

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA)  
Notice of Water Discharge Permit Public Hearing  
NPDES Permit IL0079936

**Peabody Arclar Mining, LLC  
Rocky Branch Mine**

**Public Hearing  
Tuesday, February 18, 2014  
NPDES Permit Hearing at 5 p.m.**

**Harris-Pruett Community Building  
107 East Church Street  
Harrisburg, Illinois**

The IEPA Bureau of Water has prepared a draft National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for Peabody Arclar Mining, L.L.C. for Rocky Branch Mine. The address of the discharger is Peabody Arclar Mining, L.L.C., 7100 Eagle Crest Boulevard, Suite 100, Evansville, IN. 47715-8152. The facility is in Saline County, 1 mile west of Equality, Illinois.

Illinois EPA is holding this hearing for the purpose of taking comments on the draft permit prior to taking final action on the permit application. Issues relevant to this proceeding include the antidegradation analysis and the applicant's compliance with requirements of the federal Clean Water Act and Subtitles C and D, 35 Illinois Adm. Code. Because Illinois is mandated by state law to issue a permit if the applicant meets the requirements for obtaining a permit, those recommending denial of the permit application should be prepared to state the regulation that is the basis of their recommendation.

The applicant proposes a new surface coal mine (SIC 1221). Mine operations result in the discharge of alkaline mine drainage. Application is made for eight (8) new discharges which are located in Saline County, Illinois.

The stream segment ATZB of Rocky Branch receiving the flow from the unnamed tributary into which Outfalls 001, 002, 008, 009 and 011 discharges is not on the 2012 303(d) list of impaired waters.

The stream segment of Cockerel Branch receiving discharges from the unnamed tributary into which Outfall 004 discharges has not been assessed by the Agency.

The Field Pond (23W-9) which receives discharges from Outfall 005 has not been assessed by the Agency.

As Outfall 003 is an internal discharge directly to Pond 002, receiving stream segment and 303d listing is not applicable

Approximately 8.8 million tons of recoverable coal are within the multiple seam mine. Proposed mining within Pit 1 would require the establishment of seven NPDES outfalls. All of the outfalls are expected to contact coal either by receiving runoff from actively mined areas, receiving runoff from coal preparation and stockpile areas, or from receiving pit pumpage that may contact coal cleanings. Stormwater runoff from 800 acres of land would be routed through sediment basins and NPDES permitted outfalls.

The NPDES permit and the public notice/fact sheet were public noticed on December 18, 2013. The antidegradation assessment, which was part of the public notice, and other documents for this proceeding can be viewed on the IEPA website: <http://www.epa.state.il.us/public-notices/npdes-notices.html#peabody-arclar-mining>.

The draft permit, public notice/fact sheet, the regulations governing the conduct of the hearing and other documents can be reviewed and copied at the Illinois EPA, 1021 N. Grand Avenue East, Springfield, Illinois; 217-782-0610. Please call ahead for an appointment.

Inquiries about the draft permit IL0079936 should be directed to Larry Crislip, Manager, Permit Section, IEPA Mine Pollution Control Program, 2309 W. Main St., Marion, IL, 618-993-7200, e-mail [larry.crislip@illinois.gov](mailto:larry.crislip@illinois.gov).

The hearing will be held under the provisions of 35 Illinois Administrative Code 166, *Procedures for Permit and Closure Plan Hearings*, which can be obtained online at <http://www.ipcb.state.il.us/documents/dsweb/Get/Document-11865>.

The hearing will be conducted in accordance with provisions of Sections 309.115 through 309.119. Requests for special needs interpreters must be made to the IEPA hearing officer by **February 4, 2014**. These documents can be obtained online at <http://www.ipcb.state.il.us/documents/dsweb/Get/Document-33358>.

The hearing record is a file containing the hearing transcript and written comments. **Written comments must be postmarked or e-mailed by midnight, March 19, 2014, when the hearing record closes** (e-mails with written comments **must be** sent to [epa.publichearingcom@illinois.gov](mailto:epa.publichearingcom@illinois.gov) and should specify Rocky Branch Mine NPDES or IL0079936 in the subject line). Email comments originating on third party systems or servers intended for submittal of multiple emails of the same or nearly the same content will not be accepted without prior approval from the hearing officer. The IEPA welcomes substantive written comments. Comments need not be notarized and should be sent to:

Hearing Officer Dean Studer  
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
1021 North Grand Avenue East  
P. O. Box 19276  
Springfield, IL 62794-9276  
Phone 217-558-8280

TDD (hearing impaired) 217-782-9143

All other comments not pertaining to this permit can be emailed to the hearing officer at [dean.studer@illinois.gov](mailto:dean.studer@illinois.gov).