



Public Interest Center | P.O. Box 1049 | Columbus, OH | 43216-1049

**FOR RELEASE:** April 15, 2011  
**MEDIA CONTACT:** Heather Lauer, (614) 644-2160  
**CITIZEN CONTACT:** Erika Wiggins, (614) 644-2160

## **Ohio EPA to Hold Public Hearing About Air Products Cogeneration Facility**

Ohio EPA has issued a [draft air permit](#) to Middletown Cogeneration, also known as Air Products and Chemicals, to convert waste blast furnace gas from the existing blast furnace at AK Steel Corporation's Middletown Works into electricity and heat. If the project is approved, nitrogen oxide emissions output is expected to be much lower than current levels.

Ohio EPA will hold a public information session and hearing on Wednesday, April 27, 2011, at 6:30 p.m. to answer questions and accept comments regarding the draft air permit. The meeting will be held in the Middletown City Council Chambers, One Donham Plaza, Middletown.

While blast furnace gas is expected to be the primary fuel, supplementary natural gas also would be used. Ohio EPA considered this when developing emissions limits in the draft permit. Because the cogeneration equipment is on AK Steel's property, Ohio EPA considered emissions from both facilities when determining what would be protective of people's health and the environment.

Ohio EPA places a high priority on public involvement and encourages citizens to become involved in the decision-making process. During the hearing, which immediately follows the information session, the public may submit comments for the record. The purpose of the hearing is to obtain additional information that will be considered before Ohio EPA issues or denies the final air permit.

Before issuing the draft air permit, Ohio EPA reviewed the company's air permit applications to ensure that emissions would comply with federal and state clean air standards. These air emission limitations and draft permit conditions (such as recordkeeping, reporting requirements and operational restrictions) were established to protect public health and safety.

In addition to comments provided at the public meeting, Ohio EPA will equally consider comments received through May 2, 2011. Comments can be directed to Paul Tedtman, at [paul.tedtman@hamilton-co.org](mailto:paul.tedtman@hamilton-co.org) or Hamilton County Department of Environmental Services, 250 William Howard Taft Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45219-2660, fax (513) 946-7778.

The [draft air permit](#) is online and also can be viewed at Hamilton County Department of Environmental Services at the address above.

-30-

[www.epa.ohio.gov](http://www.epa.ohio.gov)