

**MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT  
AIR AND RADIATION ADMINISTRATION**

**NOTICE OF TENTATIVE DETERMINATION, PUBLIC HEARING, AND  
OPPORTUNITY TO SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS**

**FIRST NOTICE**

The Department of the Environment, Air and Radiation Administration (ARA) has completed its review of an application for a Permit to Construct submitted by W. R. Grace & Co.- CONN on June 25, 2025 for the modification of the Industrial Catalyst Operation (ICO) plant to add one (1) manufacturing line and replace two (2) hammermills that are common to all ICO manufacturing lines and expand the Magnapore and Magnapore Expansion (MAG/MGX) plants to install four (4) new washpots and up to sixteen (16) new wash baskets. The proposed installation will be located at 5500 Chemical Rd., Baltimore, MD 21226.

Pursuant to Section 1-604, of the Environment Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, the Department has made a tentative determination that the Permit to Construct can be issued. A final determination on issuance of the permit will only be made after review of all pertinent information presented at the public hearing or received in written comments. Copies of the Department's tentative determination, the application, the draft permit to construct with conditions, and other supporting documents are available for public inspection on the Department's website:

<https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/permits/AirManagementPermits/Pages/WR-Grace-Permit-Meeting.aspx>

In accordance with HB 1200/Ch. 588 of 2022, the applicant provided an environmental justice (EJ) Score for the census tract in which the project is located using the MDE EJ Screening Tool. The EJ Score, expressed as a statewide percentile, was shown to be 100, which the Department has verified. This score represents a combined measure of pollution and the potential vulnerability of a population to the effects of pollution. The Department's review of the factors contributing to the score is included in the tentative determination that is available for public inspection.

The issuance of the Permit to Construct for this facility will be the subject of a Public Hearing to be held on July 6, 2026 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Curtis Bay Recreation Center located at 1630 Filbert St., Baltimore, MD 21226. You may also participate in the hearing virtually. Please register to attend using the following link:

<https://forms.gle/3zhi5G99ZPmbpgjz7>

Registered attendees will receive instructions on how to join virtually using your computer or telephone on the day of the hearing.

Persons who wish to make a statement concerning this application at the hearing are requested to provide the Department with a copy of their statement. In lieu of oral statements at the hearing, written comments may be submitted at the time of the hearing or to the Department no later than 30 days from the date of this notice or within 5 days after the hearing, whichever is later.

Interested persons may request an extension to the public comment period. The extension request must be submitted in writing and must be received by the Department no later than 30 days from the date of this notice or within 5 days after the hearing, whichever is later. The public comment period may only be extended one time for a 60-day period.

All requests for an extension to the public comment period and all written comments should be directed to the attention of Ms. Shannon Heafey, by email to [shannon.heafey@maryland.gov](mailto:shannon.heafey@maryland.gov) or by mail to the Air and Radiation Administration, 1800 Washington Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21230.

The Department will provide language translation services and/or an interpreter for deaf and hearing impaired persons provided that a request is made for such service at least five (5) days prior to the hearing. Further information may be obtained by calling Ms. Shannon Heafey at 410-537-4433.

Christopher R. Hoagland, Director  
Air and Radiation Administration