

Proposed Project Summary

General Motors LLC Detroit-Hamtramck Assembly

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 General Motors, LLC Detroit-Hamtramck Assembly (GM) located along the border of Detroit and Hamtramck. The AQD will accept comments on the proposed PTI until the close of the comment period and the virtual public hearing on April 30, 2020. We will review all comments before we make a final decision on the proposal.

What is GM proposing to do under the PTI application?

GM is proposing to install a new automotive assembly line. The new line will replace the existing automotive assembly line currently allowed to operate at the plant.

The proposed assembly line would require additions on the existing buildings and replacement of the existing assembly line. If approved, the new assembly line would consist of the following processes: a body shop for assembling the unpainted automobile, a paint shop for coating processes, and a general assembly area for putting the final vehicle together.

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 automotive assembly line GM is proposing.

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

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

GM is in Wayne County, Michigan, which is currently meeting all of the NAAQS except for ozone. Ozone is regulated through its precursors: nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs). Also, there is a portion of Wayne County not meeting the NAAQS for SO₂; however, the proposed assembly line would not be located in that portion of the county.

The AQD operates 12 air monitoring stations in Wayne County. Together, these stations measure all NAAQS pollutants. The following figures show the trends for ozone (Fig. 1), PM_{2.5} (Fig. 2) and NO_x (Fig. 3) at the East 7 Mile Road monitor.

Figure 1. The fourth high of the 8-hour ozone concentrations.

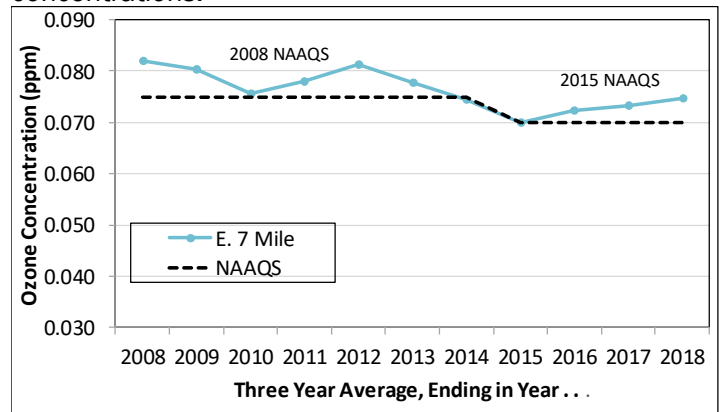


Figure 2. The annual average of PM2.5 concentrations.

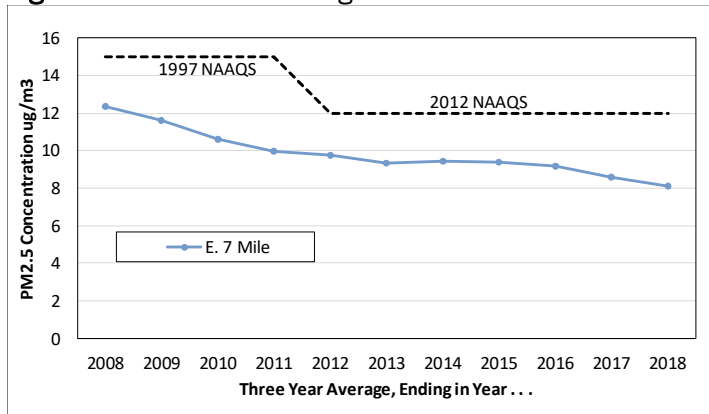
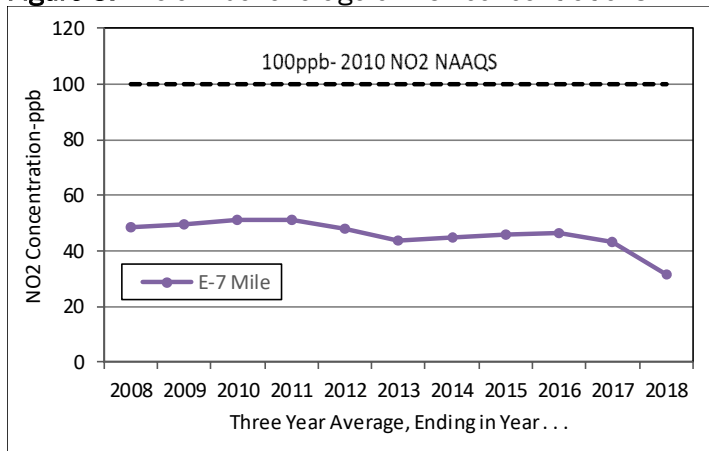


Figure 3. The annual average of NOx concentrations.



Will the facility meet air quality standards?

A computer model was used to look at the expected impacts of the proposed assembly line on the air quality in the area around the plant. 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 NO₂, PM₁₀, and PM_{2.5}.

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

Isn't Wayne County in nonattainment for ozone?

Yes, Wayne County is currently in nonattainment for ozone. NO_x and VOCs are considered precursors, or compounds which can form ozone. GM performed a netting analysis for this project. A netting analysis compares the facility's past emissions, certain increases and decreases in emissions, and the proposed emissions from the new assembly line. If the total increase in

emissions from this comparison for either NO_x or VOC is greater than 40 tons per year (tpy), then that pollutant must go through a nonattainment review. The netting analysis performed shows the "net" increase for each NO_x and VOC emissions would be less than 40 tpy; therefore, a nonattainment review is not required.

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 would 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 review completed by the AQD staff.
- How the project will affect air quality and public health.
- A summary of what the proposed permit would require GM 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 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 virtual public hearing and then decide whether to approve or deny the proposed permits. 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 [on](#) AQD's Public Comment Page, Go to Michigan.gov/air, click "Permits", then choose "Permits (PTI / NSR) Public Notice".

Who can I contact?

For more information about the proposed permit, please contact Mr. David Thompson, AQD, at: ThompsonD22@Michigan.gov or 517-284-6787.