

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



United States Steel Corporation
Penn Liberty Plaza I
1350 Penn Avenue, Suite 200
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4211
412 433-6191
Fax: 412 433-5920

Richard L. Menozzi
Director-Environmental Remediation
Environmental Affairs

February 3, 2011

VIA UPS OVERNIGHT DELIVERY and email

Ms. Tamara Ohl
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region 5
77 West Jackson Blvd. (LU-9J)
Chicago, IL 60604

Subject: Notification of Proposed Modification
TSCA Approval - Corrective Action Management Unit 1
U. S. Steel – Gary Works
IND 005 444 062

Dear Ms. Ohl,

This letter is notice that U. S. Steel is proposing a modification of the Toxic Substance Control Act Approval ("TSCA Approval"), as issued for the Corrective Action Management Unit ("CAMU") Unit 1 at the Gary Works, located in Gary, IN, on January 24, 2011. The modification is required due to the Project Specific Water Treatment Plant not being able to treat the waters from the CAMU to within the recently imposed discharge limits for ammonia, as required by U. S. Steel's NPDES permit. The NPDES permit effective December 1, 2006, established concentration and loading limits for discharge of ammonia following year 3 of the 5 year permit. The new permit limits became effective on December 1, 2009.

This modification addresses the proposed management of the CAMU leachate through a spray system positioned within CAMU Unit 2 that will not only reduce the leachate volume through evaporation and plant transpiration, but eliminate discharge to the Grand Calumet River. U. S. Steel will pump the leachate through granulated activated carbon, to remove volatile and semi-volatile chemicals, prior to the leachate being evaporated via the spray system. U. S. Steel has conducted a pilot test of this system and has provided the results (including leachate influent and effluent data along with air monitoring data) to the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") and the Indiana Department of Environmental Management ("IDEM"). While this modification will require a revision to the TSCA Approval to incorporate the spray system, U. S. Steel will continue to maintain its' current NPDES discharge permit for discharge of treated wastewaters to the Grand Calumet River.

The modified sections of the TSCA Approval, paragraphs 29 and 30, are attached to this letter. The modifications are provided in a "red-lined" format.

To this end, U. S. Steel will schedule a meeting at Gary Public Library – Main Branch at (1:30 p.m. CST) on March 3, 2011, to provide information to the public and to seek public comment on the modification. The notice of this meeting will be published on or before February 15, 2011 in the Northwest Indiana (NWI) Times and the Post Tribune (Gary, IN). Doug Boyea will serve as the U. S. Steel contact.

If you have any questions about this matter, do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

cc w/attch
via email

Fred Harnack
Mark Rupnow
Jeff Rey
Doug Boyea
Parker Adams
Mardanna Soto
James Alexander
Dave Smiga
Robert Casselberry
Joe Pricener
Chuck Rice
Erin DiPietro
Shaik Quadri (URS)
Thomas Martin (EPA)
Steve West (IDEM)
Hala Kuss (IDEM)

Attachment to RLMenozzi 2/3/11 letter to Ms Tammy Ohl

U. S. Steel proposed edits to paragraphs 29 and 30 of the TSCA Approval, as issued January 24, 2011.

29. While USS maintains a NPDES permit authorizing the final discharge of treated water from the CAMU to the Grand Calumet River through an existing USS outfall, USS will treat waters from the CAMU through granulated activated carbon (GAC) vessels in advance of conveying such waters from the CAMU to an evaporative spray system located and operated within CAMU Unit 2.

Deleted: obtained

Deleted: an

Deleted: a new or

Deleted: before use of Unit 1.

30. Should treated water from the CAMU be discharged into the Grand Calumet River through an existing outfall, water monitoring must include a sampling point after the final treatment of the CAMU and in Units 1 and 2 of the CAMU and must follow the collection, testing and evaluation requirements specified in USS' NPDES permit for the CAMU. Should waters from the CAMU be managed through the spray evaporation system, USS will collect, test and evaluate the influent and effluent at the GAC units (weekly), to assure the operational efficiency of the GAC units. Supernatant water level, if present, must be monitored to show the maximum water elevation. Freeboard within the CAMU may not be less than 2.5 feet. Maximum water elevation must be recorded monthly and reported annually.

Deleted: a new or