



ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

1021 North Grand Avenue East, P.O. Box 19276, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276 • (217) 782-2829
James R. Thompson Center, 100 West Randolph, Suite 11-300, Chicago, IL 60601 • (312) 814-6026

PAT QUINN, GOVERNOR

DOUGLAS P. SCOTT, DIRECTOR

November 24, 2009

John Therriault
Assistant Clerk
Illinois Pollution Control Board
100 West Randolph St., Suite 11-500
Chicago, IL 60601

RECEIVED
CLERK'S OFFICE
NOV 30 2009
STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

IEPA-10-2

Re: Notice of Grant of Provisional Variance
Equistar Chemicals, LP

Dear Mr. Therriault:

Attached please find a copy of a provisional variance that the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency ("Illinois EPA") granted to Equistar Chemicals, LP, in Douglas County. As you may know, the Illinois Environmental Protection Act requires the Illinois EPA to promptly file a copy of its provisional variance decisions with the Illinois Pollution Control Board. *See*, 415 ILCS 5/37(b). This letter and attachment should adequately fulfill the Illinois EPA's statutory obligation.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

John J. Kim
Chief Legal Counsel



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DOUGLAS P. SCOTT, DIRECTOR

November 24, 2009

F. Walter Pinto
Site Manager
Equistar Chemicals, LP
625 East U.S. Highway 36
Tuscola, IL 61953

Certified Mail
Return Receipt Requested
7007 3020 0002 3214 4630

IEPA 09-GR-01

Re: Grant of Provisional Variance from 35 Ill. Adm. Code 215.301

Dear Mr. Pinto:

On October 28, 2009, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency ("Illinois EPA") received from Equistar Chemicals, LP ("Equistar"), a request for a provisional variance from the requirement under 35 Ill. Adm. Code 215.301 for emissions from an uncontrolled process vent in an alcohol unit during a plant trial of a new product. The request was accepted for review pursuant to the requirements of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act ("Act") and applicable regulations.

The Illinois EPA has evaluated the request in accordance with the requirements of Sections 35, 36, and 37 of the Act and the Illinois EPA's regulations set forth at 35 Ill. Adm. Code Part 180. The Illinois EPA is granting Equistar's request for provisional variance, subject to the conditions delineated below, due to the short-term nature of the relief and because the request and supporting documentation have demonstrated that an arbitrary and unreasonable hardship would result in the event of a denial.

The Illinois EPA is granting Equistar relief from the aforementioned regulatory requirement under Section 215.301 for a 45-day period, as requested by Equistar. Specifically, this relief is granted from May 10, 2010, until June 24, 2010, at which time this grant and its terms expire. This action affording relief is based, in principal part, upon Equistar's representation that no significant adverse environmental effect is expected as a result of the requested relief. The requested relief shall extend to Equistar's uncontrolled process vent in the alcohol unit during a trial of the manufacture of isopropanol ("IPA"), subject to the following conditions:

1. Equistar shall notify the Illinois EPA in writing at least 3 days before the initial start of the IPA trial and within 7 days after the conclusion of the IPA trial.
2. Equistar shall maintain and submit to the Illinois EPA records containing all data collected throughout the term of this provisional variance for the IPA trial regarding propylene feed (lb) and IPA manufactured (lb).

Rockford • 4302 N. Main St., Rockford, IL 61103 • (815) 987-7760

Elgin • 595 S. State, Elgin, IL 60123 • (847) 608-3131

Bureau of Land — Peoria • 7620 N. University St., Peoria, IL 61614 • (309) 693-5462

Collinsville • 2009 Mall Street, Collinsville, IL 62234 • (618) 346-5120

Des Plaines • 9511 W. Harrison St., Des Plaines, IL 60016 • (847) 294-4000

Peoria • 5415 N. University St., Peoria, IL 61614 • (309) 693-5463

Champaign • 2125 S. First St., Champaign, IL 61820 • (217) 278-5800

Marion • 2309 W. Main St., Suite 116, Marion, IL 62959 • (618) 993-7200

3. Equistar shall maintain and submit to the Illinois EPA records of actual organic material emissions, on an hourly basis, throughout the term of this provisional variance from the IPA trial with supporting data and calculations.
4. Equistar shall maintain an operation log throughout the term of this provisional variance for the IPA trial, including the dates of plant changeover to and from the trial, startup date of the IPA trial, and duration of the IPA trial.
5. Reports and information required under paragraphs 2 and 3 above shall be submitted within 30 days after the term of the provisional variance to:

Bureau of Air Compliance Unit
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
1021 N. Grand Ave. East
P.O. Box 19276
Springfield, IL 62794-9276

The Illinois EPA requests that Equistar, following receipt of this provisional variance, submit a certification to the Illinois EPA signifying its acceptance of the terms and conditions expressed herein. The certification should be mailed to the Illinois EPA within 10 days of the date of this provisional variance and should be signed by the owner or operator, as follows:

Certification

I (We), _____, have read the terms and conditions of the Illinois EPA's provisional variance, dated November 24, 2009, and, I (we) hereby accept and agree to abide by the terms and conditions expressed therein.

The certification should be mailed, by certified mail, to the undersigned.

Sincerely,



John J. Kim
Chief Legal Counsel