

AIR QUALITY PERMIT

Written comments MUST be received by the NDEQ by July 24th. Mail your comments to the address below with PLENTY of time for them to get to Lincoln and to be processed by the NDEQ. Include Lincoln Premium Poultry's number, which is FID# 76680, and mention that the letter is about the Air Quality Permit.

NDEQ

Attn: Gary Buttermore, Air Quality Division

PO Box 98922

Lincoln, NE 68509-8922

Talking points you could include in your letter:

1. You're a citizen of Fremont and/or Dodge County; you're concerned with how the plant will affect the air quality surrounding Fremont; you object to the issuing of the air permit—your entire letter is discussing reasons why you object.
2. NDEQ states that Fremont meets the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), but there is no explanation as to what those are. Where are Fremont's readings compared to other Nebraska cities? To national standards? LPP and the State don't anticipate any change in those or any danger to endangered species or to our environment. There are no guarantees—something is bound to happen. What is their plan when something happens?
3. Do you have health issues that could be affected by air issues created by the Costco plant?
4. The National Ambient Air Quality Standards includes the following:

(Source: epa.gov)

A. Particulate Matter (PM), (particle pollution)

-contains microscopic solids or liquid droplets that can be inhaled and cause serious health problems.

-Small particles less than 10 micrometers (PM10) in diameter pose the greatest problems because they can get deep into your lungs and into your bloodstream.

-Fine particles less than 2.5 micrometers (PM2.5) also affect the environment by causing haze.

B. Ground Level Ozone ("bad" ozone)

-Is created by chemical reactions between oxides of nitrogen (NOx) and volatile organic compounds (VOC) in the presence of sunlight.

-Sources: industrial facilities, electric utilities, motor vehicle exhaust, gasoline vapors, and chemical solvents.

-Triggers health problems for children, the elderly, and people who have lung diseases such as asthma.

-Can harm sensitive vegetation, especially during the growing season, and ecosystems including forests, parks, wildlife refuges and wilderness areas.

C. Carbon Monoxide—

- CO is a colorless, odorless gas released when something is burned.
- Sources: cars, trucks and other vehicles or machinery that burn fossil fuels.
- Breathing air with a high concentration of CO reduces the amount of oxygen that can be transported in the blood stream to critical organs like the heart and brain.
- Very high levels of CO are not likely to occur outdoors.
- When CO levels are elevated outdoors, they are dangerous for people with some types of heart disease.

D. Sulphur Dioxide—

- The largest sources of SO₂ emissions are from fossil fuel combustion at power plants and other industrial facilities.
- SO₂ can affect both health and the environment.
- Short-term exposures to SO₂ can harm the human respiratory system and make breathing difficult. Children, the elderly, and those who suffer from asthma are particularly sensitive to effects of SO₂.
- SO₂ and other sulfur oxides (SO_x) can react with other compounds in the atmosphere to form small particles that contribute to particulate matter (PM) pollution.
- The particles may penetrate deeply into sensitive parts of the lungs and cause additional health problems.

E. Nitrogen Dioxide— Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) is one of a group of highly reactive gases known as nitrogen oxides (NO_x).

- Source: emissions from cars, trucks and buses, power plants, and off-road equipment.
- Breathing air with a high concentration of NO₂ can irritate airways in the human respiratory system. People with asthma, children, and the elderly are at greater risk for the health effects of NO₂.
- NO₂ and other NO_x interact with water, oxygen and other chemicals in the atmosphere to form acid rain, which harms sensitive ecosystems such as lakes and forests.
- NO_x in the atmosphere contributes to nutrient pollution in water.
- The nitrate particles that result from NO_x can make the air hazy.

5. One thing EPA's final designations are based on is the most recent 3-years of air quality monitoring data. Has the City of Fremont monitored air quality for three years? If so, where are the results?

6. Shouldn't performance testing be done on a regularly scheduled basis?

7. Are all the haul roads going to be paved? In one spot it talks about unpaved haul roads (p. 12 Sect. 3E) and then in another spot it says that all haul roads need to be paved (p. 24 Sect. 3E)

8. Lincoln Premium has removed all of the emergency generators from their air permit. How could you operate the hatchery without emergency backup power?