

Proposed Project Summary

Mueller Industries, Inc.

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy, Air Quality Division (AQD), is asking for comments from the public on a proposed Permit to Install (PTI) for Mueller Industries, Inc. (Mueller). The AQD will accept comments on the proposed PTI until the close of the comment period on December 2, 2019, or at the end of the public hearing, if one is requested, on December 4, 2019. We will review all comments before we make a final decision on the proposal.

What is Mueller proposing to do under the PTI application?

Mueller is proposing to install a new chip dryer to process recycled brass chips received from its customers. The chip dryer will heat the chips to evaporate the moisture and cutting oil fluids on them. Multiple emissions controls including a cyclone separator, a thermal oxidizer and a lime injected baghouse will be installed on the chip dryer.

Mueller previously had a baghouse failure at the facility. Earlier this year, a PTI was issued to Mueller to replace the failed baghouse with a new one. Its purpose is to control particulate and lead emissions from one of the process lines. The new baghouse has been installed and began operation in March 2019.

What is a PTI and why is one needed?

A PTI, commonly known as an air use permit, is required for projects that involve installing, constructing, reconstructing, relocating, or modifying most processes or process equipment that emit, or may emit, air contaminants, such as the new chip dryer that Mueller is proposing to install.

The AQD has reviewed the project and written proposed permit conditions that include requirements to make sure the project complies with all applicable air laws and regulations.

What is the current air quality in the area?

The United States Environmental Protection Agency has developed health-protective standards for specific air pollutants. These standards are called the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).

There are NAAQS for sulfur dioxide (SO₂), nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), carbon monoxide (CO), particulate matter equal to

or less than 10 microns in diameter (PM₁₀), particulate matter equal to or less than 2.5 microns in diameter (PM_{2.5}), ozone, and lead.

The NAAQS set the maximum concentration of each pollutant in the ambient air that protects the health of the most sensitive individuals. This includes those with heart, respiratory, neurological and asthma problems.

The AQD has two air monitoring sites in St. Clair County, including a lead monitor located near the Mueller plant. Based on monitoring, the county is meeting all the NAAQS, except for ozone. The following figures show the trends for ozone and lead in the area.

Figure 1: Ozone concentrations for Port Huron

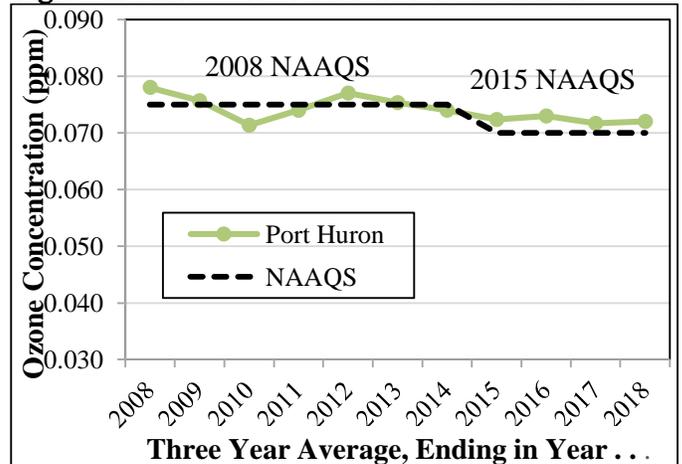
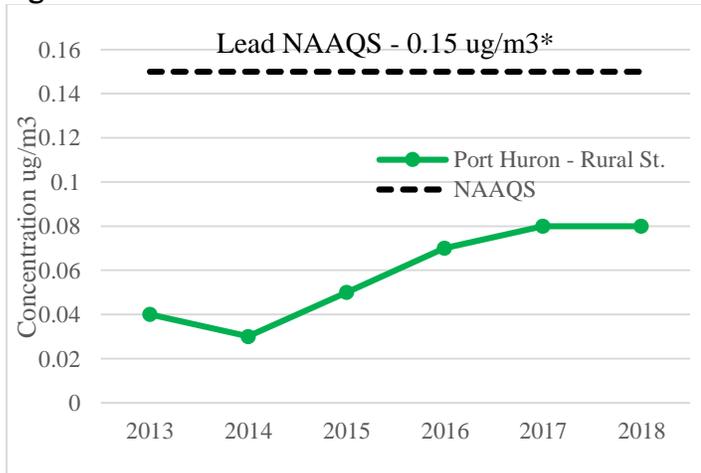


Figure 2: Lead Concentrations at Port Huron



The 2019 lead monitor data has not been finalized yet, but trends in the data show the lead emissions are decreasing toward 2014 levels.

Will the facility meet air quality standards?

A computer model was used to look at the expected impacts of the proposed project's emissions on the air quality in the area surrounding Mueller. This type of computer model is called an air dispersion model and considers many factors, such as quantity and type of emissions, prevailing wind direction and other factors. The model showed that the expected impacts of the proposed emissions would be less than the NAAQS for PM₁₀, PM_{2.5} and Lead.

Michigan has developed health-based levels for additional pollutants referred to as toxic air contaminants (TACs) under its Air Toxics rules. The proposed TAC emissions from the project are below the AQD's health-based screening levels.

Where can I find more information?

There are two ways to find more information about the PTI application: The Technical Fact Sheet has additional details about the project and how it will meet the rules and regulations; and AQD staff can provide additional

information upon request. Here are some examples of information you may find useful:

- A summary of the reviews completed by the AQD staff.
- How the project will affect air quality and public health.
- A summary of what the proposed permit would require Mueller to do.
- A summary of the allowed emissions that are included in the proposed permit.
- The rules and regulations that apply to the project.
- Example emission calculations.

Summary:

The AQD has reviewed the PTI application and prepared a proposed permit. If the proposed permit is approved, it will ensure the facility meets the applicable air quality requirements. Therefore, we are recommending approval of the proposed permit.

However, before the AQD acts on the proposed permit, we are requesting comments from the public. The AQD will review all comments received during the public comment period and public hearing, if held, then decide whether to approve or deny the proposed permit. If approved, the AQD may decide to add or change permit conditions based on the comments received.

What if I would like to make a comment?

The AQD welcomes comments from the public during the comment period. Prior to making a comment, it is a good idea to "View an Example" of how to do it. You may also want to read the "[Public Hearings - What you should know](#)" card. These documents can be found at <http://www.deq.state.mi.us/aps/cwperp.shtml>.

Who can I contact?

For more information about the proposed permit, please contact Janelle Trowhill, AQD, at: Trowhillj1@michigan.gov or 517-284-6785.

Michigan's Environmental Justice Policy promotes the fair, non-discriminatory treatment and meaningful involvement of Michigan's residents regarding the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies by this state. Fair, non-discriminatory treatment intends that no group of people, including racial, ethnic, or low-income populations, will bear a disproportionately greater burden resulting from environmental laws, regulations, policies, and decision-making. Meaningful involvement of residents ensures an appropriate opportunity to participate in decisions about a proposed activity that will affect their environment and/or health.