



NOTES AND NEWS

March 2011

Viskase Expansion Permit Update

The proposed Viskase construction permit is currently under formal review by Region 4 of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). EPA has elected to review this application, largely as the result of concerns expressed from the community. Such a “formal” review is not always conducted. The application reached EPA about March 1, 2011, and EPA has 45 days to act on the request. The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) forwarded the proposed permit to EPA without requiring modifications, despite numerous objections about the permit from BCAAT and other community members. Thirty-four of thirty-five formal comments to TDEC objected to the proposed permit.

The major concerns with the request are the additional noxious odors that will result from increased pollutants released into the air. In the past few years, foul odors in our area have been reduced due to improved federal requirements that mandated changes in industrial equipment and procedures. However, the requested Viskase expansion is expected to take their levels of noxious odors back up to previous levels.

Also of concern is that Loudon County remains in non-attainment for the new ozone standard and small particle pollution. The proposed Viskase expansion pollutants will further aggravate this situation. Ozone and small particles are known to cause respiratory difficulties, especially in children, the elderly, and asthmatics.

If the EPA does not require the state to modify the proposed permit, we have the option to appeal the decision to the EPA Administrator. We can also appeal the proposed permit to Tennessee’s Air Pollution Control Board. BCAAT is currently engaged in discussions with an environmental attorney to consider options and possible next steps.

We sincerely appreciate the support of our membership and will keep you apprised as this situation evolves.

OTHER

2011 Dues Due!

It's time to renew your BCAAT membership. Please use the form below and return it along with your check. Thanks so much for your interest and support.

BCAAT Membership Application/Renewal

Name _____

Street Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone number _____ E-mail _____

Membership levels/Annual Dues

Individual \$10 Family \$20 Sustaining \$50 Silver \$100 Gold \$500 or more

Check here if you wish your membership to remain anonymous

DUES AND CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE TO THE EXTENT ALLOWABLE BY LAW

Please indicate areas of interest to:

Please mail application and check **payable to BCAAT INC.**

Distribute flyers

BCAAT

Participate on committee

298 Village Square # 129

Attend public meetings

Loudon, TN 37774

Research and fact-finding

Write letters, articles

Thank you!

Other _____