

ADKINS ENERGY – LESS THAN 1 YEAR AFTER OPERATION BEGAN–June 2003

C4AQE NOTE: THIS IS ONE OF THE ETHANOL PLANTS DESIGNED AND BUILT BY THE COMPANY THAT DESIGNED THE PENN-MAR PLANT NOW PROPOSED FOR GREENE TOWNSHIP.



For Immediate Release

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June 11, 2003

MADIGAN, BALD, IEPA AND **ADKINS ENERGY AGREE ON PLAN TO PROTECT NEIGHBORS, BRING ETHANOL PLANT INTO COMPLIANCE**

Chicago – **Attorney General** Lisa Madigan, Stephenson County State's Attorney Michael Bald, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) and Adkins Energy, L.L.C., have reached an agreement that **requires the company to conduct a complete review of its operations and bring its ethanol plant near Lena into compliance with state environmental laws.**

The agreement, spelled out in a court order, was entered today by Stephenson County Judge Charles R. Hartman.

Madigan and Bald filed suit May 29 against the company for alleged permitting and emissions violations that the facility's neighbors blame for air pollution including foul-smelling odors. Senior staff from Madigan's office, along with representatives of the IEPA, met earlier this week in Lena with local residents and officials to discuss the problems associated with the plant.

"As I said last week, Adkins can be a tremendous asset to Stephenson County," Madigan said. "This agreement will help ensure that compliance issues will be corrected so Adkins can be fully legal and fully productive."

"This agreed order advances an enforcement case started by the Illinois EPA in January with a violation notice," said Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Director Renee Cipriano. "We are hopeful it will address the concerns of the citizens and the Agency."

Adkins produces ethanol at its plant on West Galena Road from corn that is milled, cooked and fermented. Corn mash, a by-product of fermentation, is dried – or sold as wet mash – for animal feed. Emissions sources include dryers, fermentation units, gas-fired boilers, dust collectors and

other equipment used in ethanol production.

One of the counts in Madigan and Bald's suit alleged that Adkins built and was operating the plant's dryer without proper permits. While Adkins voluntarily shut the dryer down earlier this spring, today's court order prohibits Adkins from restarting that or any other feed drying equipment at the plant until it obtains permits from the IEPA and the dryer is equipped with air pollution control equipment.

Today's court order also sets specific time frames for the following measures to be completed:

- Adkins will operate air pollution control technology to reduce emissions on the fermentation units, distillation units, gas boilers and feed dryers to meet all applicable emission limits.
- Adkins will not restart the feed dryer – taken out-of-service on approximately March 20 – until air pollution control equipment is installed and properly permitted by the IEPA. To obtain this permit, Adkins must demonstrate through appropriate emission testing that the dryer meets all applicable emission limits.
- Adkins will comply with all regulations and programs designed to eliminate emission leaks and control fugitive particulate matter emissions.
- Adkins will install control equipment for ethanol loadout operations.
- Adkins will remove from the site within two days of its generation all wet cake (corn mash) after it is produced. Corn mash can become the source of foul odors when it starts to degrade about two days after it is produced.
- Adkins will comply with all permitting, notice, record keeping, reporting and emission requirements.
- Following installation of air pollution control equipment on the feed dryer, Adkins will perform an odor assessment and submit it to the state for review.

Adkins is subject to a penalty of \$1,000 per violation for each day of non-compliance with the conditions contained in today's court order.

Madigan's Chicago Environmental Bureau Chief RoseMarie Cazeau and Assistant Attorney General Mitchell Cohen are handling this case.