



Citizens
Against
Ruining the
Environment

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June 29, 2011

Bradley Halloran, Hearing Officer
Illinois Pollution Control Board
James R. Thompson Center
100 W. Randolph St.
Ste 11-500
Chicago, IL 60601

RECEIVED
CLERK'S OFFICE
JUL 19 2011
PC#1
STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

Re: Exxon Mobil Oil Corporation Pollution Variance
PCB 11-86

Citizens Against Ruining the Environment ~ CARE is an environmental organization located in Will County. We are extremely opposed to Exxon Mobile's request to the IL Pollution Control Board for a Pollution Variance for Nitrogen Oxides under Title IX of the Environmental Protection Act (415 ILCS5/35-38).

Since 1995 CARE has been working toward cleaner air standards. Will County is a non attainment area for many air pollutants. It is a well known fact that Will County and Illinois' residents, fish and animal chain and the environment have been and are currently suffering from the negative effects of hazardous air pollution. We have spoken many times relating to our concerns of the cumulative effects of air pollution from various industries such as coal fired power plants and companies such as Exxon Mobile. We know that NOx emissions cause death, respiratory and lung disease, degrades our water quality and negatively effects our environment, humans and animals.

Data that we've collected states that "These pollutants also affect animals similarly as humans. Pollutants such as nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), are known to be highly toxic to various animals as well as to humans. We know that high levels may be fatal, while lower levels affect the delicate structure of lung tissue. As with ozone, long-term exposure to nitrogen oxides makes animals more susceptible to respiratory infections. Nitrogen dioxide exposure lowers the resistance of animals to such diseases as pneumonia and influenza. Humans exposed to high concentrations suffer lung irritation and potentially lung damage. Increased respiratory disease has been associated with lower level exposures."

No industry in IL, including Exxon Mobile should be given variances or extensions. Industry must not be allowed to continue poisoning our air one additional day. We must protect the quality of our lives. Exxon Mobile has until December 31, 2014 to come into compliance – that is more than sufficient time considering that industries have known for many years that Nitrogen Oxide can be fatal to humans.

Thanking you in advance for your considerations,

Ellen Rendulich, Director, 815.834.1611

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"Above all - the protection of human health and the environment should always be considered first." CARE