December 30, 2020

Dear Interested Party:

Re: Draft Hazardous Waste Post-Closure Permit Renewal
Corning Incorporated
Bluffton, Indiana
IND005557244

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) is inviting public comments on the draft post-closure permit renewal for Corning Incorporated to maintain and monitor a closed hazardous waste landfill in Bluffton, Indiana. Enclosed is a copy of the public notice that appeared on December 30, 2020, in the News-Banner.

The draft post-closure permit specifies the conditions under which the facility must manage the closed landfill in order to maintain compliance with Indiana rules, 329 IAC 3.1, and Federal rules, 40 CFR Part 264. The draft permit is available for public inspection by accessing IDEM's Virtual File Cabinet (VFC). The enclosed fact sheet provides instructions on how to view the permit application and draft permit using VFC, and includes the VFC document numbers for both, as well as for all permit attachments.

Comments must be postmarked by February 15, 2021 and should be sent to Jeff Workman at jworkman@idem.in.gov or the following address:

Indiana Department of Environmental Management
Office of Land Quality
Hazardous Waste Permit Section
IGCN 1101
100 North Senate Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Before taking final action on the permit application, IDEM will give full consideration to all significant and relevant comments regarding this permit decision.

Sincerely,

Stephen D. Thill, Chief
Permits Branch
Office of Land Quality

JAWgjo
NOTICE OF 45-DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

On December 30, 2020, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) Hazardous Waste Permit Section issued a draft decision for a renewal of a hazardous waste post-closure renewal permit for Corning Incorporated (Corning) at Airport Road, Bluffton, Indiana. The draft decision proposes to allow Corning to renew a permit for an existing facility.

Copies of documents pertaining to this draft post-closure permit renewal are available via IDEM's Virtual File Cabinet (VFC) at: https://vfc.idem.in.gov/DocumentSearch.aspx. From this website, you can access the document of your choice by going to the “Alternate Field” dropdown menu and selecting “Document ID.” You will then need to enter the document number from the list provided below in the “ID #” cell. Before conducting your search, you must verify you are not a robot.

If a public hearing or meeting is held, IDEM will make a separate announcement of the date, time, and location of that hearing or meeting. Comments and supporting documentation, or a request for a public hearing or a public meeting should be sent in writing to IDEM at the address below by February 15, 2021; email is preferred. If you do not want to comment at this time but would like to receive notice of future action related to this application, please contact IDEM at the address below. Please refer to RCRA ID IND005557244 in all correspondence. Comments should be sent to:

Jeff Workman  
IDEM, OLQ, 100 North Senate Ave., IGCN 1154, Indianapolis, IN 46204-2251  
(800) 451-6027 or dial directly: (317) 232-3221 or E-mail: jworkman@idem.in.gov

For additional information, please see the application.

Following the end of the public comment period, IDEM will issue a Notice of Decision (NOD) stating whether the approval has been issued or denied. If comments are received during the public notice period, the final decision will include a document that summarizes the comments and IDEM’s response to those comments. If you have submitted comments or have asked to be added to the mailing list, you will receive the NOD. The notice will provide details on how you may appeal IDEM’s decision, if you disagree with that decision. The final decision will also be available online via the VFC at the address indicated above.
The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) has prepared this fact sheet to inform the public of the process involved in issuing a post-closure permit renewal to Corning Incorporated (Corning).

IDEM administers the hazardous waste permit program and related requirements in Indiana. Any facility that treats, stores, and/or disposes of hazardous waste in Indiana is required to obtain a hazardous waste management permit. Since Corning has certified closure, and wastes remain on-site, a post-closure permit is utilized to stipulate the requirements for maintaining and monitoring this closed land disposal unit (former surface impoundments).

Facility Description

Corning operated hazardous waste surface impoundments that were consolidated and closed as a landfill on Airport Road, Bluffton, Indiana. Corning was involved in the manufacturing and polish of glass for various products including television picture tubes. Spent abrasive materials and abraded glass particles were conveyed to lagoons where the solids were allowed to settle.

IDEM’s Role

IDEM staff review the permit application, prepare the draft post-closure permit and the public notice, respond to any comments received during the public comment period, and issue the final permit decision. The draft post-closure permit contains the following items:

Permit Conditions

I. Standard Conditions: These conditions are of a general nature and are required for all facilities that manage hazardous waste under a Hazardous Waste Permit.

II. General Facility Conditions: These conditions are also of a general nature and are required for all facilities that manage hazardous waste under a Hazardous Waste Permit.
III. Landfill Conditions: These conditions contain information on maintenance, slope, run-off, and other physical characteristics of the site.

IV. Ground Water Monitoring Conditions: These are specific permit conditions the facility must follow that are applicable to a ground water monitoring plan. Included in this section are well descriptions, placement, and characteristics, as well as regulatory provisions for the monitoring plan.

V. Corrective Action Conditions: These conditions provide for the investigation and remediation of any releases from a Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU) or Area of Concern (AOC). These conditions also require owners and operators to provide information, including sampling, to IDEM to support whether or not a release has occurred.

Permit Attachments

Attachment A - Facility Description: This attachment provides general information about the site and surrounding land.

Attachment B - Post-Closure Inspection Requirements: This attachment outlines inspections which must be performed to inspect for malfunctions and deterioration, operator error, and discharges which may be causing or lead to a release to the environment or threaten human health.

Attachment C - Post-Closure Plan: This attachment outlines the provisions necessary during the post-closure care period to ensure that the site is maintained for at least 30 years. The financial assurance information is also found here.

Public Participation
The public comment period for this post-closure permit renewal began on December 30, 2020, when the official public notice was published in the News-Banner Bluffton, Indiana. Written comments must be postmarked or e-mailed by February 15, 2021.

You may request IDEM hold a public hearing or a public meeting. At a public hearing, you would have the opportunity to submit oral or written comments. At a public meeting, you would have an opportunity to submit written comments, ask questions, make statements, and otherwise discuss any concerns about the post-closure permit renewal with IDEM staff. IDEM will formally respond to any comments received during the public hearing or public meeting in its Response to Comments at the time of the final permit decision. If a public hearing or meeting is held, IDEM will make a separate announcement of the date, time, and location of that hearing/meeting 30 days in advance.

Copies of documents pertaining to this draft post-closure permit renewal are available via IDEM’s Virtual File Cabinet (VFC) at: https://vfc.idem.in.gov/DocumentSearch.aspx. From this website, you can access the document of your choice by going to the “Alternate Field” dropdown menu and selecting “Document ID.” You will then need to enter the document number from the list provided below in the “ID #” cell. Before conducting your search, you must verify you are not a robot.
VFC permit document numbers are:

Permit Application 83022918  Draft Permit Conditions 83087970
Permit Attachments:
A 83087971  B 83087972  C 83087974

Direct questions or comments to:

Jeff Workman, Project Manager
Indiana Department of Environmental Management
Office of Land Quality
Hazardous Waste Permit Section
IGCN 1101
100 North Senate Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46204

(317) 232-3221
jworkman@idem.IN.gov