



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

R-19J

Thomas W. Easterly, Commissioner
Indiana Department of Environmental Management
100 North Senate Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-6015

Dear Mr. Easterly:

By letters dated October 1 and October 16, 2007, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency objected to the U.S. Steel Corporation, Gary Works draft permit in accordance with 40 CFR 123.44(c). Due to the high level of public interest in this matter, EPA provided the public with an opportunity to provide written comments on the objections. EPA also held a public hearing on the objections on December 11, 2007, in accordance with 40 CFR 123.44(f). Finally, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) public noticed a new draft permit for the above facility on October 14, 2009.

EPA has reviewed all of the public comments it received on its objections. EPA has also reviewed the draft permit that IDEM public noticed on October 14, 2009, and the fact sheet prepared by IDEM in support of that draft permit. For the reasons set forth in the enclosed document that is entitled "Explanation for Withdrawal of Permit Objections," EPA is withdrawing its objections to the above-referenced draft permit in accordance with 40 CFR 123.44(g).

Following the close of the public comment period on the October 14, 2009, draft permit, IDEM should prepare and transmit to EPA for review any proposed permit that IDEM intends to finalize for issuance in accordance with 40 CFR 123.44(j); copies of all public comments that were submitted to IDEM during the public comment period on the draft permit; and a summary of IDEM's responses to those public comments. At that time, EPA will have ninety days from receipt of the proposed permit to make general comments upon, objections to, or recommendations with respect to the proposed permit. EPA will review the proposed permit, public comments, and IDEM's responses to the public comments, and will ensure that any permit

that is finally issued is consistent with federal requirements, responsive to public concerns, and protective of public health and the environment.

If you have any questions, please contact Peter Swenson of my staff at (312) 886-0236 or via email at swenson.peter@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

[Signed October 15, 2009]

Bharat Mathur
Acting Regional Administrator

Enclosure