



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

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MEDIA CONTACT: Heather Lauer, (614) 644-2160
CITIZEN CONTACT: Erika Wiggins, (614) 644-2160

Ohio EPA Issues Air Permit for Air Products and Chemicals Inc. – Middletown CoGen

Ohio EPA has issued an air permit to Air Products and Chemicals Inc. – Middletown CoGen, to convert waste blast furnace gas from the existing blast furnace at AK Steel Corporation’s Middletown Works into electricity and heat.

Before issuing the final permit, Ohio EPA issued the permit in draft form and held a public comment period and hearing. No comments were received from the public; however, Ohio EPA answered some questions from U.S. EPA before taking this final action.

If the facility is built, 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 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.

Permit issuance can be appealed to the Environmental Review Appeals Commission (ERAC). Many appeals must be filed within 30 days of issuing the final action; therefore, Ohio EPA recommends that anyone wishing to file an appeal contact ERAC at (614) 466-8950 for more information.

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