

Public Notice  
Mississippi Environmental Quality Permit Board  
P. O. Box 2261  
Jackson, MS 39225  
Telephone No. (601) 961-5171

Public Notice Start Date: September 5, 2019

MDEQ Contact: Jeffrey Bland

The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality proposes to issue the statewide Oil Production General Permit for industrial activities at oil production sites. This permit covers the State of Mississippi and will authorize the construction and operation of air emissions equipment located at Synthetic Minor sources, which are in the oil production industry. New and existing oil production facilities operating in the State of Mississippi requesting coverage under this permit must operate under Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) 1311.

Oil production facilities consist of oil wells drilled for the primary purpose of producing oil. The crude oil and gas mixture enters a separator, or series of separators, where the oil, water, and gas is divided into individual components. A separator may include a gas-fired heater treater. Following separation, oil and water are piped to onsite storage tanks and the produced gas is piped to a flare for combustion or a sales line for product recovery. Gaseous emissions from the storage tanks, including losses (working and breathing) and flash gas, can be piped to the flare for combustion. Oil is loaded from the storage tanks using tanker trucks. Loading emissions are typically vented to the atmosphere but may be routed to a flare. Water may also be loaded from the storage tanks using tanker trucks or piped to a nearby injection well for disposal. Sites may also include small gas-fired line heaters; reciprocating internal combustion engines for pumping, compression, or power; as well as, small miscellaneous chemical storage vessels for well and/or engine maintenance.

Emissions resulting from the operation of oil production facilities include particulate matter, particulate matter less than 10 micrometers in diameter, carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, volatile organic compounds, and hazardous air pollutants. Air emissions from oil production facilities covered under this General Permit are subject to federally enforceable standards and monitoring and recordkeeping conditions to prevent emissions from exceeding Title V major source thresholds. The facilities will be subject to a federally enforceable permit condition requiring the produced gas to be captured for product recovery or controlled by a flare with a maximum destruction efficiency of 98%. Emission data shall be calculated utilizing gas flow measurement, gas analysis, and any other relevant information. A Statement of Basis has been prepared that contains a discussion of the development of the permit and provides a record of the technical issues surrounding issuance of the permit.

The staff of the Permit Board has evaluated the draft general permit and has made a preliminary determination that the Oil Production General Permit meets the applicable requirements of the Standards of Performance for New Stationary Sources, National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants, and applicable provisions of the Mississippi Air and Water Pollution Control Law. Facilities granted coverage under this permit and adhering to conditions contained therein should operate within State and Federal environmental laws and standards concerning the operation of air emission equipment. However, before proceeding to the final staff evaluation, public comments are being solicited. The staff recommendation to the Board, as well as the Board decision, will be made only after a thorough consideration of all public comments.

Persons wishing to comment upon the proposed determinations are invited to submit comments in writing to Jeffrey Bland at the Permit Board's address shown above no later than the end of the thirty (30) day public notice. All comments received by this date will be considered in the formulation of final determinations regarding the general permit. A public hearing will be held if the Permit Board finds a significant degree of public interest in the proposed permit. The Permit Board is limited in the scope of its analysis to environmental impact. Any comments relative to zoning or economic and social impacts are within the jurisdiction of local zoning and planning authorities and should be addressed to them.

A copy of the proposed draft permit may be found on the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality's website at: <https://www.mdeq.ms.gov/ensearch/epd-permits-at-public-notice/> or by writing or calling Jeffrey Bland at the above Permit Board address and telephone number. This information is also available for review at the following location during normal business hours:

Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality  
Office of Pollution Control  
515 E. Amite St  
Jackson, MS 39201

Please bring the foregoing to the attention of persons whom you know will be interested.