

General information

Public comment period begins: October 15, 2020
Public comment period ends: November 16, 2020 (4:30 p.m.)
Current permit issued: January 27, 2014

Name and address of Permittee:	Facility name and location:	MPCA contact person:
Wisconsin Central Ltd 17641 Ashland Ave Homewood, Illinois 60430-1339	Wisconsin Central Ltd Two Harbors Docks 1 Waterfront Dr Two Harbors, MN 55616 Lake County T052N, R11W, Section 001	Rachel Fossum Industrial Division Minnesota Pollution Control Agency 520 Lafayette Ave St. Paul, MN 55101 Phone: 651-757-2863 Email: Rachel.fossum@state.mn.us

File manager phone: 651-757-2728 or
1-844-828-0942

A draft permit and supporting documentation is available for review on the MPCA Public Notices webpage at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publicnotices>. Additional materials relating to the issuance of this permit are available for inspection. Please call the listed MPCA contact person between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday to arrange for this. The MPCA will mail or email a copy of the draft permit upon request. Comments, petitions, and other requests must be received at the MPCA in writing on or before the public comment period end date and time identified above.

Description of permitted facility and project

Wisconsin Central Ltd is a railroad terminal that receives, handles, stockpiles, and ships taconite pellets, as well as a small amount of blast furnace trim. At the facility there is one rail receiving building, two taconite piles (one for Minorca-sourced taconite and one for Minntac taconite), and two docks. Taconite pellets may be unloaded from railcars onto an underground conveyor within the receiving building, or they may be unloaded from railcars directly into the dock pockets. From the receiving building, the pellets can either be conveyed to the stockpiles, where they are added to the stockpiles using a luffing stacker, or transferred from a series of a conveyors to Dock 2 for shipping. Dock 2 is used only for taconite shipping. From Dock 2, the pellets can be loaded onto vessels via gravity load chutes on one side of the dock or using shiploaders (conveyor arms that transfer the pellets to the ship) on the other side of the dock. Taconite is reclaimed from the stockpiles using a bucketwheel to transfer the pellets back to the conveyor system, or it can be reclaimed from the surge stockpile, which is a series of pits that can be opened onto an underground conveyor in one section of the stockpile yard. On rare occasions taconite may also be reclaimed from the pile using front end loaders. Blast furnace trim is never stored onsite, it is always unloaded from railcars into Dock 1 and from there it is loaded to vessel by gravity chutes. The facility has one #2 fuel oil storage tank and one #6 fuel oil storage tank.

The main pollutants of concern are particulate matter (PM), particulate matter less than ten microns (PM10), and particulate matter less than 2.5 microns (PM2.5), which are generated from material drop points such as rail unloading, transfers onto conveyors and from one conveyor to another, stockpile reclaim activities, and vessel loading, as well as from pile erosion and vehicle traffic on unpaved roads. Baghouses and water spray are used to control particulate matter at the majority of emission points.

Wisconsin Central Ltd has several insignificant activities, including natural gas fired heating equipment, small tanks, and a welding station.

The permit action is for modification and operation of the facility. The permit action is a major amendment; therefore, the draft permit has been placed on public notice. Construction of a pellet screening system is authorized. The pellet screening includes new fugitive sources FUGI 30 through 34. The screener will be used to clean taconite scrap pellets from around the facility so that they may be sold. PM, PM10, and PM2.5 will be emitted by the screener. Particulate matter emissions from screening will be controlled by three water atomizers (TREA 24-26).

This permit action also rolls in a major amendment from 2017 to incorporate assumptions made in Wisconsin Central's PM10 modeling analysis. The analysis was conducted to fulfill a permit requirement of permit #07500005-002.

A summary of the Potential to Emit (PTE) and Emissions Increase in tons per year is as follows:

Pollutant	PM	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}	SO ₂	NO _x	VOCs	CO	CO _{2e}	Lead
Total Facility Non-Fugitive PTE	74.5	26.1	3.95	0.0	0.0	6.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total Facility Fugitive and Non-Fugitive PTE	546	179	25.0	0.0	0.0	6.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Emissions Increase from new emission units	6.26	2.18	0.00169	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

PM = Particulate Matter

PM_{2.5} = PM, 2.5 microns and smaller

NO_x = Nitrogen Oxides

CO = Carbon Monoxide

PM₁₀ = PM, 10 microns and smaller

SO₂ = Sulfur Dioxide

VOCs = Volatile Organic Compounds

CO_{2e} = Carbon Dioxide Equivalents as defined in Minn. R. 7007.0100

The Permittee is not required to submit a pollution prevention progress report pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 115D.08.

The preliminary determination to amend this Air permit is tentative.

Procedure for public participation

As stated in Minn. R. chs. 7000 and 7001, there are three formal procedures for public participation in the MPCA's consideration of this matter. Interested persons may:

- (1) Submit written comments on the draft permit.
- (2) Petition the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting.
- (3) Petition the MPCA to hold a contested case hearing.

Submitting written comments

To submit comments or petitions to the MPCA through the mail or email, you must state:

- (1) Your interest in the permit application or the draft permit.
- (2) The action you wish the MPCA to take, including specific references to the section of the draft permit you believe should be changed.
- (3) The reasons supporting your position, stated with sufficient specificity as to allow the MPCA to investigate the merits of the position.

Public informational meeting

A public informational meeting is an informal meeting during which interested persons can ask questions concerning the proposed facility. MPCA staff will be present to provide information. If an interested person would like the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting, the person should include all information identified above and in addition include a statement of the reasons the person desires the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting and the issues that the person would like the agency to address at the public informational meeting.

Contested Case Hearing

A contested case hearing is a formal proceeding before an administrative law judge empowered to advise the MPCA regarding issues of fact. As described in Minn. R. 7000.1800, persons who submit petitions for a contested case hearing must also state the issues they propose to address in a contested case hearing, the specific relief requested or resolution of the matter, and the reasons (which may be in the form of proposed findings) supporting an MPCA decision to hold a contested case hearing. Failure to comply with these rules exactly may result in a denial of the request. To the extent known, the petitioner may also submit a list of prospective witnesses to be called at a hearing, a proposed list of publications, references, or studies to be introduced at a hearing and the approximate time required for the petitioner to present the matter at a hearing. The decision whether to hold a contested case hearing will be made under Minn. R. 7000.1900.