



Sterigenics Update

On June 24th, 2019, Sterigenics submitted a construction permit application seeking an annual EtO emissions limit at Willowbrook I (Quincy) of no more than 85 pounds per year, as opposed to the 36,400 pound per year limit in Sterigenics current operating permit. In 2018, Sterigenics reported emitting 2,840 pounds.

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The Federal USEPA safe level is set at 100 in a million; this new Consent Decree would require Sterigenics to operate in the range of 1 in a million. On Wednesday, July 17, the Illinois Attorney General filed a Consent Decree that would provide Sterigenics a path to reopen. The Consent Decree is more restrictive than recently passed Senate Bills 1852 and 1854, also known as the Matt Haller Act. This Consent Decree will be considered by Judge Fullerton (Du Page County) on July 24, 2019. The Consent Decree only covers the Quincy facility and does NOT include the facility on Midway Drive. Here is a summary of the Consent Decree criteria for permit application:

1. Willowbrook I (Quincy Street) facility cannot open until all capture, control and emission monitoring systems are installed and tested by the ILEPA. Capture Control must be 100% internal and with an overall efficiency of 99.9% or .2ppm.
2. Sterigenics' customers/manufacturers must certify that Ethylene Oxide is the only method available for sterilization of their product. This certification must be presented to ILEPA as part of the permit process.
3. Testing will require all chambers running at full cycle and witnessed by the ILEPA.
4. Ambient Air monitoring in the community will occur every third day over a 30-day period while the site is in operation.
5. Should the facility open, there will be quarterly ambient air testing for the foreseeable future.

All the above is a result of the State being unable to legislate a total ban of Ethylene Oxide in Illinois.

6. The State's approval of the construction completion report shall be contingent upon Sterigenics' compliance of the above.

While the intent of the Consent Order is to protect the health and public safety of our residents afforded by law, we maintain that Ethylene Oxide should not be emitted. In addition, we could not agree more with Senator John Curran when he stated this afternoon, "I do not support the agreement reached by the ILEPA, the Illinois Attorney General and Sterigenics, which will allow the facility to resume operations. Rather, I will continue to stand with the residents of Willowbrook and the surrounding communities who are fighting for clean air and a healthy future. For years, as testing has shown, Sterigenics has posed a critical public health risk to our communities. They must remain closed."

<https://www.facebook.com/senatorjohncurran/>

We encourage your attendance and input at the August 1, 2019 public meeting announced by the ILEPA in their notice dated 7.15.19 <https://www.willowbrookil.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?CID=1> to be held at Ashton Place, 341 75th Street, Willowbrook, from 6:00 - 9:00pm.

Mayor Frank Trilla
Village of Willowbrook

Mayor Joseph Marchese
City of Darien

