



Information Update Regarding Sterigenics  
November 2018

The Village of Western Springs would like to provide the following information, relating to the Sterigenics facilities in Willowbrook:

- In early November, the Attorney General and DuPage County State's Attorney filed a joint lawsuit against Sterigenics accusing it of violating Illinois environmental protection laws. The complaint asks the DuPage County Circuit Court to require ambient air testing and cancer risk assessments, impose tighter limits on EtO emissions, and potentially shut down the Willowbrook facility if needed, to protect public health.
- Illinois Attorney General, Lisa Madigan also urged the Illinois General Assembly to address the public health impacts from EtO emissions and pass legislation to ban or severely restrict the use of ethylene oxide in Illinois.
- On November 1, President Gallagher attended a round table hosted by Cook County Commissioner Jeff Tobolski regarding EtO emissions in Cook County. Commissioner Tobolski is also Mayor of McCook, where the Ele Corporation is located. The Ele Corp. has had environmental studies done over the years, but more will be done. Deb Stone, Cook County Chief Sustainability Officer, was present at the meeting and spoke about the County's limited role in environmental policing, which is under the purview of the State. She noted, however, that there will be a joint IL and US EPA stack testing of emissions at Ele in the near future. For more information, check the Illinois EPA website regularly at [epa.illinois.gov](http://epa.illinois.gov).
- In late October, President Gallagher hosted a meeting with elected area officials and members from the Stop Sterigenics group, to share information and discuss strategies for moving forward.
- In early October, Village President Alice Gallagher sent a letter to the ILEPA, requesting that representatives from Western Springs are invited to all meetings about Sterigenics, and that the Village be included in ambient air testing, and the results shared.
- In early September, Senator Curran introduced two bills that would 1) require cancer risk assessments spanning the entire time the Willowbrook facility has been emitting EtO and 2) completely ban EtO emissions in Illinois by 2022. The Illinois Senate has not yet acted on these bills.
- In early September, Village President Alice Gallagher sent a letter to Sterigenics expressing concern over the effects of ethylene oxide (EtO).

- Village President Alice Gallagher regularly provides informational updates on these issues to the Board of Trustees.
- The ILEPA has created a Sterigenics webpage on their website:  
<https://www.epa.gov/il/sterigenics-willowbrook-facility>
- Additional updates on this situation can be found on the Village of Willowbrook website:  
<http://www.willowbrookil.org/index.aspx?NID=302>