

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

PUBLIC NOTICE

BASF Fina Petrochemical LP, Ethylene Cracker Facility

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF PROPOSED PERMIT AND PUBLIC HEARING, AND REQUEST
FOR PUBLIC COMMENT OF PROPOSED CLEAN AIR ACT GREENHOUSE GAS
PREVENTION OF SIGNIFICANT DETERIORATION PRECONSTRUCTION PERMIT**

Public Comment Period April 26, 2012 – May 26, 2012

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) provides notice of and requests public comment on the EPA's proposed action relating to the Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) permit application for the BASF NAFTA Region Olefins Complex. EPA is issuing notice of a draft PSD permit for the BASF facility that if finalized would regulate the greenhouse gas air pollutant emissions associated with the project to construct an ethylene cracking furnace, and to modify existing supporting units in accordance with the PSD regulation (40 CFR 52.21). The project is located at State Hwy 366, Port Arthur, TX 77643 at the following coordinates: 29°57' 14.11 N, -93°53' 02.26 W.

EPA concludes that BASF's application is subject to PSD review for the pollutant GHGs, as the project will result in increased greenhouse gas emissions for a facility described at 40 CFR 52.21 (b)(49)(iv). The proposed project consists of the construction of a new ethylene cracking furnace to the existing furnace bank as well as the modification of existing supporting units to produce utilities (electricity and steam) consumed by the site. The existing equipment being modified are two package boilers, two auxiliary co-generation turbine duct burners, and decoking drum. EPA region 6 implements a Greenhouse Gas (GHG) PSD Federal Implementation Plan (FIP) for Texas under the provisions of 40 CFR 52.21 (except paragraph (a)(1)). *See 40 CFR 52.2305*

Any interested individual may submit written comments on EPA's proposed PSD permit for the project. All written comments on EPA's proposed action must be received by EPA via e-mail by May 26, 2012, or postmarked by May 26, 2012. Comments must be sent or delivered in writing to Aimee Wilson at one of the following addresses.

E-Mail: wilson.aimee@epa.gov

U.S. Mail: Aimee Wilson
Air Permits Section (6PD-R)
U.S. EPA, Region 6
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200
Dallas, TX 75202

All comments on the draft permit must be received in writing by e-mail or postmarked by May 26, 2012 to the address above. EPA will respond to and consider comments in making the final decision regarding the issuing of the permit. Similar comments may be grouped together in the response, and EPA will not respond to individual commenters directly.

Additionally, all comments will be included in the public docket without change, and may be made available to the public, including any personal information provided, unless the comment includes Confidential Business Information or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Thus, confidential business information or other protected information should be clearly identified as such, and should not be submitted through e-mail. Any e-mails sent directly to the EPA, will capture your e-mail address automatically and will be included as part of the public comment. *Please note that an e-mail or postal address must be provided with your comments if you wish to receive direct notification of EPA's final decision regarding the permit, and responses to comments submitted during the public comment period.*

An extension of the 30-day comment period may be granted if the request for an extension adequately demonstrates why additional time is required to prepare comments.

Public Hearing: If there is a significant amount of public interest in the draft permit, EPA has discretion to hold a public hearing. Any requests for a public hearing must be received by EPA by email or mail by May 23, 2012, and must state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised in the hearing. Attendance at the public hearing is not required in order to submit written comments. *If the EPA determines that there is significant public interest, a public hearing will be held on June 4, 2012 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the following location:*

City of Port Arthur
Robert A. "Bob" Bowers Civic Center
Hall C
3401 Cultural Center Drive
Port Arthur, Texas 77642
(409) 985-8801

If a public hearing is held, the public comment period shall automatically be extended to the close of the public hearing. EPA has the right to cancel a public hearing if no request for a public hearing is received by May 23, 2012 or EPA determines that there is not significant interest. *If the hearing is canceled*, EPA will post an announcement of the cancellation by May 29, 2012 on EPA's website <http://yosemite.epa.gov/r6/Apermit.nsf/AirP>. Individuals may also call the EPA at the above contact number to determine if the public hearing has been cancelled.

Permit Documents: EPA's draft permit, EPA's preliminary determination and statement of basis, BASF Fina's permit application and supporting documentation, and comments received from the public, other government agencies, and the applicant during the public comment period become part of the administrative record for the permit. In addition, all data submitted by the applicant is available as a part of the administrative record. The public can access the administrative record at the following locations (please call in advance for available viewing times):

Groves Public Library
5600 W. Washington
Groves, Texas 77619
Phone: 409-962-6281

Port Arthur Public Library
4615 9th Avenue
Port Arthur, Texas 77642
Phone: 409-985-8838

EPA Region 6 Office

1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200

Dallas, TX 75126

Phone: 214-665-7200

Final Determination: A final decision to issue a permit, or to deny the application for the permit shall be made after all comments have been considered. Notice of the final decision shall be sent to each person who has submitted written comments or requested notice of the final permit decision, provided EPA has adequate contact information.