

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

\*\*\*PUBLIC NOTICE\*\*\*

**Formosa Plastics Corporation, Point Comfort, TX Chemical Complex Expansion**

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

Permit Number: PSD-TX-1383-GHG

Public Comment Period June 21, 2014 to July 21, 2014

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) provides notice of and requests public comments on the EPA's proposed action relating to the Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) permit application for the Formosa Plastics Corporation, Point Comfort, TX, Chemical Complex Expansion Project. If finalized, the permit would regulate greenhouse gas (GHG) pollutant emissions associated with the project to expand Formosa's existing chemical complex in Point Comfort, TX. The proposed construction will occur at 201 Formosa Drive, Point Comfort, TX 77978, in Calhoun County.

Under the provisions of 40 CFR § 52.21 (except paragraph (a)(1)), EPA Region 6 implements a greenhouse gas PSD Federal Implementation Plan (FIP) for Texas. *See 40 CFR § 52.2305.* As the project will result in increased GHG emissions for a facility described at 40 CFR § 52.21(b)(49)(v), EPA concludes that the application is subject to PSD review for GHG emissions. Formosa submitted three separate permit applications for the three different operational area expansions and this permit is only for the GHG emissions for construction of a new olefins production unit. The Olefins 3 expansion project at the Point Comfort chemical complex proposes to construct a new olefins production unit consisting of 14 ethylene pyrolysis furnaces, recovery equipment, refrigeration, utilities, cooling, and treatment systems. The major pieces of recovery equipment include a quench tower, cracked gas compression, caustic wash tower, refrigeration systems, deethanizer, demethanizer, ethylene fractionator, depropanizer, debutanizer. In addition, a cooling tower, a flare system (two low pressure steam-assisted ground and two-staged air-assisted elevated flare). The olefins expansion project will also include the construction of a propane dehydrogenation (PDH) unit that will include a depropanizer tower, four PDH reactors, heat recovery system, compression, refrigeration and chilling train, deethanizer, propylene fractionators, four steam boilers, and cooling tower. All parts of the project are subject to PSD review. This proposed permit addresses the GHG emissions for the Olefins 3 expansion project to provide 1,750,000 TPY of ethylene product for Formosa's operations.

Any interested individual may submit written comments on EPA's proposed PSD permit for this Formosa Plastics Corporation Point Comfort, TX, Chemical Complex Expansion Project. All comments must be received in writing by July 21, 2014, or postmarked by July 21, 2014, to Erica Le Doux at one of the following addresses:

EPA Contact: Erica Le Doux

Phone Number: (214) 665-7265

E-mail: [ledoux.ERICA@epa.gov](mailto:ledoux.ERICA@epa.gov)

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

EPA will consider and respond to all comments in making the final decision regarding the issuing of the permit. Similar comments may be grouped together in the response, and the EPA will not respond to individual commenters directly.

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

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 EPA determines that there is a significant amount of public interest in the draft permit, the EPA has the right to hold a public hearing. Any request for a public hearing must be received by the EPA either by email or mail by July 14, 2014, 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 July 30, 2014, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the following location:

**Point Comfort City Hall**

102 Jones St  
Point Comfort, TX 77978  
(361) 987-2661

If a public hearing is held, the public comment period shall automatically be extended to the close of the public hearing. The EPA maintains the right to cancel a public hearing if no request for a public hearing is received by July 14, 2014, or the EPA determines that there is not a significant interest. *If the public hearing is cancelled*, notification of the cancellation will be posted by July 18, 2014, on the EPA's Website <http://yosemite.epa.gov/r6/Apermit.nsf/AirP>. Individuals may also call the EPA at the contact number listed above to determine if the public hearing has been cancelled.

**Permit Documents:** EPA's draft permit, EPA's preliminary determination and statement of basis, Formosa Plastics Corporation'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):

**Calhoun County Branch Library**

1 Lamar St.  
Point Comfort, TX 77978  
(361) 987-2954

**EPA Region 6 Office**

1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200  
Dallas, TX 75202  
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 the EPA has adequate contact information.