

Emerging Technologies...

...and Approaches to Minimize Discharges into Lake Michigan

Project Update

March 2008

The Research

- The Emerging Technologies project is on track with its study of discharges to Lake Michigan, and analysis of technologies that might improve wastewater quality.
- The researchers have held meetings with BP to discuss interim study information and are compiling a panel of external reviewers. The panel review, expected to be conducted in late April, will ensure that final research results are thoroughly scrutinized for scientific rigor.
- The researchers from the Purdue University Calumet Water Institute and Argonne National Laboratory are collaborating on a final report that will be presented to BP this spring.

Emerging Technologies

- Initial technologies have been identified for further analysis to assess their ability to improve removal of ammonia and total suspended solids (TSS) from refinery wastewater.
- These technologies are being further screened for their potential application in the treatment of wastewater derived from refining of heavier Canadian crude oil.

Comparative Discharges

- Data about wastewater discharges is being collected from the lower part of Lake Michigan.

- Researchers are analyzing the data and preparing a report on the information found to facilitate a broader understanding of discharge issues to Lake Michigan. The outcome of the study may help policymakers better understand and address environmental concerns in the region and also could help other industries around the Great Lakes in selecting appropriate technologies for minimizing discharges.

Community Outreach

Purdue Calumet and Argonne remain committed to providing information about the Emerging Technologies project in a transparent and accessible manner.

A Community Briefing was held Jan. 16, 2008, at Purdue Calumet; it was well-attended by public officials, environmental experts and interested citizens. Purdue Calumet and Argonne plan to hold another Community Briefing before Phase One of the study is completed in June. While the exact date of this spring briefing has not yet been set, project updates such as this one will be posted periodically to the project Web site and shared via e-mail with interested parties. Notice of the Community Briefing will be provided to interested persons via invitations, e-mail, the Web site and local news media.

For More Information

If you would like to sign up for e-mail updates or have further questions, please click Vlahovic@calumet.purdue.edu

Other information about the Emerging Technologies project can be found by returning to: www.calumet.purdue.edu/pwi/emergtech/