



## United States Files Clean Air Lawsuit Against Westar Energy; Complaint is Part of National Initiative to Stop Illegal Pollution from Coal-Fired Power Plants

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The Jeffrey Energy Center in St. Mary's, KS opened in 1978.

### Environmental News

The United States has filed a complaint against Westar Energy alleging that the company violated the Clean Air Act by making major modifications to the *Jeffrey Energy Center, a coal-fired power plant in St. Marys, Kan.,* without also installing and operating modern pollution control equipment,

the Justice Department and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced today.

The complaint alleges that for more than a decade, the Jeffrey Energy Center has operated without the best available emissions-control technology required by the New Source Review provisions of the Clean Air Act to control emissions of sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxide and particulate matter, contributing to formation of fine particulate matter, smog and acid rain.

The lawsuit, filed by the Justice Department on behalf of the EPA, asks the court to order Westar Energy to install and operate appropriate air pollution control technology in order to substantially reduce sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxide and particulate matter emissions from the Jeffrey Energy Center. The United States also seeks civil penalties up to the maximum amount authorized by law, as well as actions by the energy provider to mitigate the adverse effects alleged to have been caused by the violations.

Coal-fired power plants collectively produce more pollution than any other industry in the United States. They account for nearly 70 percent of sulfur dioxide emissions each year and 20 percent of nitrogen oxides emissions. Emissions from coal-fired power plants have detrimental health effects on asthma sufferers, the elderly and children. Additionally, these emissions have been linked to forest degradation, waterway damage, reservoir contamination and deterioration of stone and copper in buildings.

To combat these adverse effects, the EPA and the Justice Department are pursuing a national initiative, targeting electric utilities whose coal-fired power plants violate the law. The suit

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The Jeffrey Energy Plant is located 9 miles west of the PBP Reservation's West boundary

Rez Recycler

Mark your calendars—

11th Annual Earth Day will be April 26th, 2009

Registration will begin at 8:30 am



## Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response Training (HAZWOPER)

The PBPN Division of Planning & Environmental Protection department offered the Nation's employees, casino employees and the Solid Waste Advisory Committee a chance to participate in the 40-Hour Hazardous Waste Operation and Emergency Response Training Technician Course.

The course provided class participants with the information and skills needed to recognize, evaluate, and control an incident involving the release or potential release of hazardous materials. The focus of this course was to recognize and evaluate a hazardous materials incident, organizing the response team, protecting personnel, identifying and using response resources, implementing basic control measures, refining decision-making skills, and

protecting the public.

Topics that were discussed were included: chemical and physical properties of hazardous materials, toxicology, recognition and identification of hazardous materials, direct-reading instruments, standard operating procedures, personnel protection and safety, and sources of information.

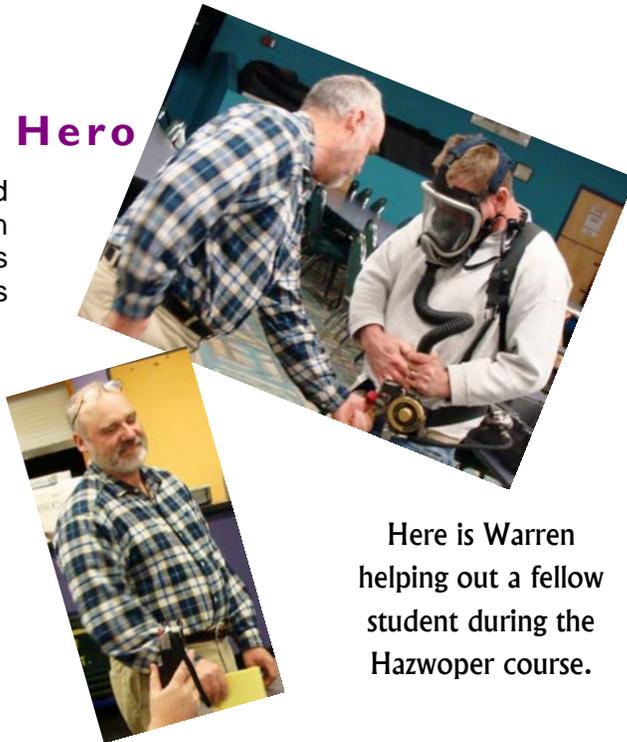
Eighteen participants completed the hands on, intense, educational course. The HAZWOPER Certified Technicians include: Robert Lange, Patrick Mills, Lorrie Wahwassuck, Robert Griffith, Ronnie Hester, Steve Cook, Wade Schneider, Barbara Cornelius, Virginia LeClere, Kumos Hubbard, Warren Pugh, Mathew Cogner, George Wiecken, Scott Price, William Jim Jr., William Jim Sr., Mike Shobney and Chris DeCoteau. Thanks to all of those who participated in the valuable week long course!





## Environmental Hero

The Division of Planning and Environmental Protection recognizes Warren Pugh as an Environmental Hero. His acts of service include participating as a member of both the PBPN Planning Commission and the PBPN Solid Waste Advisory Committee. In addition, Warren volunteers his GPS/GIS skills and his personal time towards a project involving the inventory of abandoned wells on the Reservation. As a life-long resident of the community, Warren is able to contribute valuable knowledge of Reservation community history to the abandoned well project and



Here is Warren helping out a fellow student during the Hazwoper course.

other volunteer efforts as well. While Warren may be conscientious of environmental initiatives, most importantly he seems to believe in a "simple" lifestyle. Warren Pugh is an Environmental Hero!

Call the office to get your "Request for Assistance in". Request for assistance includes: our department picking up recyclables from your home and helping elders discard of their old appliances.  
966-2946

## According to the Farmer's Almanac...

The following planting table is taken from 2009 *The Almanac for Farmers and City Folk*. While the Almanac predicts the last frost date for the Northeast Kansas area to be **April 9**, (see shaded section below) we've also included other freeze dates.

2009 *The Almanac for Farmers and City Folk*, Editor Lucas McFadden, Publisher S. Doucette 2008 Greentree Publishing, Inc.

| Type of Crop    | Planting Dates for Which the Average Date of Freeze is |             |             |
|-----------------|--|-------------|-------------|
|                 | March 30   | April 10    | April 20    |
| Beans (Lima)    | 4/15 – 6/20  | 4/1 – 6/30  | 4/25 – 6/30 |
| Beans (Snap)    | 4/1 – 6/1  | 4/10 – 6/30 | 3/20 – 6/1  |
| Broccoli        | 3/1 – 3/20   | 3/15 – 4/15 | 3/25 – 4/20 |
| Cabbage (plant) | 2/15 – 3/10  | 3/1 – 4/1   | -----       |
| Carrot          | 3/1 – 4/10   | 3/10 – 4/20 | 3/15 – 4/20 |
| Cauliflower     | 2/20 – 3/20  | 3/1 – 3/20  | 4/10 – 5/1  |
| Corn (Sweet)    | 3/25 – 5/15  | 4/10 – 6/1  | 3/20 – 5/1  |
| Cucumber        | 4/10 – 5/15  | 4/20 – 6/1  | 5/10 – 6/1  |
| Lettuce (Leaf)  | 2/15 – 4/15  | 3/15 – 5/15 | 5/1 – 6/15  |
| Muskmelon       | 4/10 – 5/15  | 4/20 – 6/1  | 3/20 – 5/1  |
| Onion (sets)    | 2/15 – 3/20  | 3/1 – 4/1   | 3/20 – 4/20 |
| Peas (Garden)   | 2/10 – 3/20  | 2/20 – 3/20 | 5/10 – 6/15 |
| Peas (Blackeye) | 4/15 – 7/1   | 5/1 – 7/10  | 5/10 – 6/1  |
| Pepper          | 4/15 – 6/1   | 5/1 – 6/1   | 3/15 – 4/10 |
| Potato          | 2/20 – 3/20  | 3/10 – 4/1  | 3/10 – 5/10 |
| Radish          | 2/15 – 5/1   | 3/1 – 5/1   | 3/10 – 4/10 |
| Spinach         | 2/1 – 3/20   | 2/15 – 4/1  | 5/1 – 6/15  |
| Squash          | 4/10 – 6/1   | 4/20 – 6/1  | 5/10 – 6/10 |
| Sweet Potato    | 4/20 – 6/1   | 5/1 – 6/1   | 5/5 – 6/10  |
| Tomato          | 4/10 – 6/1   | 4/20 – 6/1  | 3/10 – 4/1  |
| Watermelon      | 4/10 – 5/15  | 4/20 – 6/1  | -----       |



## Check out our new sludge truck

The sludge truck is a 2005 Kenworth T-300 single axle. It has a 2,300 gallon capacity vacuum tank. Our Divisions will be using the truck to haul sludge from the Q Rd. WWTP (Wastewater Treatment Plant) and the K Rd road WWTP as its primary duties; however the truck will also be used to empty residential sludge. All wastewater service requests to empty residential septic tanks are to be made through the Division of Planning & Environmental Protection and will only serve residents of the Potawatomi Reservation.



“an average of 30 gallons of water can be conserved if the water is turned off while washing dishes”

The fee associated with this service is as follows:

Reduced Rate Requirements:

- 1) Must be 55 + years of age and reside on the Reservation.
- 2) Must be an Enrolled PBPB Tribal Member at or above the age listed above or: Widow, at or above required age, of an enrolled member Spouse of required age enrolled member

If you do not meet the above requirements, then a fee for the wastewater service request will be as follows:

\$80.00 per load to empty residential septic tank – if drain opening is accessible

\$40.00 per additional equipment needed to access drain (ex. Locate & uncover access service cover, with back hoe)

\$40.00 Maintenance Fee (minimum charge)

Payment: Payment due at time of request. Contact the office for more information: 966-2946



**Don't forget to recycle this Rez Recycler when your done reading it!**

## Public Use Trailer Policy

As a service we provide to the public is the use of our department trailer to haul household trash from a resident's home to Rolling Meadows in Topeka. All public use trailer service request form and policy can be obtained by stopping by our office. A request and deposit (if applicable) must be filled out prior to being placed on the list to deliver the trailer to a residence.

The PBPB Division of Planning and Environmental Protection Public use Trailer request service will only serve residents of the Potawatomi Reservation, this action is warranted by program budget cuts due to per-capita raise issue.

Items accepted: Household waste only (Example—trash, washer/dryer, beds, mattresses, dishwasher, fridge and metal)

No Hazardous Waste will be accepted.



Reduced Rate Requirements:

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- Must be an Enrolled PBPB Tribal Member at or above the age listed above or: Widow, at or above required age, of an enrolled member Spouse of required age enrolled member

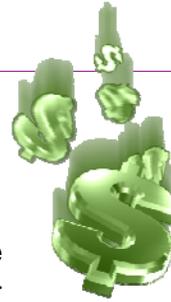
If you do not meet the above requirements, then a fee for the public use trailer service request will be as follows:

- \$50.00 deposit to be paid for 1 load - Must be paid at time of request to be put on the waiting list.

Trailer can only be kept for a maximum of one (1) week per residence. After one load has been taken to Rowling Meadows another request form and deposit must be filed with the PBPB Division of Planning and Environmental Protection to be put back on the waiting list. Contact the office for more information: 966-2946



## PBPN Affected by Receding Recycling Market



The Division of Planning and Environmental Protection has always tracked the recycling market carefully. We typically gauged the market and held the products until the prices seemed optimal for sale. In the late summer of 2008, Solid Waste staff noticed the severe drop in prices. While recycled metal peaked at \$180/ton high in the late fall of

2008, it dropped to an all new low of \$60/ton this March. Similarly, cardboard went from \$95/ton to \$5/ton. The waning recycling market can be attributed to the decreased **global** demand. If globally, we are producing new materials at a lower rate, there is a decrease in the demand for raw materials. For now, there is a surplus in supply.

Despite the receding market, the Division of Planning and Environmental Protection will continue to provide the same level of recycling services. We even hope to encourage additional recycling endeavors within the community. We will adapt to the challenging conditions and hope for a speedy recovery.

“Water your lawn and garden in the morning or evening when temperatures are cooler to minimize evaporation”

### “Buy locally!!”

Not only is it good for the local economy, it will save energy because products haven't traveled across the globe to get to you

## Agricultural Chemical (Pesticide) Assessment

The PBPN Division of Planning & Environmental Protection Department has contracted with GIS Workshop from Lincoln, NE to develop an Agricultural Chemical (Pesticide) Assessment to seek and identify pesticide use patterns, activities and concerns that should be addressed by pesticide program activities. This general pesticide assessment will be completed in order to provide direction to the Nation's pesticide program and ensure compliance with FIFRA (Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act). This project was funded by US EPA General Assistance Program (GAP).

Some of the conclusions found were:

- There is limited cultivated agricultural overall within the reservation. Less than 10% of the reservation is dedicated to cultivated (row crop) agriculture. Accordingly, general exposure to agricultural chemicals is also limited.
- The majority of Potawatomi Indian population resides in the less agricultural center part of the reservation, meaning potentially lower exposure to these chemicals.
- Due to the low incidence of agriculture throughout the reservation, no schools, central business districts or river courses were more or less exposed to these agricultural chemicals.

Due to the lack of information concerning chemical usage on other agricultural types (pasture, grassland, etc) these estimates must be used with extreme caution.

For more information on this document, please contact our office at (785)966-2946.



Crop Spraying

**Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation**  
**Division of Planning & Environmental Protection**

15434 K Road  
Mayetta, KS 66509  
Office: 966-2946  
Solid Waste Center: 966-2773  
Wastewater Treatment Plant: 966-0111



**Reduce! Reuse! Recycle!**

**We're on the web!**

**[www.pbpindiantribe.com/epa.aspx](http://www.pbpindiantribe.com/epa.aspx)**

“Avoid using large appliances during  
peak energy demand hours: 7am to  
9am and 4 pm to 7 pm”

**11<sup>th</sup> Annual**  
**PBPN Community**  
**Earth Day Celebration**  
**Sunday, April 26, 2009**  
**Prairie People's Park**

Registration opens at 8:30 a.m.

Recycled Soap Box Derby

Environmental Awareness Activities

Youth Activities

Run/Walk/Bike Ride

Garden Project Activities

Food Vendors

AND MORE...

EVERYONE WELCOME!

*T-shirts available to first 200 registered  
participants*

**Got Mbish? Where's the  
Truck?**

In the fall of 2005, the PBPN Division of Planning & Environmental Protection was donated a mobile lab unit from Haskell Indian Nations University. The lab consists of a 2003 Ford F350 truck with an attached camper shell. The unit is equipped with custom cabinetry, and both interior and exterior storage. The intention will be to utilize it as a mobile laboratory for water quality sampling and monitoring.

The unit will also serve

as a transportable classroom and training tool for residents on the reservation. Stop by the office sometime and check out the mobile water truck.



Water Truck