



# INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

*We Protect Hoosiers and Our Environment.*

100 N. Senate Avenue • Indianapolis, IN 46204

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**Eric J. Holcomb**  
Governor

**Brian C. Rockensuess**  
Commissioner

## NOTICE OF 30-DAY PERIOD FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Preliminary Findings Regarding a  
Significant Revision to a  
Federally Enforceable State Operating Permit (FESOP)

for Notre Dame Research at Ignition Park in St. Joseph County

Significant Permit Revision No.: 141-48232-00592

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) has received an application from Notre Dame Research at Ignition Park, located at 1265 Franklin Street, South Bend, Indiana 46601, for a significant revision of its FESOP issued on March 22, 2024. If approved by IDEM's Office of Air Quality (OAQ), this proposed revision would allow Notre Dame Research at Ignition Park to make certain changes at its existing source. Notre Dame Research at Ignition Park has applied to use traditional and experimental alternative fuels in the jet engine test cells and addition of the afterburner power setting as an allowable mode of operation. Traditional alternative fuels include diesel, kerosene, jet propellant (JP-5 and JP-8), and rocket propellant (RP-1, RP-1s, RP-2, and RP-2s) and experimental alternative fuels include ethylene, methane, natural gas, hydrogen, and ammonia. The source estimates that the use of experimental alternative fuels will comprise less than 1% of total fuel combusted in the external test cells.

This draft permit does not contain any new equipment that would emit air pollutants; however, some conditions from previously issued permits/approvals have been corrected, changed, or removed. These corrections, changes, and removals may include Title I changes (e.g., changes that add or modify synthetic minor emission limits). This notice fulfills the public notice procedures to which those conditions are subject. IDEM has reviewed this application and has developed preliminary findings, consisting of a draft permit and several supporting documents, which would allow for these changes.

A copy of the permit application and IDEM's preliminary findings have been sent to:

St Joseph County Public Library - Main Library  
304 S Main St  
South Bend, IN 46601-2230  
and  
IDEM Northern Regional Office  
300 North Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, Suite 450  
South Bend, IN 46601-1295

A copy of the preliminary findings is available on the Internet at: <http://www.in.gov/ai/appfiles/idem-caats/>.

A copy of the application and preliminary findings is also available via IDEM's Virtual File Cabinet (VFC). To access VFC, please go to: <https://www.in.gov/idem/> and enter VFC in the search box. You will then have the option to search for permit documents using a variety of criteria.

### How can you participate in this process?

This notice is posted on IDEM's website (<https://www.in.gov/idem/public-notices/>). The date that this notice is posted on IDEM's website marks the beginning of a 30-day public comment period. If the 30<sup>th</sup> day of the comment period falls on a day when IDEM offices are closed for business, all comments must be postmarked or delivered in person on the next business day that IDEM is open.

You may request that IDEM hold a public hearing about this draft permit. If adverse comments concerning the **air pollution impact** of this draft permit are received, with a request for a public hearing, IDEM will decide whether or not to hold a public hearing. IDEM could also decide to hold a public meeting instead of, or in addition to, a public hearing. If IDEM decides to conduct a public hearing and/or public meeting, IDEM will post a separate announcement of the date, time, and location of that public hearing and/or public meeting on IDEM's website (<https://www.in.gov/idem/public-notices/>). At a hearing, you would have an opportunity to submit written comments and make verbal comments. At a meeting, you would have an opportunity to submit written comments, ask questions, and discuss any air pollution concerns with IDEM staff.

Comments and supporting documentation, or a request for a public hearing should be sent in writing to IDEM at the address below. If you comment via e-mail, please include your full U.S. mailing address so that you can be added to IDEM's mailing list to receive notice of future action related to this permit. If you do not want to comment at this time, but would like to receive notice of future action related to this permit application, please contact IDEM at the address below. Please refer to permit number SPR 141-48232-00592 in all correspondence.

**Comments should be sent to:**

Andrew Belt  
IDEM, Office of Air Quality  
100 North Senate Avenue  
MC 61-53 IGCN 1003  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2251  
(800) 451-6027, ask for Andrew Belt or (317) 232-3217  
Or dial directly: (317) 232-3217  
Fax: (317) 232-6749 attn: Andrew Belt  
E-mail: [abelt@idem.IN.gov](mailto:abelt@idem.IN.gov)

All comments will be considered by IDEM when we make a decision to issue or deny the permit. Comments that are most likely to affect final permit decisions are those based on the rules and laws governing this permitting process (326 IAC 2), air quality issues, and technical issues. IDEM does not have legal authority to regulate zoning, odor, or noise. For such issues, please contact your local officials.

For additional information about air permits and how the public and interested parties can participate, refer to the IDEM Air Permits page on the Internet at: <https://www.in.gov/idem/airpermit/public-participation/>; and the Citizens' Guide to IDEM on the Internet at: <https://www.in.gov/idem/resources/citizens-guide-to-idem/>.

**What will happen after IDEM makes a decision?**

Following the end of the public comment period, IDEM will issue a Notice of Decision stating whether the permit has been issued or denied. If the permit is issued, it may be different than the draft permit because of comments that were received during the public comment period. If comments are received during the public notice period, the final decision will include a document that summarizes the comments and IDEM's response to those comments. If you have submitted comments or have asked to be added to the mailing list, you will receive a Notice of the Decision. The notice will provide details on how you may appeal IDEM's decision, if you disagree with that decision. The final decision will also be available on the Internet at the address indicated above and will also be sent to the local library indicated above, the IDEM Regional Office indicated above, and the IDEM public file room on the 12<sup>th</sup> floor of the Indiana Government Center North, 100 N. Senate Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2251.

If you have any questions, please contact Andrew Belt or my staff at the above address.



Brian Williams, Section Chief  
Permits Branch  
Office of Air Quality