



ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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Fact Sheet

Sterigenics, Willowbrook I Application for Construction Permit July 2019

Facility:

Sterigenics US, LLC
Willowbrook I Facility
7775 Quincy Street
Willowbrook, Illinois

Nature of existing source:

The Sterigenics US, LLC (Sterigenics) source in Willowbrook consists of two facilities, Willowbrook I and Willowbrook II. On June 24, 2019, the Illinois EPA received from Sterigenics an application for a construction permit addressing Willowbrook I.

Willowbrook I is a commercial sterilization facility that uses ethylene oxide to sterilize medical devices and surgical equipment. It has fourteen sterilization chambers and three aeration rooms. The emission control equipment currently at Willowbrook I consists of a scrubber for the gas stream from evacuation of sterilization chambers and a second scrubber, followed by a dry bed absorption device for the back vents on the sterilization chambers and the aeration rooms.

Proposed improvements to operations addressed by this permit application:

Sterigenics' application for an air pollution control construction permit (Application No. 19060030) is for improvements to the emission control measures at the facility to comply with, among other things, the control requirements imposed by SB 1852/Public Act 101-0022 for ethylene oxide commercial sterilizers. The emissions of Willowbrook I would be significantly reduced with these improvements. The improvements would include construction of a permanent total enclosure (capturing all ethylene oxide emissions from Willowbrook I) and additional air pollution control devices (reducing all captured emissions by 99.9% or to 0.2 parts per million) as well as the imposition of a significantly more stringent emissions limitation of 85 pounds per year. These improvements are accompanied by requirements for initial and thereafter annual emissions testing as well as continuous monitoring of emissions from the stack with state-of-the-art technology.

Contact for more information

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