

For Immediate Release

MAC Construction Plans New Asphalt Plant in Harrison County

IDEM Air Quality Permit Application Stirs Controversy Surrounding Proposed Plant and Sparks Online Demands for Public Hearing

Corydon, July 1, 2014: A new asphalt plant proposed in Harrison County by New Albany based contractor, MAC Construction and Excavating, has stirred controversy this week. The controversy is reminiscent of the controversy and three (3) year old legal battle between Jeffersonville residents and MAC Construction over MAC's Jeffersonville asphalt plant.

INCIN has learned MAC Construction has applied for a new source construction and Federally Enforceable State Operating Permit (FESOP) from the Office of Air Quality at the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) for a proposed Harrison County asphalt plant.

As part of the FESOP application process, a 30-day public notice period began on June 25 during which time residents have an opportunity to submit to IDEM their comments on the proposed asphalt plant or request a public meeting on the air permit issue.

Due to the years-long controversy surrounding the Jeffersonville plant, a petition web site has been set up to facilitate email requests for a public hearing on the air quality issue surrounding the proposed plant in Harrison County. A quick glance at the site shows over 150 people have signed the petition requesting that IDEM hold a hearing on this issue.

The web address for the online petition is: <http://www.change.org/petitions/indiana-department-of-environmental-management-idem-hold-a-public-hearing-on-the-proposed-mac-construction-asphalt-plant-in-harrison-county-indiana>

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The Jeffersonville case, which was filed in Clark County Circuit Court in 2010, seeks to reverse the special exception zoning variance that was given to the plant by the City of Jeffersonville in 2005. The plaintiffs in the case, a local resident and a local property owner, are among those who have repeatedly raised health concerns about the fumes from the plant. The City of Jeffersonville is also named in the suit.

The case was dismissed by the trial judge in 2011, but the residents appealed the dismissal to the Indiana Court of Appeals. In 2012, the Court of Appeals ruled in the residents favor and remanded the case back to the trial court. The case is currently pending.

If you would like to learn more about the resident's struggle against the MAC Construction asphalt plant in Jeffersonville, please view our video reports on this issue on the **video archive** page of our web site: www.incin.org

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