

facilities to process and ship extracted coal.

Background

TVA is a federal corporation and instrumentality of the United States government, created in 1933 by an act of Congress to foster the social and economic well-being of the residents of the Tennessee Valley region. As part of its diversified energy strategy, TVA completed a series of land and coal mineral acquisitions from the 1960s through the mid-1980s that resulted in the coal ownership of two large coal reserve blocks in the southwestern section of the Illinois Basin. TVA owns coal reserves underlying approximately 65,000 acres of land containing approximately 1.35 billion tons of Illinois No. 5 and No. 6 coal seams.

TVA executed a coal lease agreement with Sugar Camp in July 2002 which allows Sugar Camp to mine the TVA coal reserves in the Illinois Basin coalfield. The purpose of this agreement is to facilitate the recovery of TVA coal resources in an environmentally sound manner. Under the terms of the agreement, Sugar Camp may not commence any mining activity pursuant to a mining plan or revisions until satisfactory completion of all environmental and cultural resource reviews by TVA required for compliance with all applicable law and regulations. Sugar Camp submitted to TVA a plan for the mining of 12,125 acres of coal reserves within the area previously approved by the State of Illinois as SBR No. 6. The EIS initiated by TVA will assess the environmental impact of approving this plan. In doing so, TVA also expects to address the cumulative impacts from the mining of the larger 37,972-acre area previously approved by the State of Illinois as SBR No. 6.

The operations of Sugar Camp Mine No. 1 have previously been subject to TVA review and approval. In 2008, Sugar Camp obtained a permit from the State of Illinois for underground longwall mining operations on approximately 12,103 acres in Franklin and Hamilton counties; the original permit did not include TVA-owned coal reserves. In 2010, Sugar Camp applied to the state for a SBR of that permit to mine TVA-owned coal under an additional 817-acre area. The permit was issued in May 2010. In 2011, TVA prepared an EA to document the potential effects of Sugar Camp's proposed mining of TVA-owned coal underneath a 2,600-acre area for Sugar Camp Mine No. 1.

In November 2017, Sugar Camp obtained approval from the IDNR to

expand Sugar Camp Mine No. 1 by 37,792 acres. The Sugar Camp proposal included the expansion of operations along the north perimeter of its original mine perimeter, into a 2,250-acre area referred to as Viking District #2. In November 2018, TVA completed an EA entitled "Sugar Camp Coal Mine Expansion Viking District #2" which addressed expansion of mining operations into the area. In May 2019, TVA supplemented this EA to consider Sugar Camp's proposal to expand its mining into a 155-acre area within the Viking District #3, adjacent to Viking District #2.

Alternatives

TVA has initially identified two alternatives for consideration in the EIS: TVA's approval of Sugar Camp's application to mine 12,125 acres of TVA-owned coal reserves within the expansion area of Sugar Camp Mine No. 1, as approved by the State of Illinois; and the No Action Alternative. Under the action alternative, TVA proposes to assess the direct and indirect effects of the mining operations to extract TVA-owned coal reserves underlying approximately 12,125 acres within the expansion area. The mining of the remaining acreage within the 37,792-acre expansion area is not a connected action; however, TVA will address the effects of mining the remaining acreage in the cumulative impacts section of the EIS. The description and analysis of these alternatives in the EIS will inform decision makers, other agencies and the public about the potential for environmental impacts associated with the mining operations. TVA solicits comment on whether there are other alternatives that should be assessed in the EIS.

Proposed Resources and Issues To Be Considered

Public scoping is integral to the process for implementing NEPA and ensures that issues are identified early and properly studied, issues of little significance do not consume substantial time and effort, and the analysis of those issues is thorough and balanced. This EIS will identify the purpose and need of the project and will contain descriptions of the existing environmental and socioeconomic resources within the area that could be affected by mining operations. Evaluation of potential environmental impacts to these resources will include, but not be limited to, water quality, soil erosion, floodplains, aquatic and terrestrial ecology, threatened and endangered species, botany, wetlands, land use, historic and archaeological

resources, as well as solid and hazardous waste, safety, socioeconomic and environmental justice issues. The final range of issues to be addressed in the environmental review will be determined, in part, from scoping comments received. TVA is particularly interested in public input on other reasonable alternatives that should be considered in the EIS. The preliminary identification of reasonable alternatives and environmental issues in this notice is not meant to be exhaustive or final.

Public Participation

The public is invited to submit comments on the scope of this EIS no later than the date identified in the **DATES** section of this notice. Federal, state and local agencies and Native American Tribes are also invited to provide comments. After consideration of comments received during the scoping period, TVA will develop and distribute a scoping document that will summarize public and agency comments that were received and identify the schedule for completing the EIS process. Following analysis of the issues, TVA will prepare a draft EIS for public review and comment; the draft EIS is scheduled for completion in late 2020. In finalizing the EIS and in making its final decision, TVA will consider the comments that it receives on the Draft EIS.

Authority: 40 CFR 1501.7.

M. Susan Smelley,

Director, Environmental Compliance and Operations.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

Hazardous Materials: Notice of Applications for Modifications to Special Permits

AGENCY: Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), DOT.

ACTION: List of applications for modification of special permits.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the procedures governing the application for, and the processing of, special permits from the Department of Transportation's Hazardous Material Regulations, notice is hereby given that the Office of Hazardous Materials Safety has received the application described herein. Each mode of transportation for

which a particular special permit is requested is indicated by a number in the "Nature of Application" portion of the table below as follows: 1—Motor vehicle, 2—Rail freight, 3—Cargo vessel, 4—Cargo aircraft only, 5—Passenger-carrying aircraft.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before August 27, 2019.

ADDRESSES: Record Center, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, Washington, DC 20590.

Comments should refer to the application number and be submitted in triplicate. If confirmation of receipt of

comments is desired, include a self-addressed stamped postcard showing the special permit number.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Donald Burger, Chief, Office of Hazardous Materials Approvals and Permits Division, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, East Building, PHH-30, 1200 New Jersey Avenue Southeast, Washington, DC 20590-0001, (202) 366-4535.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Copies of the applications are available for inspection in the Records Center, East

Building, PHH-30, 1200 New Jersey Avenue Southeast, Washington, DC or at <http://regulations.gov>.

This notice of receipt of applications for special permit is published in accordance with part 107 of the Federal hazardous materials transportation law (49 U.S.C. 5117(b); 49 CFR 1.53(b)).

Issued in Washington, DC, on July 31, 2019.

Donald P. Burger,
Chief, General Approvals and Permits Branch.

SPECIAL PERMITS DATA

Application number	Applicant	Regulation(s) affected	Nature of the special permits thereof
11489-M	JOYSON SAFETY SYSTEMS	172.320, 173.56(b)	To modify the special permit to clarify origination and destination for testing and to remove the no other hazardous materials may be transported within the same cargo carrying body on a transport vehicle or freight container restriction. (modes 1, 3)
15335-M	SEASTAR CHEMICALS INC	173.158(f)(3)	To modify the special permit to reference new, improved testing of the package. (modes 1, 2, 3)
15552-M	POLY-COAT SYSTEMS, INC	107.503(b), 107.503(c), 173.241, 173.242, 173.243.	To modify the special permit to remove the request to get authorization from the Approvals and Permits Division before modifying, stretching or re-barreling. (mode 1)
16518-M	MIDWEST HELICOPTER AIRWAYS.	172.200, 172.301(c), 175.33 ..	To modify the special permit to authorize additional hazmat. (mode 4)
20396-M	HEXAGON DIGITAL WAVE LLC.	180.205(g)	To modify the special permit to authorize MA testing of certain DOT-CFFC cylinders. (modes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
20432-M	PROCYON-ALPHA SQUARED, INC.	172.200, 172.300, 172.400, 173.185(f).	To modify the special permit to authorize the use of QR codes for marking (modes 1, 2, 3)
20893-M	DAIMLER AG	172.301(c), 173.220(d)	To modify the special permit to authorize the transportation in commerce of untested pre-production lithium ion batteries contained in a flammable liquid powered vehicle. (mode 4)

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

Hazardous Materials: Notice of Actions on Special Permits

AGENCY: Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of actions on special permit applications.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the procedures governing the application for, and the processing of, special permits from the Department of Transportation's Hazardous Material

Regulations, notice is hereby given that the Office of Hazardous Materials Safety has received the application described herein.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before September 11, 2019.

ADDRESSES: Record Center, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, Washington, DC 20590.

Comments should refer to the application number and be submitted in triplicate. If confirmation of receipt of comments is desired, include a self-addressed stamped postcard showing the special permit number.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Donald Burger, Chief, Office of Hazardous Materials Approvals and Permits Division, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety

Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, East Building, PHH-30, 1200 New Jersey Avenue Southeast, Washington, DC 20590-0001, (202) 366-4535.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Copies of the applications are available for inspection in the Records Center, East Building, PHH-30, 1200 New Jersey Avenue Southeast, Washington, DC, or at <http://regulations.gov>.

This notice of receipt of applications for special permit is published in accordance with part 107 of the Federal hazardous materials transportation law (49 U.S.C. 5117(b); 49 CFR 1.53(b)).

Issued in Washington, DC, on August 02, 2019.

Donald P. Burger,
Chief, General Approvals and Permits Branch.