

# PROPOSED PROJECT SUMMARY

## INDECK NILES, LLC – NILES, CASS COUNTY, MICHIGAN

### INDECK NILES, LLC

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 Indeck Niles, LLC (Indeck). The AQD will accept comments on the proposed PTI until the close of the comment period on September 11, 2023. A virtual public hearing has been scheduled on September 6, 2023; however it will only be held if requested in writing by August 30, 2023. We will review all comments before we make a final decision on the proposed permit.

### WHAT IS INDECK PROPOSING TO DO?

Indeck is proposing to revise permit conditions to reflect the installed lower heat input capacities of some equipment at its existing and already permitted natural gas-fired combined-cycle power plant. Emissions will be decreasing from what was originally permitted.

### WHAT EQUIPMENT IS CHANGING UNDER THE PROPOSED PROJECT?

The facility will be capable of operating under new proposed emission limits based on the lower actual heat input capacities of the following equipment:

- One auxiliary boiler
- Two dew point heaters
- One diesel-fired emergency engine

### 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 the permit updates Indeck is requesting.

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

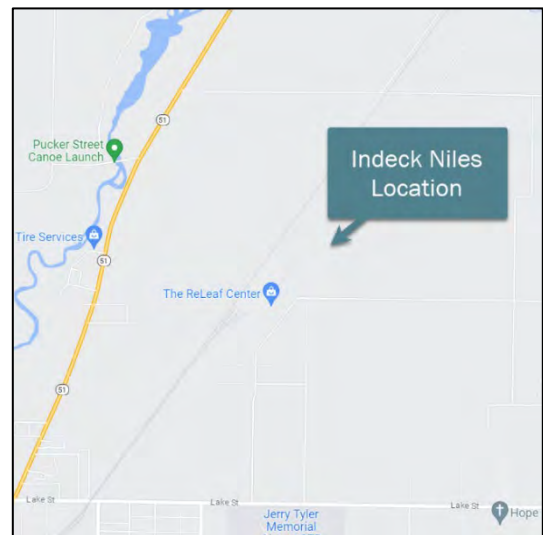


Figure 1: Indeck Niles Location

### WHY IS INDECK GOING OUT TO PUBLIC COMMENT?

Indeck is a major source of emissions. Major sources of air pollutants requesting these types of changes are required to go out to comment.

### WHAT IS THE CURRENT AIR QUALITY IN THE AREA?

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

There are NAAQS for some pollutants, including sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), 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 (PM2.5), ozone and lead.

Poor air quality from high levels of pollution can cause health problems. The NAAQS are developed from research studies and set at levels to protect public health. This includes health protection for sensitive groups, like those with heart and lung problems.

The facility is located in Cass County, Michigan which is currently meeting all of the NAAQS. The AQD operates an air monitoring station in Cass (Cassopolis) County.

### WILL AIR QUALITY STANDARDS BE MET?

A computer model was used to look at the expected impacts of the emissions from the proposed project on the air quality in the area surrounding the facility. This type of computer model is called an air dispersion model and considers many factors, such as amount and type of emissions, prevailing wind direction and other factors.

The model showed that the expected impacts of the emissions, plus the existing monitored levels, are less than the applicable NAAQS for NO<sub>2</sub>, CO, PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, and SO<sub>2</sub>.

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

### WHAT DO I REALLY NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE PROPOSED PERMIT?

The proposed permit has specific requirements Indeck would have to follow if the permit is approved. Key areas you may be interested in, or that you may want more details on, include:

- **Emission limits** – amount of specific air pollutants Indeck would be allowed to emit.

- **Material limits** - maximum amount or type of fuel allowed in the boiler.
- **Process restrictions** –includes restrictions like requirements for additional emission control equipment.
- **Operational restrictions** –restrictions on how the equipment operates.
- **Monitoring and Recordkeeping** – records to show permit requirements are being met.

### WHAT ABOUT NOISE, TRAFFIC, AND ZONING?

The AQD evaluates the potential air emissions from a proposed facility to determine if they comply with the air quality rules and regulations. The AQD does not have authority to regulate noise or traffic outside the facility and does not have authority to evaluate compliance with local zoning requirements.

### WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION?

Other information, like the [Technical Fact Sheet](#) and the [proposed permit conditions](#) can be found at [Michigan.gov/EGLEAirPublicNotice](http://Michigan.gov/EGLEAirPublicNotice), choose “Applications Open for Comment.”

The Technical Fact Sheet has additional details about the project and how it will meet the rules and regulations, such as:

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

AQD staff can provide additional information upon request.

**SUMMARY:**

The AQD has reviewed the PTI application submitted by Indeck and prepared a proposed permit. If the proposed permit is approved, it will ensure the facility meets the applicable air quality requirements. Therefore, we recommend approving the proposed permit.

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

**WHO CAN I CONTACT?**

For more information about the proposed permit, please contact Nicholas Carlson, AQD, at: [CarlsonN1@Michigan.gov](mailto:CarlsonN1@Michigan.gov) or 517-582-5160.

**WHAT PUBLIC COMMENTS CAN EGLE CONSIDER?**

Comments from the public are very important. But it is also important to know the law is clear about what we can and cannot consider when we make our decision. Some examples are below.

What we can consider	What we can't consider
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Technical mistakes in the review</li> <li>✓ Grammar and spelling mistakes</li> <li>✓ Other rules the action should consider and why</li> <li>✓ Why the action will not follow the rules</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air, land, or water issues not part of the project</li> <li>• Indoor air pollution</li> <li>• Traffic</li> <li>• Noise and lights</li> <li>• Zoning issues</li> <li>• Anything unrelated to the project</li> </ul>

**HOW CAN I 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.

Documents pertaining to Indeck can be found at: [Michigan.gov/EGLEAirPublicNotice](http://Michigan.gov/EGLEAirPublicNotice)

Comments must be received by **September 11, 2023**.



**Via email**

[EGLE-AQD-PTIPublicComments@Michigan.gov](mailto:EGLE-AQD-PTIPublicComments@Michigan.gov)



**Via US mail**

Mark C. Mitchell, Acting Permit Section Manager, EGLE, AQD, P.O. Box 30260  
Lansing, MI 48909-7760



**Via voicemail**

by calling 517-284-0900



**At the Virtual Public Hearing, if requested in writing by August 30, 2023 to the address above, it will be held on September 6, 2023.**

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