

EPA and WDNR have set air quality standards to protect public health and welfare for most “sensitive” groups of individuals (such as asthmatics, children and the elderly) with an adequate margin of safety. PM_{2.5} (fine particulate matter) is a mixture of very small particles made of dust, soot and other particles formed in the air. EPA has set an air quality standard of no more than 35 µg/m³ for 24-hour averaged PM_{2.5} air concentrations.

We Energies has analyzed the maximum air quality effects of the proposed project using the EPA model AERMOD. The operation and emission data that was input to model represents the maximum operations proposed in the “Air Pollution Control Construction Permit Application” for the project. In reality, the future actual emissions will be lower than the permitted rates because the unit will not operate at its maximum capacity for 24 hours a day and 7 days a week. The conclusion of the modeling analyses in the air permit application was that the air impacts of the project are within the acceptable standards.

We Energies has compiled data on the PM_{2.5} air concentrations within the boundaries of the Village of Weston and the Town of Weston. Locations that were analyzed include the Village of Weston Municipal Center, the DCE Junior High School, DCE High School, DCE Middle School, and Mountain Bay Elementary schools, Kennedy Park, Colonial Gardens, and St. Clare’s Hospital. The following table presents the 24-hour averaged PM_{2.5} data, and shows that the air concentrations after the project is operational would be within the acceptable standards, and very near the current existing air quality levels, at all locations.

Location	Current PM _{2.5} background Concentration (µg/m ³)	Project Predicted Concentration (µg/m ³)	Total of Current plus Predicted (µg/m ³)	Acceptable Air Quality Standard
Municipal Center	25.6	0.6	26.2	Less than 35
DCE Junior High	25.6	1.4	27.0	Less than 35
DCE High	25.6	1.1	26.7	Less than 35
DCE Middle	25.6	0.5	26.1	Less than 35
Mountain Bay Elementary	25.6	0.5	26.1	Less than 35
Kennedy Park	25.6	1.1	26.7	Less than 35
Colonial Gardens	25.6	0.7	26.3	Less than 35
St. Clare’s Hospital	25.6	0.8	26.4	Less than 35