***PUBLIC NOTICE***

Flint Hills Resources Corpus Christi, LLC, Corpus Christi West Refinery

ANNOUNCEMENT OF PUBLIC NOTICE ON THE RESCISSION OF A CLEAN AIR ACT GREENHOUSE GAS PREVENTION OF SIGNIFICANT DETERIORATION PRECONSTRUCTION PERMIT


The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is providing notice of its decision to rescind the Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) permit for Greenhouse Gases (GHG) issued to Flint Hills Resources Corpus Christi (Flint Hills), for its Corpus Christi West Refinery, Domestic Crude Project on May 23, 2014. EPA Region 6 issued the GHG PSD permit based on the applicability provisions described, at the time of permit issuance, at 40 CFR § 52.21(b)(49)(v)(b). In Utility Air Regulatory Group (UARG) v. Environmental Protection Agency, 134 S. Ct. 2427 (2014), the Supreme Court held that EPA may not treat GHGs alone as an air pollutant for purposes of determining whether a source is a major source required to obtain a PSD or title V permit and thus invalidated regulations implementing that approach. On July 6, 2015, EPA finalized a rule to implement the Supreme Court’s decision that allows EPA to issue permit rescissions of GHG PSD permits issued to those sources who were treated as major sources simply due to their GHG emissions. EPA is issuing notice of the GHG PSD permit rescission in accordance with the permit rescission regulations at 40 CFR § 52.21(w)(2).

Flint Hills has demonstrated that, at the time of permit issuance, the modification at the existing major source did not result in an increase in emissions of any regulated New Source Review (NSR) pollutant other than GHGs in an amount equal to or greater than the applicable significance level for that pollutant. The modification authorized the addition and modification of certain equipment to enable the facility to process a larger percentage of domestic crude oil. The Domestic Crude Project increased the refinery’s capacity to process crude oil by approximately seven percent through the new and modified equipment, increased utilization of existing equipment and debottlenecking. The permitted construction was planned to occur at a new site location, which is located at 2825 Suntide Road, Corpus Christi, TX 78409. Flint Hills received a minor source NSR permit for its proposed non-GHG emissions increases for the modification from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) on May 23, 2014. See permit number 6819A; project number 186508, RN100235266, and CN603741463. The non-GHG emissions changes associated with the TCEQ permit are as follows: CO = -800.64 TPY, SO$_2$ = -156.37 TPY, PM = +17.96 TPY. A netting analysis was also included in the TCEQ review and the project’s netting emissions changes were: PM$_{10}$ = -2.13 TPY, PM$_{2.5}$ = -4.28 TPY, VOC = -48.34 TPY and NOx = -217.82 TPY. Flint Hills has also asserted to EPA that the EPA-issued GHG PSD permit is not used, or planned to be used, for any other regulatory or compliance purpose. Based on EPA’s review of the information provided to EPA, Flint Hills has provided sufficient information to support the required rescission elements outlined in 40 CFR § 52.21(w)(2).

Rescission Documents: All documents associated with the rescission of this GHG PSD permit including Flint Hills’ rescission request and technical supporting information are part of the administrative record. The public can access key portions of the administrative record at EPA’s website: http://www2.epa.gov/CAA-permitting/ghg-psd-permitting-epas-south-central-region.
Hard copies of the full administrative record for this action may also be viewed in person (please call at least 24-hours in advance for available viewing times) at the EPA Region 6 address below.

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U.S. EPA Region 6  
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**Final Determination:** Based on the information provided to EPA Region 6, Flint Hills has provided sufficient information to support the required rescission elements outlined in 40 CFR § 52.21(w)(2). With the publication of this notice, this GHG PSD permit rescission for PSD-TX-6819A-GHG becomes effective 60 days after publication.