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Will Shay I coal mine's new discharge permit adequately protect your water resources from coal pollution?

To make sure your concerns are heard, attend Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's **Public Hearing** on the issuance of a Water Discharge Permit (NPDES) for this mine:

Wednesday, April 27th at 6:00pm

**Blackburn College Olin Lecture Hall
700 College Avenue, Carlinville, Illinois**



Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) has issued a draft NPDES permit renewal to Macoupin Energy, LLC for continued mining and coal slurry disposal at the Shay 1 Mine site. The permit will allow discharge of polluted runoff into already contaminated Spanish Needle Creek, Macoupin Creek and several tributaries.

Due to requests from concerned citizens and advocacy groups, the IEPA will hold a public hearing to accept comments on the permit.

If you are concerned about water pollution from coal mining or coal slurry disposal, **this hearing is your chance to convince IEPA to tighten or deny the permit renewal.**

Macoupin Energy, LLC's Shay I Mine south of Carlinville, IL

Our Concerns

We object to the Illinois EPA's issuance of an NPDES permit renewal because the Agency has not adequately assessed the impact that continued and expanding mining and coal slurry disposal at the mine will have on water quality and wildlife in Macoupin County. Specifically, the Illinois EPA has not adequately:

- ⇒ Enforced permit compliance. **This facility has contributed to groundwater and surface water contamination for several years with no penalties.**
- ⇒ Completed a thorough chemical characterization of the additional coal slurry to be disposed of onsite, despite documented contamination from past coal slurry disposal.
- ⇒ Reviewed onsite operations and disposal plan proposed by Macoupin Energy, LLC or alternatives to proposed plans despite documentation of poor slurry disposal practices in past;
- ⇒ Completed a comprehensive review of the condition and uses of and impact to adjacent streams and underlying groundwater;
- ⇒ Drafted a permit that will be protective of the streams, groundwater and their users.

The public notice/fact sheet which contains the draft antidegradation assessment and the draft NPDES permit can be viewed on the IEPA website: <http://www.epa.state.il.us/public-notice/2010/macoupin-energy/hearing-notice.pdf>

What Can You Do?

Attend the Public Hearing:

This Public Hearing is being held for citizens to express concerns about how this project will affect them, as well as to ask questions and learn more about the project. Speakers need not know technical aspects of the issue – this is the time ask questions and to express your concerns to the IEPA.

Participants may make oral comments at the Public Hearing and will be allowed to submit written comments.

Want to do more?

Write a Letter to the Editor about the issue—tell your neighbors and legislators how you feel.

Submit Written Comments

Comments must be postmarked or e-mailed by midnight, May 27th, 2011.

Electronic comments must specify “Shay Number 1 Mine NPDES” in the subject line and must be sent to **epa.publichearingcom@illinois.gov**.

Hearing Officer Dean Studer

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For More Information

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