

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

Public Notice
Exceptional Event Request
Granite City, Illinois

The Illinois EPA is asking that a fine particulate (PM_{2.5}) reading recorded on July 5, 2008 in Granite City be excluded by the United States EPA (US EPA) from data used to determine compliance with National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). An Illinois EPA analysis shows conclusively that the Granite City value of 41.8 micrograms per cubic meter measured on July 5th was significantly impacted by fireworks discharged during the July 4th celebration on the St. Louis riverfront. Light to calm winds late on July 4th and the early morning of July 5th allowed fireworks display emissions to linger in the downtown area and adversely impacted urban area monitors.

Under US EPA rules, PM_{2.5} measurements shown to be impacted by fireworks emissions can be considered an exceptional event and values found to be greater than the NAAQS can be excluded from compliance data. The Illinois EPA request with supporting documentation can be found on the Agency web site at <http://www.epa.state.il.us/public-notices/>

The Illinois EPA is accepting comments on the request. Comments must be submitted to the Illinois EPA by April 28, 2009. Requests for information, comments and questions should be directed to Brad Frost, Division of Air Pollution Control, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, PO. Box 19506, Springfield, Illinois, 62794-9506, phone 217/782-7027, TDD phone number 217/782-9143, e-mail: brad.frost@illinois.gov