

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
October 15, 2009

UNITED STATES STEEL)
CORPORATION, a Delaware corporation,)
)
Petitioner,)
)
v.) PCB 10-23
) (CAAPP Permit Appeal - Air)
ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL)
PROTECTION AGENCY,)
)
Respondent.)

ORDER OF THE BOARD (by T.E. Johnson):

On October 7, 2009, United States Steel Corporation (U.S. Steel) timely filed a petition (Pet.) asking the Board to review a September 3, 2009 determination of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Agency). *See* 415 ILCS 5/40.2(a) (2008); 35 Ill. Adm. Code 101.300(b), 105.302(e). The Agency's determination concerns U.S. Steel's integrated steel mill plant at 20th and State Streets, Granite City, Madison County. For the reasons below, the Board accepts U.S. Steel's petition for hearing.

Section 39.5 of the Environmental Protection Act (Act) (415 ILCS 5/39.5 (2008)) sets forth the Clean Air Act Permit Program (CAAPP), reflecting the requirements of Title V of the federal Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 (42 U.S.C. §§ 7661-7661f). Generally, a CAAPP permit is designed to be a single, comprehensive document of all air pollution obligations that apply to facility. The Agency decides whether to approve CAAPP permit applications, and Agency decisions may be appealed to the Board by, among others, the permit applicant and persons who participated in the Agency's public comment process. *See* 415 ILCS 5/40.2(a) (2008); 35 Ill. Adm. Code 105.Subpart C. In this case, the Agency issued a CAAPP permit, subject to conditions, for U.S. Steel's facility.

Section 40.2(a) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/40.2(a) (2008)) allows several persons to appeal Agency CAAPP permit determinations: permit applicants; persons who participated in the Agency's public comment process under Section 39.5(8) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/39.5(8) (2008)); and persons who could obtain judicial review under Section 41(a) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/41(a) (2008)). *See* 415 ILCS 5/40.2(a) (2008); 35 Ill. Adm. Code 105.302(c). U.S. Steel is the CAAPP permit applicant. U.S. Steel appeals on the grounds that the Agency's determination in regards to conditions of the permit was arbitrary, capricious, and not supported by the Act or Board regulations. Pet. at 3-45. U.S. Steel challenges the inclusion of these conditions and asks the Board to stay their effect until ultimately ruling on the merits. *Id.* at 45. To date, the Board has not received a response from the Agency regarding U.S. Steel's request for a stay. The Board today reserves ruling on stay issues until the Agency has filed a response or the response time has elapsed. 35 Ill. Adm. Code 101.500(d).

The Board accepts the petition for hearing. U.S. Steel has the burden of proof. *See* 415 ILCS 5/40.2(a) (2008); 35 Ill. Adm. Code 105.112(a). Hearings will be based exclusively on the record before the Agency at the time the Agency issued its permit decision. Accordingly, though the Board hearing affords petitioner the opportunity to challenge the Agency's reasons for its decision, information developed after the Agency's decision typically is not admitted at hearing or considered by the Board. *See* Alton Packaging Corp. v. PCB, 162 Ill. App. 3d 731, 738, 516 N.E.2d 275, 280 (5th Dist. 1987); Community Landfill Co. & City of Morris v. IEPA, PCB 01-170 (Dec. 6, 2001), *aff'd sub nom.* Community Landfill Co. & City of Morris v. PCB & IEPA, 331 Ill. App. 3d 1056, 772 N.E.2d 231 (3rd Dist. 2002).

Hearings will be scheduled and completed in a timely manner, consistent with the decision deadline (*see* 415 ILCS 5/40.2(c) (2008)), which only U.S. Steel may extend by waiver (*see* 35 Ill. Adm. Code 101.308). If the Board fails to take final action by the decision deadline, "the permit shall not be deemed issued; rather, the petitioner shall be entitled to an Appellate Court order pursuant to Section 41(d) of this Act [415 ILCS 5/41(d) (2008)]." 415 ILCS 5/40.2(c) (2008). Currently, the decision deadline is March 4, 2010, which is the 120th day after the Board received the petition. *See* 35 Ill. Adm. Code 105.114. A Board meeting is scheduled on the decision deadline.

Unless the Board or the hearing officer orders otherwise, the Agency must file an answer, including the entire record of its determination within 30 days after it is served with the petition. *See* 35 Ill. Adm. Code 105.302(f). If the Agency wishes to seek additional time to file the record, it must file a request for extension before the date on which the record is due to be filed. *See* 35 Ill. Adm. Code 105.116. The record must comply with the content requirements of 35 Ill. Adm. Code 105.302(f).

IT IS SO ORDERED.

I, John Therriault, Assistant Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, certify that the Board adopted the above order on October 15, 2009, by a vote of 5-0.



John Therriault, Assistant Clerk
Illinois Pollution Control Board