

STATE OF INDIANA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
PUBLIC NOTICE NO: 20260611 – IN0064122– D
DATE OF NOTICE: June 11, 2026
DATE RESPONSE DUE: July 13, 2026

The Office of Water Quality proposes the following DRAFT NPDES PERMIT:

MAJOR - MODIFICATION:

St. Joseph Energy Center, LLC, Permit No. IN0064122, ST. JOSEPH COUNTY, 54745 Walnut Road, New Carlisle, IN. The permittee operates a natural gas-fired combined cycle power generation facility. This facility discharges 0.91 MGD of cooling tower blowdown, sanitary wastewater and non-process wastewater to Niespodziany Ditch via Outfall 001. Outfall 001 is located at Latitude: 41° 41' 51", Longitude: -86° 28' 58". Per the permittee's request, IDEM proposes to remove Part III B of the permit, which pertains to future thermal demonstration requirements. Permit Manager: Jodi Wray, 317/234-9739, jwray@idem.in.gov. Posted online at <https://www.in.gov/idem/public-notices/>.

PROCEDURES TO FILE A RESPONSE

You are hereby notified of the availability of a 30-day public comment period regarding the referenced draft permit, in accordance with 327 IAC 5-3-9. The application and draft permit documents are available for inspection at IDEM, Office of Water Quality, Indiana Government Center North, 100 N. Senate Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46204 from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m., Monday thru Friday, (copies 10¢ per page). The Draft Permit is posted online on the above-referenced IDEM public notice web page. A courtesy copy has also been sent via email to the local County Health Department. Please tell others whom you think would be interested in this matter. For more information about public participation including your rights & responsibilities, please see <https://www.in.gov/idem/public-notices/>. You may want to consult our online Citizens' Guide to IDEM: <https://www.in.gov/idem/resources/citizens-guide-to-idem/>.

Comments: The proposed decision to issue a permit is tentative. Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the draft permit. All comments must be delivered to IDEM or postmarked no later than the Response Due Date noted to be considered in the decision to issue a final permit. Deliver or mail all requests or comments to the attention of the Permit Manager at the above address.

To Request a Public Hearing: Any person may request a public hearing. A written request must be submitted to the above address on or before the Response Due Date. The written request shall include: the name and address of the person making the request, the interest of the person making the request, persons represented by the person making the request, the reason for the request and the issues proposed for consideration at the hearing. The Department will determine whether to hold a public hearing based upon the comments and the rationale for the request. Public Notice of such a hearing will be posted on IDEM's web page for public notices and notifications will also be sent to those persons submitting comments and/or on the mailing list at least 30 days prior to the hearing.



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

100 N. Senate Avenue • Indianapolis, IN 46204
(800) 451-6027 • (317) 232-8603 • Fax (317) 233-6647 • www.idem.in.gov

Mike Braun
Governor

Clint Woods
Commissioner

June 11, 2026

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Albert Taylor, Vice President of Generation
St. Joseph Energy Center, LLC
54745 Walnut Road
New Carlisle, IN 46552

Dear Albert Taylor:

Re: NPDES Permit No. IN0064122
Draft Permit Modification
St. Joseph Energy Center, LLC
New Carlisle, IN – St. Joseph County

Your request for a permit modification has been reviewed and processed in accordance with rules adopted under 327 IAC 5. Enclosed is a copy of the draft permit modification.

Pursuant to IC 13-15-5-1, IDEM will publish the draft permit document online at <https://www.in.gov/idem/public-notices/>. Additional information on public participation can be found in the "Citizens' Guide to IDEM", available at <https://www.in.gov/idem/resources/citizens-guide-to-idem/>. A 30-day comment period is available to solicit input from interested parties, including the public.

Please review this draft permit modification and associated documents carefully to become familiar with the proposed terms and conditions. Comments concerning the draft permit modification should be submitted in accordance with the procedure outlined in the enclosed public notice form. We suggest that you meet with us to discuss major concerns or objections you may have with the draft permit modification.

Questions concerning this draft permit modification may be addressed to Jodi Wray of my staff, at 317/234-9739 or jwray@idem.in.gov.

Sincerely,

Richard Hamblin, Chief
Industrial NPDES Permits Section
Office of Water Quality

Enclosures

cc: St. Joseph County Health Department
Derek Ganshorn, Plant Manager
Chase Parkinson, Environmental Manager
Chief, Permits Section, U.S. EPA, Region 5
Porfirio Ascencio, IDEM



STATE OF INDIANA

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

AMENDED AUTHORIZATION TO DISCHARGE UNDER THE
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM

In compliance with the provisions of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq., the "Clean Water Act" or "CWA"), and IDEM's permitting authority under IC 13-15,

ST. JOSEPH ENERGY CENTER, LLC

is authorized to discharge from a combined-cycle natural gas-fired turbine power plant that is located at 54745 Walnut Road, New Carlisle, Indiana to receiving waters named Niespodziany Ditch in accordance with effluent limitations, monitoring requirements, and other conditions set forth in Parts I, II, III, and IV hereof.

The permit, as issued on March 7, 2025, is hereby amended, as contained herein. The amended provisions shall become effective _____. All terms and conditions of the permit not modified at this time remain in effect. Further, any existing condition or term affected by the amendments will remain in effect until the amended provisions become effective. This permit may be revoked for the nonpayment of applicable fees in accordance with IC 13-18-20.

This permit and the authorization to discharge, as amended, shall expire at midnight March 31, 2030. In order to receive authorization to discharge beyond the date of expiration, the permittee shall submit such information and forms as are required by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management no later than 180 days prior to the date of expiration.

Issued on _____ for the Indiana Department
of Environmental Management.

Jerry Dittmer, Chief
Permits Branch
Office of Water Quality

PART III

Thermal Effluent Requirements

A. Thermal Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements

The discharge from Outfall 001 shall not exceed the maximum limits in the following tables:

ATEL Table 1: Daily Maximums

Units	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
°F	77.5	73.6	82.6	85.3	85.3	93	93	93	93	85.3	85.3	75.4

ATEL Table 2: Maximum Weekly Averages

Units	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
°F	68.7	67.3	80.6	80.6	80.6	90	90	90	90	80.6	80.6	68.2

Monitoring and reporting of the discharge temperature is to occur on a continuous basis and measurements shall be recorded at a frequency of once per hour. The highest single recorded measurement for each day shall be reported on the state monthly monitoring report and on the federal discharge monitoring report as the maximum daily temperature of that day. The highest calculated weekly average shall be reported on the state monthly monitoring report and on the federal discharge monitoring report as the maximum weekly average.

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**National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
Fact Sheet for
St. Joseph Energy Center, LLC
Draft modification: June 2026
Final modification: TBD**

Indiana Department of Environmental Management

100 North Senate Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
(317) 232-8603
Toll Free (800) 451-6027
www.idem.IN.gov

Permittee:	St. Joseph Energy Center, LLC 54745 Walnut Road New Carlisle, Indiana 46552
Existing Permit Information:	Permit Number: IN0064122 Expiration Date: March 31, 2030
Facility Contact:	Chase Parkinson, EHS Manager (574) 208-9715, cparkinson@sjecllc.com
Facility Location:	54745 Walnut Road New Carlisle, Indiana St. Joseph County
Receiving Stream:	Niespodziany Ditch
GLI/Non-GLI:	Non-GLI
Proposed Permit Action:	Modify
Date Application Received:	April 20, 2026
Source Category	NPDES Major – Industrial
Permit Writer:	Jodi Wray (317) 234 – 9739; jwray@idem.in.gov

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) received a request from St. Joseph Energy Center, LLC on April 20, 2026 to modify National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit IN0064122. The current five year permit was issued with an effective date of April 1, 2025 in accordance with 327 IAC 5-2-6(a).

The Federal Water Pollution Control Act (more commonly known as the Clean Water Act), as amended, (Title 33 of the United States Code (U.S.C.) Section 1251 et seq.), requires an NPDES permit for the discharge of pollutants into surface waters. Furthermore, Indiana law requires a permit to control or limit the discharge of any contaminants into state waters or into a publicly owned treatment works. This proposed permit action by IDEM complies with and implements these federal and state requirements.

In accordance with Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Sections 124.8 and 124.56, as well as Title 327 of the Indiana Administrative Code (IAC) Article 5-3-8, a Fact Sheet is required for certain NPDES permits. This document fulfills the requirements established in these regulations. This Fact Sheet was prepared in order to document the factors considered in the development of NPDES Permit effluent limitations. The technical basis for the Fact Sheet may consist of evaluations of promulgated effluent guidelines, existing effluent quality, receiving water conditions, Indiana water quality standards-based wasteload allocations, and other information available to IDEM. Decisions to award variances to Water Quality Standards or promulgated effluent guidelines are justified in the Fact Sheet where necessary. This Fact Sheet also identifies the modified pages of the permit as issued on March 7, 2025.

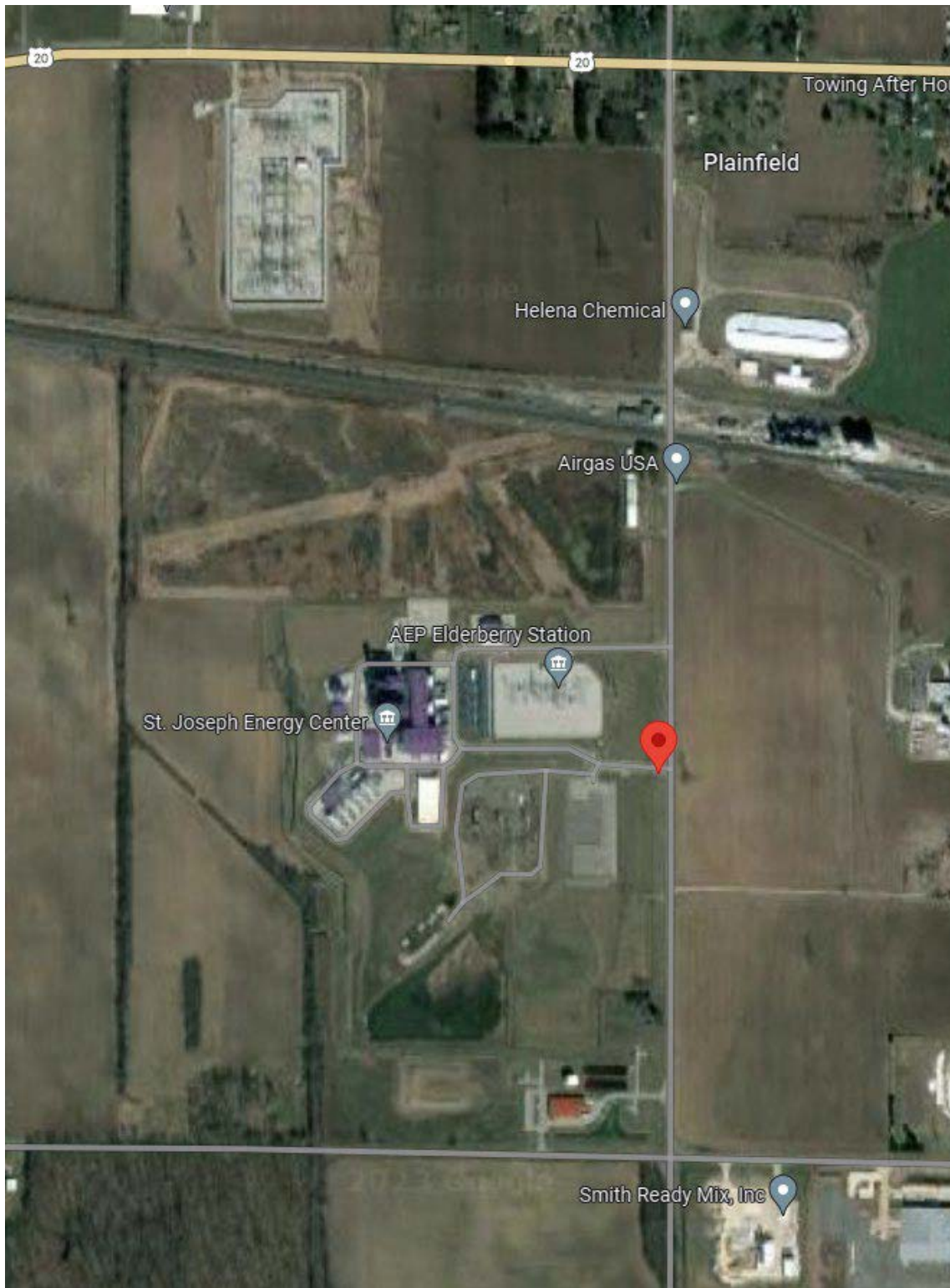
2.0 FACILITY DESCRIPTION

2.1 General

St. Joseph Energy Center, LLC is classified under Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Code 4911-Electric Services. St. Joseph Energy Center (herein referred to as SJEC) operates a natural gas-fired combined cycle power generation facility. At full production, it is projected to have a power output of 1,430 megawatts (MW). However, it currently has a power output of 715 MW. The permittee has proposed to construct this facility in two phases. They began Phase I construction in December 2015 and commercial operations of Phase I began in April 2018. A date of initiation of construction of Phase II has not been established yet.

The natural gas-fired combined cycle process captures heat from gas turbines to produce steam, which drives a steam turbine to efficiently produce more electricity. The byproduct of this process is heated water which is cooled in cooling towers before being reused. Treated well water is used as the source of water at this facility. After serving as coolant, the portion of this cooling water that does not evaporate is discharged as blowdown. This blowdown is discharged to the Niespodziany Ditch via Outfall 001. A map showing the location of the facility has been included as Figure 1.

Figure 1: Facility Location/Site Map



54745 Walnut Road
New Carlisle, IN – St. Joseph County

2.2 Outfall Locations

Outfall 001	Latitude: 41° 41' 51" Longitude: -86° 28' 58"
Internal Outfall 101	Latitude: 41° 41' 56" Longitude: -86° 28' 56"
Internal Outfall 102	Latitude: 41° 41' 59" Longitude: -86° 28' 56"

3.0 PERMIT MODIFICATION

3.1 Modification Request

SJEC requests to postpone and remove the Future Demonstration requirements, in accordance with Part III.B of the permit.

On March 11th, 2026, IDEM and SJEC discussed the 316(a) Future Thermal Demonstration Requirements of SJEC to support alternate thermal effluent limitations (ATELs). Two primary topics were presented to IDEM, outlining current operating status of SJEC and receiving waterbody conditions.

Regarding the first topic presented, on May 31st, 2023, SJEC submitted a Type II 316(a) Demonstration Study Plan with the permit renewal application. The Study Plan included a SJEC expansion to become fully operational, labeled as Phase II, with an expected completion date of Spring 2025. The 2023 Study Plan was written to assess the thermal and biological conditions within the receiving Niespodziany Ditch once SJEC completed Phase II and was fully operational. Phase II is not constructed and has no future dates set for construction to begin. Therefore, the 2023 Demonstration Study Plan is unable to be executed as written.

The second topic was about how local, ongoing economic development projects were influencing the receiving waterbody, Niespodziany Ditch. SJEC is permitted to discharge to the receiving waterbody through external Outfall 001. The influence of Outfall 001 extends approximately eight (8) miles upstream of the Niespodziany Ditch confluence with the Kankakee River. Between SJEC Outfall 001 and the Kankakee River, four (4) economic development projects have been identified that could affect SJEC thermal and biological monitoring.

First, the Town of New Carlisle holds NPDES Permit IN0064941, which authorizes discharge to Niespodziany Ditch; however, an outfall has not yet been constructed. Construction of the Town of New Carlisle Outfall 001 is proposed for Spring 2026, approximately 0.1 miles downstream of SJEC's influence. The timeline for construction remains unknown.

Second, dewatering activities from multiple construction sites are currently removing groundwater and discharging it into Niespodziany Ditch, altering thermal and hydrologic conditions of the stream. An additional dewatering application was submitted to the St. Joseph County (SJC) Drainage Board on February 23, 2026. This application proposes discharge of 1,452,000 gallons per hour over a period of five hundred forty-six (546) days, approximately 2.7 miles downstream of SJEC's influence. Completion timelines for these activities are unknown.

Third, a Niespodziany Ditch Reconstruction project was approved in May 2024. To SJEC's knowledge, 5,910 linear feet of ditch were retired, and 7,345 linear feet were placed into service, with flow beginning in September 2025. Completion of the reconstruction project is anticipated in 2028.

Finally, an interchange road and traffic improvement plan has been approved at State Road 2 (Western Avenue), including the Larrison Boulevard and Strawberry Road transition. Although the majority of construction will occur east of Niespodziany Ditch, the primary impact is expected to involve extension of existing culverts and headwall roadwork, as indicated by the responsible engineering firm. This work is located approximately 2.35 miles downstream of SJEC's influence.

For all the reasons discussed above, SJEC requests to postpone 316(a) Thermal and Biological monitoring and remove the current language from Part III.B of this NPDES permit.

3.2 IDEM's Proposed Modification

IDEM proposes to remove Part III.B of the permit – Future Thermal Demonstration Requirements – due to the numerous economic development projects impacting the receiving waterbody. SJEC is currently unable to conduct thermal or biological studies that would accurately represent conditions in the receiving waterbody affected by effluent from Outfall 001. Multiple ongoing economic development projects are altering thermal and hydrologic conditions in the receiving waterbody and preventing representative study results. Therefore, IDEM proposes that the 316(a) demonstration requirements be removed at this time, with a determination regarding reinstatement of the study requirements to be made at the time of permit renewal.

3.3 Antibacksliding

Indiana's prohibitions on backsliding under 327 IAC 5-2-10(a)(11) are applicable to BPJ case-by-case technology-based effluent limitations, when proposed to be increased based on subsequently promulgated effluent guidelines under Section 304(b) of the CWA, and limitations based on Indiana water quality standards or treatment standards (327 IAC 5-10). Prohibitions on other types of backsliding (e.g., backsliding from limitations derived from effluent guidelines, from existing case-by-case limitations to new case-by-case limitations, and from conditions such as monitoring requirements that are not effluent limitations) are covered under federal regulation at 40 CFR 122.44(l)(1).

Under 327 IAC 5-2-10(a)(11), unless an exception under 327 IAC 5-2-10(a)(11)(B) applies, a permit may not be renewed, reissued or modified to contain effluent limitations that are less stringent than the comparable effluent limitations in the previous permit. For effluent limitations based on Indiana water quality or treatment standards, less stringent effluent limitations may also be allowed if they are in compliance with Section 303(d)(4) of the CWA. Under 40 CFR 122.44(l)(1), a permit may not be renewed or reissued to contain less stringent interim effluent limitations, standards or conditions than the final effluent limitations, standards or conditions in the previous permit unless the circumstances on which the previous permit was based have

materially and substantially changed since the time the permit was issued and would constitute cause for permit modification or revocation and reissuance under 40 CFR 122.62.

None of the limits included in this permit are less stringent than the comparable effluent limitations in the previous permit, therefore, backsliding is not an issue in accordance with 327 IAC 5-2-10(a)(11) and 40 CFR 122.44(l)(1).

3.4 Antidegradation

Indiana's Antidegradation Standards and Implementation procedures are outlined in 327 IAC 2-1.3. The antidegradation standards established by 327 IAC 2-1.3-3 apply to all surface waters of the state. The permittee is prohibited from undertaking any deliberate action that would result in a new or increased discharge of a bioaccumulative chemical of concern (BCC) or a new or increased permit limit for a regulated pollutant that is not a BCC unless information is submitted to the commissioner demonstrating that the proposed new or increased discharge will not cause a significant lowering of water quality, or an antidegradation demonstration submitted and approved in accordance 327 IAC 2-1.3-5 and 2-1.3-6.

The NPDES permit does not propose to establish a new or increased loading of a regulated pollutant; therefore, the Antidegradation Implementation Procedures in 327 IAC 2-1.3-5 and 2-1.3-6 do not apply to the permitted discharge.

3.5 Spill Response and Reporting Requirement

Reporting requirements associated with the Spill Reporting, Containment, and Response requirements of 327 IAC 2-6.1 are included in Part II.B.2.(d), Part II.B.3.(c), and Part II.C.3. of the NPDES permit. Spills from the permitted facility meeting the definition of a spill under 327 IAC 2-6.1-4(15), the applicability requirements of 327 IAC 2-6.1-1, and the Reportable Spills requirements of 327 IAC 2-6.1-5 (other than those meeting an exclusion under 327 IAC 2-6.1-3 or the criteria outlined below) are subject to the Reporting Responsibilities of 327 IAC 2-6.1-7.

It should be noted that the reporting requirements of 327 IAC 2-6.1 do not apply to those discharges or exceedances that are under the jurisdiction of an applicable permit when the substance in question is covered by the permit and death or acute injury or illness to animals or humans does not occur. In order for a discharge or exceedance to be under the jurisdiction of this NPDES permit, the substance in question (a) must have been discharged in the normal course of operation from an outfall listed in this permit, and (b) must have been discharged from an outfall for which the permittee has authorization to discharge that substance.

3.6 Permit Processing/Public Comment

Pursuant to IC 13-15-5-1, IDEM will publish the draft permit document online at <https://www.in.gov/idem/public-notices/>. Additional information on public participation can be found in the "Citizens' Guide to IDEM", available at <https://www.in.gov/idem/resources/citizens-guide-to-idem/>. A 30-day comment period is available to solicit input from interested parties, including the public.