified in the rules, related to sampling and analysis of the coal supply to the affected boilers for its mercury content.~~
 - ii. ~~Records of mercury and heat content of the current coal supply to the affected boilers, with supporting data for the associated sampling and analysis methodology, so as to have representative data for the mercury content of the coal supply.~~
- b. The Permittee shall maintain the following records for the sorbent injection system on each affected boiler:
 - i. ~~An operating log or other records for the system that, at a minimum, identify the sorbent that is being used, the setting(s) for sorbent injection rate and each period of time when an affected boiler was in operation without the system being operated with explanation, e.g., the boiler was being fired on natural gas.~~

- ii. Maintenance and repair log or other records for the system that, at a minimum, list the activities performed, with date and description.
- c. ~~The Permittee shall maintain following records related to mercury emissions from the affected boilers:~~
 - i. ~~All applicable records required by 35 IAC Part 225, by the dates specified in the rules, related of monitoring mercury emissions.~~
 - ii. ~~During the period before the Permittee is required to conduct monitoring for the mercury emissions of the affected boilers pursuant to 35 IAC Part 225, the Permittee shall maintain records of any mercury emission data collected for the affected boilers, including emissions or control efficiency with identification and description of the mode of operation.~~
- d. The Permittee shall retain all records required by this permit at the source for at least 5 years from the date of entry and these records shall be readily accessible to the Illinois EPA for inspection and copying upon request.
6. ~~If there is any deviation from the requirements of this permit, the Permittee shall submit a report to the Illinois EPA within 30 days after the deviation or such other time period specified in the current CAAPP permit issued for the source. The report shall include a description of the deviation, a copy of relevant records, and measures to reduce emissions and future occurrences.~~
7. The Permittee shall notify the Illinois EPA when sorbent injection systems on affected boilers start operating.
8. The Illinois EPA has determined that this project, as described in the application, will not constitute a modification of the boilers under the federal New Source Performance Standards, 40 CFR 60, as the project has the primary function of reducing emissions and therefore is not considered a modification pursuant to 40 CFR 60.14(e)(5).
9. Two copies of required reports and notifications shall be sent to the Illinois EPA's Compliance Section at the following address unless otherwise indicated:

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Division of Air Pollution Control
Compliance Section (#40)
P.O. Box 19276
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276

and one copy shall be sent to the Illinois EPA's regional office at the following address unless otherwise indicated:

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency/Regional Office
Division of Air Pollution Control
9511 West Harrison
Des Plaines, Illinois 60016

Electronic Filing, Received, Clerk's Office, September 6, 2007
*** * * * * PCB 2008-024 * * * * ***

10. The affected boilers may be operated with sorbent injection systems pursuant to this construction permit until an operating permit becomes effective that addresses operation of these boilers with these systems.

If you have any questions on this permit, please call Kunj Patel at 217/782-2113.

Edwin C. Bakowski, P.E.
Acting Manager, Permit Section
Division of Air Pollution Control

Date Signed: _____

ECB:CPR:KMP:jws

cc: Region