



Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

2520 West Iles Avenue • P.O. Box 19276 • Springfield, Illinois • 62794-9276 • 217-782-3397

JB Pritzker, Governor

James Jennings, Acting Director

November 4, 2025

Re: Vantage Specialties Inc (Illinois EPA BOA ID# 097035AAQ)
Construction Permit (19100015)

To Distribution List:

This Environmental Justice notification letter is to inform you that Vantage Specialties Inc located in Gurnee at 3938 Porett Drive is applying for a revised Construction Permit that would require additional air pollution control equipment at its chemical manufacturing plant. The revised permit would also update monitoring requirements consistent with applicable federal regulations promulgated since the original construction permit was issued. The Illinois EPA (IEPA) Bureau of Air (BOA) is reviewing the application. The Office of Environmental Justice welcomes your feedback.

If you would like additional information regarding this project, such as the permit application, please submit a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request via the Illinois EPA's online portal. Direct links to information and resources regarding FOIA requests, how to sign up for EJ notification letters, contact information, and more, are available on the following pages.

For any other questions, please contact Chris Pressnall, Manager of the Office of Environmental Justice, at (217) 524-1284 or EPA.OEJ@Illinois.gov.

Sincerely,

Chris Pressnall, Manager
Office of Environmental Justice



Organization Distribution List

Vantage Specialities Inc – Ryan Robotham*
State Senator Adriane Johnson - State Senate District #30*
State Representative Rita Mayfield - State Representative District #60*
U.S. Representative Brad Schneider - U.S. Congressional District #10*
U.S. Senator Richard J. Durbin*
U.S. Senator Tammy Duckworth*
Village of Gurnee – Thomas Hood, Mayor*
Village of Gurnee – Village Board*
Village of Gurnee – Patrick Muetz, Village Administrator*
Lake County Board*
Lake County Branch NAACP - #3020 – Dr. Sandra W. Leconte, President*
Illinois NAACP – Gregory Norris*
Illinois NAACP – Teresa Haley*
Respiratory Health Association - Brian P. Urbaszewski*
Sierra Club – Jack Darin*
Sierra Club – Christine Nannicelli*
Sierra Club – Mila Marshall*
Faith in Place – Rev. Brian Sauder*
Illinois Environmental Regulatory Group – Kelly Thompson*
Chemical Industry Council of Illinois – Lisa Frede*
IL Manufacturers' Association - Donovan Griffith*
Shawnee Hills & Hollers – Georgia de la Garza*
Shawnee Hills & Hollers – Sabrina Hardenbergh*
Illinois Environmental Council – Jennifer Walling*
Earthjustice – Jennifer Cassel*
Earthjustice – Debbie Chizewer*
Northwestern Pritzker School of Law – Robert A. Weinstock*
Great Rivers Environmental Law Center – Sarah Rubenstein*

Great Rivers Environmental Law Center – Caitlin Stiltner*
Stericycle – Susan Olavarria*
University of Illinois - Prairie Research Institute – Debra Jacobson*
Council of State Governments – Midwest – Jess Lienhardt*
Exxon Mobil Corporation – Brad Sims*
Taft Law – Ryan Rudich*
Mostardi Platt – Jena DiFiore*
Energy Infrastructure Partners – Matt Kok*
Geosyntec – Brian Valleskey*
Illinois Asphalt Pavement Association – Kevin Burke III, P.E.*
Ramboll – LaTorria Sims*
University of Illinois Springfield – John Ferry*
Christ Episcopal Church – Eileen Shanley-Roberts*
Clean Power Lake County – Celeste Flores*
Clean Power Lake County*
CPI – Natalie Warkenthien*
Dymonds Renewable Energy – Joanne Young*
Dynamic Environmental Services – Kyle Webb*
Friends of the Chicago River – Adam Flickinger*
Friends of the Chicago River – Margaret Frisbie*
GreenLatinos – Lucy Contreras*
iChoosr – Fred Wu*
Illinois Department of Transportation – John Sherrill*
Lake County Stormwater Management Commission – Jacob Jozefowski*
Langan – Vinicius De Paula*
Metropolitan Mayors Caucus – Edith Makra*
Mostardi Platt – Britt Wenzel*
Ridgewood Environmental – Jim Kallas*
SCS Engineers – Spencer LaBelle*
Sun-Times – Brett Chase*
The Resiliency Institute – Jodi Trendler*
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Alex Hoxsie*
Waste Connections – Thomas Hilbert*
Waste Management – Lisa Disbrow*

***Receiving E-Notifications**

Additional Information and Resources

Notices

EJ Notification Letter

EJ notification letters provide information about permit applications received by Illinois EPA (IEPA) in areas of EJ concern as determined by Illinois EPA [EJ Start](#) screening tool. EJ notification letters are sent as part of Illinois EPA's enhanced public participation process.

- To receive EJ notification letters by email, please sign up [here](#), under the Environmental Justice Notification Letter Sign-Up heading.
- To learn more about the IEPA's Notification Letter Process, visit [EJ Notification Process \(illinois.gov\)](#).

Public Notices

A public notice is a notice required by law or regulation that alerts the public to a proposed Agency action and provides instructions for submitting written comments. The Agency may hold a hearing to accept oral comments based on public interest. Hearing information may be included in the public notice or a separate hearing notice.

IEPA's Public Notices webpage includes draft permits and associated information, as well as proposed agency-wide actions such as rulemaking notices.

A Bureau's public notice on a permit application will outline:

- Type of permit application received
- Applicant information
- Start and stop dates of public comment period
- Instructions on submitting public comments
- Information on public hearings (if one being held)
- Agency contact information
- Draft permit and associated materials such as project summary will be posted on the same webpage as the public notice

General IEPA public notices will outline:

- Proposed action(s) or plan(s) of the agency
- Start and stop dates of the public comment period
- Instructions on submitting public comments
- Agency contact information

- To access more information on IEPA's Public Notices, visit [Public Notices \(illinois.gov\)](#).

Accessing Records

Illinois EPA Document Explorer

To provide transparency and easier public access to Agency documents, certain Agency documents can be accessed through IEPA's Document Explorer.

Documents include:

- Air construction and operating permits
- National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) water discharge permits.
- Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) technical documents

- Site Remediation Program (SRP) technical documents
 - State Response Action technical documents
 - Final Compliance Commitment Agreements since January 1, 2014
- To access Illinois EPA's Document Explorer, visit [Home Page - IEPA Document Explorer \(illinois.gov\)](#).

Freedom of Information Act Requests (FOIA)

If the information you are seeking, such as an active permit application, is not available on Document Explorer you may access information by submitting a Freedom of Information Act Request (FOIA). While requests may be made in various ways (online form, fax, the U.S. mail, or special carrier), using the online FOIA web form will usually result in getting the information the fastest. IEPA has five (5) workdays to respond unless an extension of an additional five (5) days is needed to gather the information.

- For more information on how to submit a FOIA request, visit [Freedom of Information Act \(illinois.gov\)](#).
- To access the IEPA FOIA Web Form, visit [IEPA FOIA Web Form](#).
- [Records Phone Number: \(217\) 558-5101](#)

EJ Mapping Tools

EJ Start

The IEPA mapping tool, EJ Start, designates areas of environmental justice (EJ) concern. EJ Start informs IEPA's enhanced public outreach (for example, EJ notification letters). It is also used to incorporate EJ into other Agency activities and programs. The criteria used to designate EJ areas are census block groups and areas within one mile of census block groups that are greater than or equal to the statewide average for low-income and/or minority populations. EJ Start is publicly available and searchable by address, city, and zip code.

- To access IEPA's EJ Start, visit <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/aa364c77db684dfa92afa5094b69f6ff>.

Agency Contacts

Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ) Contacts:	
Chris Pressnall Manager	(217) 524-1284 Chris.Pressnall@illinois.gov
Paulina Lopez-Santos EJ Policy Administrator Spanish-Speaking Chicago	(312) 832-2182 Paulina.Lopez-Santos@illinois.gov
Luis Lopez Office Associate Spanish-Speaking	(217) 782-3440 Luis.A.Lopez@illinois.gov

Office of Community Relations (OCR) Contacts:	
Brad Frost Manager	(217) 782-7027 Brad.Frost@illinois.gov
Jeff Guy Hearing Officer/Right-to-Know Program Coordinator	(217) 785-8724 Jeff.Guy@illinois.gov
Rodolfo Alanis Community Relations Coordinator Spanish-Speaking Chicago	(847) 553-9251 rodolfo.alanis@illinois.gov