

## Sims Metal permit comment

M. Chavez

Tue 5/21/2024 1:55 PM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

[Warning: External email]

To CDPH,

I am a Chicago resident and believe I have the right to breathe clean air as a basic human right. Sims is a major polluter in the Pilsen community and a permit should NOT be granted to them so several reasons.

Sims is located in the middle of a bustling neighborhood, Pilsen, that is already overburdened with pollution and is a community facing environmental justice issues.

Sims is located very near to several schools such as Whittier Elementary school, Benito Juárez High School, Cristo Rey high school, to name a few.

Sims also operates directly across the street from residential homes and retail businesses where there is no buffer zone for residents to protect and shield themselves from the Sims Metal shredder's toxic emissions.

Because of the dirty emissions from the Sims Metal shredder, a simple walk to enjoy the clean air, and peaceful area is a major challenge, or impossible. This facility's shredder operations and truck traffic are noisy, odorous and unhealthy. It's common to experience physical symptoms such as burning noses, stinging eyes, scratchy throats when walking near the Sims facility. No one should have to experience these problems when they step outside in their community.

Since 2010, I have personally witnessed plumes of fugitive emissions originating from the Sims shredder a few times. However, it wasn't until 2016 that the USEPA also witnessed the fugitive emissions crossing the Sims property line and issued a Notice of Violation. The USEPA finally issued a notice of violation to Sims.

Currently, it is May, 2024, and Sims metals continues to operate and pollute the air without the complete installation of their pollution control equipment that the EPA has required of them. It is unjust, unhealthy, and irresponsible for the city of Chicago to allow Sims to operate in this condition. Instead of protecting the public welfare of residents, the city of Chicago and the EPA has placed industrial profit over people.

Sims metals has requested that they be except from having a complete enclosure of the facility. The hammer mill shredder that SIMS operates is often very loud and smelly. There have been several complaints (which are accessible through a FOIA request) to the IL EPA and the city of Chicago related to odor and noise. The possibility of airborne debris and fires are also a very concerning. These complaints justify the need for an enclosed facility so please deny their request for exception to a full enclosure.

Another issue is the dust mister and water truck plan for dust suppression.

The mister and water trucks are not functional during the winter cold season yet the shredder continues to operate. No other backup plan was presented by Sims.

Air monitors are weak, not sensitive enough, with limited detection and not as reliable as the Federal Reference Method monitors. The monitors do not qualify as a Federal Reference Method (FRM) or Federal Equivalent Method (FEM) and more reliable and stronger detection monitors should be in place. The data collected is invalid if the monitors are not accurate. There is no way for the public to properly comment on the permit if the data is invalid. The CDPH is also unable to make a permit decision if the data is faulty.

The CDPH held a community meeting in May, 2024 but did not provide sufficient notice for the public to attend. In order to get more community participation, a minimum 2 week notice instead of 10 days is needed and more advertising of the date, time and place.

I hope the CDPH takes all these concerns and makes the wise and safe decision of denying the Sims Metal permit to protect human health and the environment.

Sincerely,

Maria Chavez

Sims

Dalia Radecki <

Wed 5/22/2024 2:03 PM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

[Warning: External email]

This factory on Paulina/Wood in Chicago should have been SHUT DOWN YEARS AGO! Do you all realize the danger inhaling all the toxic fumes from the burning that you are doing in your company Dailey! I'm slowly dying from from ASTHMA FROM ALL THE YEARS TEACHING IN SCHOOLS SO CLOSE TO SIMS AND LIVING IN PILSEN NOT FROM THE TOXIC WASTE INHALING IT DAILEY! I'm a Senior and so sick and tired

## Re: Sims

Dalia Radecki < >

Wed 5/22/2024 2:27 PM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

[Warning: External email]

On Wed, May 22, 2024 at 2:03 PM Dalia Radecki < > wrote:

This burning factory SIMS on Paulina/Wood in Chicago should have been SHUT DOWN YEARS AGO! Do you all realize the danger inhaling all the toxic fumes from the burning that you are doing in your company Dailey!!! I'm slowly dying from ASTHMA INHALING ALL TOXIC WASTE FUMES FROM YEARS TEACHING IN PILSEN SCHOOLS SO CLOSE TO SIMS DALEY! I'm a Senior and so sick and tired of all the harm SIMS IS CAUSING TO ALL OF US LIVING SO CLOSE TO THIS BURNING FACTORY! You need to leave the community NOW and establish your business somewhere far from people! You cannot continue to harm us anymore with your TOXIC POLLUTION THAT WE BREATHE DAILEY! This is not human 🙏


## Sims Metal Management Permit Comment - Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce

Brad Tietz <[btietz@chicagolandchamber.org](mailto:btietz@chicagolandchamber.org)>

Wed 5/22/2024 4:51 PM

To: envcomments <[envcomments@cityofchicago.org](mailto:envcomments@cityofchicago.org)>

Cc: Ramiro Hernandez <[rhernandez@chicagolandchamber.org](mailto:rhernandez@chicagolandchamber.org)>

 1 attachments (117 KB)

Letter of Support - Sims Metal LRF Application - Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce.pdf;

[Warning: External email]

Good afternoon:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments as it pertains to the Sims Metal Management application for the large facility recycling permit. Attached you will find a letter from Chicagoland Chamber President & CEO Jack Lavin urging support for approval of the permit.

Please let us know if you have questions or there are additional information we can provide as it relates to our support for the approval of the permit.

Best,  
Brad

**Brad Tietz**

Vice President, Government Relations and Strategy

Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce

The Wrigley Building, 410 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 900

Chicago, IL 60611

Office: 312.494.6736

Mobile:

[www.chicagolandchamber.org](http://www.chicagolandchamber.org)

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The Wrigley Building  
410 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 900  
Chicago, IL 60611  
[www.chicagolandchamber.org](http://www.chicagolandchamber.org)

**May 22, 2024**

**RE: City of Chicago Large Recycling Facility Permit - Application – Sims Metal**

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the more than 1,000 member businesses represented by the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce, in addition to the wide array of small business, not-for-profit, and civic partners within our network, I write you in strong support of the application filed by Metal Management Midwest (d/b/a Sims Metal) for their Large Recycling Facility permit from the City of Chicago.

Achieving positive public health outcomes for Chicago residents has been a goal that the Chamber has been incredibly mindful of. This is why, in 2021, the Chamber was the leading business organization that worked with proponents, the Lightfoot Administration, and other stakeholders to help shape the Chicago Air Quality Ordinance. At the State level, the Chamber has been a leading voice in advocating for sound and reasonable environmental justice policies and frameworks, policies that strike a careful balance between the public health priorities of local community residents and the economic opportunity goals that our member companies provide to residents in communities throughout the Chicagoland area.

Sims Metal is an example of a business that has worked to reduce their carbon footprint and work with local, State, and federal agencies to make sure all necessary compliance measures are met and, often, exceeded. Sims Metal has enacted a proven approach to being good stewards of the environment, providing an effective emissions mitigation strategy for the benefit of their neighbors, community partners, and the over 100 union workers they employ on the City's Southwest Side.

To date, several air monitors have been installed around Sims Metal's facility to ensure that its emission controls are working effectively. Since air monitoring began in 2022, the EPA reports that no 24-hour readings for dust, volatile organic compounds, or metal concentrations have exceeded federal, state, or local health-based standards. While the 24-hour air monitoring is showing positive results, the company's \$25 million advanced emissions control project is well under way to be completed in 2024. Sims is one of the few recycling companies in the country making significant investments in clean air.

Sims Metal has openly welcomed the rigorous new operational regulations set by the City of Chicago and has successfully proven they are committed to meeting each requirement. Sims Metal's commitment to making sure that the health and safety of all Chicagoans, especially its employees and nearby residents, at all times, has remained a top priority for the company. Lastly, we cannot lose sight of the fact that Sims Metal is a significant job creator and generator of economic activity for the City of Chicago and communities on the City's southwest side.

For these reasons, I express the Chicagoland Chamber's strong support for Sims Metal's application for a Large Recycling Facility Permit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jack Lavin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**JACK LAVIN**  
***President & CEO***  
Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce

# Sims

Troy Hernandez <

>

Wed 5/22/2024 9:37 PM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

[Warning: External email]

Dear Bureaucrats

Here's my thread from X:

[https://x.com/troy\\_phd/status/1788712743542886844](https://x.com/troy_phd/status/1788712743542886844)

Here's one of my many blog posts discussing this slow moving disaster:

<https://troyhernandez.com/2022/05/02/were-finally-talking-about-sims/>

I know whoever is reading this has been instructed to ignore the manganese increases that will lead to even more asthma for Pilsen children.

That's why I'm calling for manganese levels in and around Sims to be mirrored in the City Council chambers and CDPH. If it's good enough for Pilsen, it's good enough for the bureaucrats of Chicago!

Maybe we can get some performative torch cutting in the chambers for the added realism of the hexavalent chromium we are exposed to in the neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Troy Hernandez, PhD

Protip: definitely take a picture of these comments and then embed them in a pdf, as your bureaucracies do, so it's super difficult to access the links!

Sent from [Proton Mail](#) for iOS

## DENY THE PERMIT!!!

Ivan M <

>

Tue 5/28/2024 11:03 AM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

[Warning: External email]

Why doesn't CDPH care about the people of Pilsen? In February 2022, CDPH claimed that a permit for Southside Recycling was denied because of "*health vulnerabilities in the surrounding communities*" and because "*the Southeast Side population has higher rates of chronic conditions such as coronary heart disease and COPD in adults than Chicago overall.*"

CDPH is well aware that Pilsen has the worst air quality and is the most environmentally burdened area of Chicago. CDPH is also well aware that there are 3 schools located within a half mile of Sims, including Benito Juarez High School which is less than a quarter mile downwind of Sims. So, my question today is "***How can CDPH justify allowing Sims to operate a shredder with no pollution controls, more than 3 years since forcing General Iron to shut down in Lincoln Park?***"

Sims is a notorious violator of federal, state and city environmental rules and regulations. They paid a fine of \$225,000 for violation of the EPA Clean Air Act, they are currently being sued by the Illinois Attorney General following a referral by Illinois EPA, and they paid an \$18,000 fine to settle 15 Notices of Violation issued by CDPH for numerous infractions including allowing toxic shredder fluff to blow into the neighborhood. CDPH stopped issuing Notices of Violation to Sims for allowing shredder fluff to blow off site, yet the problem has not been corrected. It has been nearly 4 years since CDPH established "*new and strengthened requirements under the Rules for Large Recycling Facilities*", yet CDPH is STILL not enforcing those rules. But what's even worse is that by refusing to issue Notices of Violation to Sims, CDPH isn't even enforcing its existing rules and regulations. CDPH clearly has the power to shut down a facility as it did with General Iron, so why not use that power to shut down Sims? By allowing Sims to continue operating, and by not shutting them down until they prove they can stop violating environmental regulations, and adversely impacting nearby residents, the

message is clear: CDPH does not care about the health and well-being of the people in Pilsen. Thank you!

Ivan

## Quarterly reporting to CDPH

Bre B <

Wed 5/29/2024 10:42 AM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

[Warning: External email]

Section 4.17 of the large recycling facility rules requires reporting of the following information to CDPH on a quarterly basis:

- The monthly tonnage of Unauthorized Materials inadvertently accepted at the Facility broken down by type.
- The monthly tonnage of Recyclable Materials received and shipped at the Facility broken down by the type of material.
- The total tonnage of vehicles shredded by month.
- The tonnage of ASR shipped offsite for disposal and a description of any methods used to stabilize or solidify heavy metals to meet waste-disposal requirements.
- The number of days the Facility was in operation broken down by month.
- A list of the disposal facilities used to dispose of the Unauthorized Materials and Waste, and the types and quantities of materials taken to each disposal facility.
- The disposition and amount in gallons of Liquid Waste disposed of offsite.
- The disposition and amount of refrigerants recovered at the Facility.
- The amount of acetylene or other compressed gas or fuel used to cut metals at the Facility, including metals cut for operations and maintenance purposes.
- A chronological summary of the following events at the Facility: All environmental, health, fire and building code violations, as well as all corrective actions implemented; All emergencies that occurred at the Facility; All nuisance complaints received by the Owner or Operator, and their outcomes; and
- Any other information requested by CDPH to track compliance with the permit and these rules.

Is Sims submitting Quarterly Reports to CDPH with the above information as required by Section 4.17 and if not, why?

## Large Recycling Facility Permit or Class IVB Permit?

Tania Camarena

Wed 5/29/2024 11:05 AM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

[Warning: External email]

Your website states "Currently, Sims is legally operating under it's previously-issued Class IVB large recycling facility operating Permit." The website also states that Sims "application is for "renewal " of a large recycling facility Permit. But Sims previously-issued Permit, which expired in November 2021, was NOT a large recycling facility Permit. Also, the application posted on the CPDH website for Sims doesn't mention anything about being for a Permit renewal. CDPH has never issued a large recycling facility Permit, so how can Sims application be for a Permit renewal?

## Responsiveness/transparency

Peter Palanca < >

Wed 5/29/2024 11:13 AM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

[Warning: External email]

To whom it may concern:

One of the reasons CDPH claimed that the large recycling facility permit for Southside Recycling was denied was alleged lack of responsiveness and transparency. Is that same standard being applied to Sims, and if so, what is that standard and how is it being applied?

Thank you,  
Pete Palanca



## Sims, the serial polluter

Ms denise follmar < >

Wed 5/29/2024 11:16 AM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

[Warning: External email]

Is Sims subject to Rule 4.0 of CDPH's 2014 Recycling Rules? If so, how is CDPH applying that rule to Sims? In 2020, Sims paid the largest fine ever in Rhode Island for air pollution by operating a metal shredder for seven years without a required air permit and without the necessary systems to control dust laced with toxins and airborne volatile organic compounds that contribute to smog. Will Sims' operations in other states, including the Rhode Island facility, be considered by CDPH when evaluating Sims' compliance history? If not, why?

## Sims Compliance Status?

Tania Camarena <

Wed 5/29/2024 11:27 AM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

[Warning: External email]

Does Sims meet the definition of a large recycling facility? If so, is Sims currently in compliance with the large recycling rules adopted by CDPH in June 2020 and by what date were they required to begin complying with those rules? If Sims is NOT currently operating in accordance with the large recycling facility rules, when will CDPH require that Sims begin to comply?

## Support Letters

Erick Garcia <erick@teamsters731.org>

Wed 5/29/2024 11:32 AM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

📎 1 attachments (2 MB)

Scanned from a Xerox Multifunction Printer.pdf;

[Warning: External email]

To whom it may concern,

Attached are signed letters of support by the membership of Teamsters Local Union no. 731 for the brothers and sisters employed by Metal Management Midwest (D.B.A. Simes Metal) a signatory employer.

Thank you.

**Erick Garcia**

**Business Agent**

Teamsters Local Union No. 731

1000 Burr Ridge Parkway

Suite 300

Burr Ridge, IL. 60527

**Phone:** (630) 887-4100

**Email:** [Erick@teamsters731.org](mailto:Erick@teamsters731.org)



<https://teamsters731.org/>

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# TEAMSTERS



# LOCAL 731

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EXCAVATING, GRADING, ASPHALT, PRIVATE SCAVENGERS AND RECYCLERS, AUTOMOBILE SALESROOM GARAGE ATTENDANTS,  
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1000 Burr Ridge Pkwy., Suite 300 • Burr Ridge, IL 60527  
(630) 887-4100 Fax (630) 887-4114

Dear Sir or Madam:

As a member of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local Union No. 731, I am writing to support the application filed by Metal Management Midwest (d/b/a Sims Metal) for their Large Recycling Facility permit from the City of Chicago.

Sims Metal has proven to be an employer who is loyal to its Teamsters Local Union No.731 workforce and the community. Our brothers and sisters have experienced a strong contractual relationship with the company for decades, providing excellent full-time jobs in the Pilsen neighborhood. As a team, Sims Metal and our fellow union members have proven good faith efforts working with neighbors in the community and local officials to exceed all expectations placed on them.

With all that stated, myself as well as the brothers and sisters that call Teamsters Local Union No. 731 home will stand shoulder to shoulder with our fellow members in support of the granting of their Large Recycling Facility permit.

Sincerely,

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Sincerely,

*Edmundo Ferrara*

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Sincerely,

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As a member of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local Union No. 731, I am writing to support the application filed by Metal Management Midwest (d/b/a Sims Metal) for their Large Recycling Facility permit from the City of Chicago.

Sims Metal has proven to be an employer who is loyal to its Teamsters Local Union No.731 workforce and the community. Our brothers and sisters have experienced a strong contractual relationship with the company for decades, providing excellent full-time jobs in the Pilsen neighborhood. As a team, Sims Metal and our fellow union members have proven good faith efforts working with neighbors in the community and local officials to exceed all expectations placed on them.

With all that stated, myself as well as the brothers and sisters that call Teamsters Local Union No. 731 home will stand shoulder to shoulder with our fellow members in support of the granting of their Large Recycling Facility permit.

Sincerely,

 / John Lisner

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# TEAMSTERS



# LOCAL 731

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EXCAVATING, GRADING, ASPHALT, PRIVATE SCAVENGERS AND RECYCLERS, AUTOMOBILE SALESROOM GARAGE ATTENDANTS,  
LINEN AND LAUNDRY AND MACHINERY, SCRAP IRON, STEEL AND METAL TRADE CHAUFFEURS, HANDLERS, HELPERS AND ALLOY FABRICATORS LOCAL UNION No. 731

1000 Burr Ridge Pkwy., Suite 300 • Burr Ridge, IL 60527  
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# LOCAL 731

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With all that stated, myself as well as the brothers and sisters that call Teamsters Local Union No. 731 home will stand shoulder to shoulder with our fellow members in support of the granting of their Large Recycling Facility permit.

Sincerely,

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# TEAMSTERS



# LOCAL 731

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With all that stated, myself as well as the brothers and sisters that call Teamsters Local Union No. 731 home will stand shoulder to shoulder with our fellow members in support of the granting of their Large Recycling Facility permit.

Sincerely,



## New Violation of EPA Rules

Matthew Parker <

Wed 5/29/2024 1:44 PM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

[Warning: External email]

CDPH acknowledges on its website that Sims is currently being sued by the Illinois Attorney General, following a referral by the Illinois EPA, for failing to control emissions from their metal shredder. But is CDPH aware that an additional count was added to that lawsuit for installing and operating a new emission unit without first obtaining permits from Illinois EPA? How will the pending lawsuit with the Illinois Attorney General and/or the additional violation of Illinois EPA regulations be considered by CPDH?

## Health Impact Assessment for Sims

Thomas Sadzak < >

Wed 5/29/2024 3:11 PM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

[Warning: External email]

Does CPDH plan to perform a Health Impact Assessment for Sims prior to deciding whether to issue a large recycling facility permit? If not, why?

## STILL no pollution controls

Diego Lemley < >

Wed 5/29/2024 7:24 PM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

[Warning: External email]

Why is CPDH allowing Sims to continue operating with no pollution controls on their shredder and while continuing to violate federal, state and local environmental regulations that are intended to protect public health?

## Public Comment re SIMS Metal

Alberto R. < >

Tue 6/4/2024 1:55 PM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

[Warning: External email]

Hello,

I write to express my deep concerns over Sims Metal's operations. I live blocks away from Sims, with two young children, who like other young children are the most vulnerable and impacted by adverse environmental factors. The potential health hazard caused by Sims' operations must be immediately addressed as a matter of public policy before any decision can be made about its continuing operations. Given the location of the operations and dense population immediately around it, many of whom are underserved and subject to many other environmental hazards, the City of Chicago has an immutable duty to protect its residents from the toxic hazards created by Sims. For this reason, I stand with the Pilsen Environmental Rights and Reform Organization (PERRO) and other community members calling for the City of Chicago to deny Sims Metals' Large Recycling Permit. Additionally, Sims Metals should immediately halt shredder operations until the Chicago Department of Public Health addresses the data from Sims' monitors and has an additional meeting to discuss the health implications. I understand that PERRO demands that Sims Metals either enclose their facility and achieve zero emissions or shut down their shredder operations entirely. These demands are beyond reasonable given the vast health implications and the individuals subjected to these unnecessary toxins. Sims Metals is just a quarter mile from Benito Juarez Community Academy and Whittier Elementary. Projections indicate that toxic metal shredder dust is blowing directly toward the high school and residents of an already environmentally burdened community. This is clearly unacceptable and the City of Chicago should not consider Sim's permit application while the Perez EPA monitor detects high levels of lead and manganese. These dangerous health hazards must be first addressed.

Sincerely,

Alberto Rodriguez, Esq.

## ARTICLE XX. RECYCLING FACILITY PERMITS RULES AND REGULATIONS

Bre B <

>

Tue 6/4/2024 2:10 PM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

[Warning: External email]

I was told that the CDPH Commissioner made a statement during the May 15 community meeting for Sims that City of Chicago rules and regulations don't give her the power to deny a permit. However, Rule 4.0 (History of Compliance/Material threat to continued compliance) in the City of Chicago's Rules and Regulations for Recycling Facility Permits states "***Before granting a new permit or renewing an existing permit for any recycling facility, the Commissioner will conduct an evaluation of the applicant's prior experience in recycling or junk facility operations or other waste handling operations. The Commissioner may deny or refuse to renew a permit if the evaluation shows that: (1) the applicant, or any owner or officer of the applicant, or any person having control of applicant or any of its operations, has, within the past three years, violated any federal, state, or local laws, regulations, standards, permit conditions, or ordinances in the operation of any junk facility, recycling facility, or any other type of waste or recyclable materials handling facility or site, including, but not limited to, the operation of a junk, recycling, or waste handling facility without required permits; or (2) conditions at a previously permitted site or facility, existing at any time during the pendency of the Department's review of a permit renewal application, pose a material threat to continued compliance with any of the laws, regulations, standards, permit conditions, or ordinances identified in subsection (1) above. For purposes of this section, the phrase "material threat to continued compliance" shall mean analytical data, facility records, instrument readings, laboratory results, or photographic evidence sufficient to establish a prima facie showing of a violation(s) of any of the laws, regulations, standards, permit conditions, or ordinances identified in subsection (1) above. If the Commissioner denies (or refuses to renew) any permit under this section, the Department shall transmit to the applicant, in accordance with the notice provisions in section 11-4-040(b), a written statement as to the reasons the permit application was denied. For purposes of this regulation, violations committed by an entity may be attributed to any person having ownership or control of the entity or any of its operations.***"

Sims clearly violated local (CDPH) regulations, in addition to the conditions of their Class IVB Recycling Facility Permit, within the last 3 years by continuing to allow shredder fluff to blow off-site. Sims also violated CDPH regulations, and conditions of their permit, within the last 3 years by allowing track out onto the public way and for failing to obtain a permit for installation of an underground storage tank. As CDPH is aware, Sims was issued Notices of Violation for both infractions and they subsequently pled liable, and paid fines, to settle those violations. And Sims violated state (Illinois EPA) regulations within the last 3 years by failing to obtain a permit for installation and operation of an air emission unit. That violation is currently being adjudicated after an additional count was added to the ongoing Illinois Attorney General lawsuit filed against Sims.

I realize the Commissioner is relatively new to the job, but someone at CDPH should inform her that she does, in fact, have the authority to "***deny or refuse to renew a permit***" based on a facility's compliance history. As such, the Commissioner would certainly be justified in denying Sims' application for a Large Recycling Facility Permit based on their history of noncompliance, just within the last 3 years.

June 26, 2024

To the Chicago Department of Public Health

Re: SIMS Metal Shredding @ 2500 S Paulina, Chicago, IL 60608

[Envcomments@cityofchicago.org](mailto:Envcomments@cityofchicago.org)

To Whom It May Concern:

I regret not being able to attend the June 21, 2024 meeting at St. Pius in the Pilsen neighborhood. I have started to review documents regarding the application process for SIMS Metal Management at 2500 S Paulina St, Chicago, IL 60608. I am writing none the less and hope my comments may help in stopping SIMS from renewing their permit.

The most egregious part of SIMS location on Paulina is that they operate in very close proximity to (3) three public parks. SIMS is across from The **Canalport Riverwalk**, address 2900 S Ashland Ave, Chicago, IL 60608. SIMS is not supposed to be operating within (660) six hundred sixty feet of a park. I think SIMS is closer to the Canalport Riverwalk than this, especially if you consider that they probably have a variance to operate on the easement next to the South Branch of the Chicago River. They also use large cranes to move the shredded metal over the river and into the barges they use for transport. The barges on the river are docked one and sometimes two, next to each other into the river. With the materials and operations extending into the river, they are even closer to the Riverwalk, closer to the people, the naturalized area, animals, fishing stands for the fisherman. Please, I exhort you to have a surveyor measure these distances accurately. There have been fishing tournaments held at this park in the past. I don't believe there are any tournaments happening currently. There is a sign in the park describing the public art in the park and reads as follows: "The images on this public artwork and mosaic planter symbolize community members' hopes for a future with cleaner air and water, a restored Chicago River ecosystem and greater local access to the riverfront". The sign has a logo for Earth Chicago with website earthchicago.org. A statement next to the logo reads as follows: "E(art)H Chicago is a citywide community-based art initiative to raise awareness, create dialogue and inspire action on climate change, natural resource use and environmental justice". There also is the acronym and logo for the ISEIF, the Illinois Science & Energy Innovation Foundation. There was just a festival June 8, 2024 at the Canalport Riverwalk. See the - <https://www.choosechicago.com/event/the-backward-river-festival-damen-silo-city/> Text of the article follows for your consideration and convenience:

“JUN 8

## FESTIVALS, FAIRS & SPECIAL EVENTS

The Backward River Festival: Damen Silo City

The Freshwater Lab at the University of Illinois Chicago will host “The Backward River Festival: Damen Silo City” ...to celebrate the efforts and achievements of environmental justice advocates and artists who live and/or work around the Damen Silos... and highlight alternative community visions for redevelopment, design and integration.... More information about the festival will be made available on [The Freshwater Lab website](#) and its social media channels. In the meantime, please email your questions to [thefreshwaterlab@gmail.com](mailto:thefreshwaterlab@gmail.com).

<https://www.facebook.com/FreshwaterLab/> “

(end of article)

The next park across the Ashland Bridge is the historic **Canal Origins Park @ 2701 S Ashland Ave**. This area on the river is used for fishing and has been restored with native plants. I met Javier Rodarte who has been fishing at The Canalport Riverwalk and Canal Origins Park since 1998. He used to work in at a steel company and Midway Wire. He said he does not fish at Canalport Riverwalk anymore because it is too close to SIMS. You can “smelled the metal being cut up”. It reminded him of the smells at the steel company and Midway Wire. He now fishes at Canal Origins Park because “there are more fish here on this side (east side) of Ashland Ave and it is less dusty”. Another proud fisherman is Enrique Bahena who has been fishing at Canal Origins Park since he was fourteen. He still comes there two times a week for recreation and is now twenty-seven. I see there are new “islands” of vegetation just off the shore of Canal Origins Park. It’s good to see that people are interested in increasing the green space here. I have heard these islands attract river otters and help take carbon dioxide out of the air during photosynthesis process of the plants.

The third park on the South Branch of the river just across the street from Canal Origins Park is **Park 571 aka the Eleanor Street Boathouse park**. Crew boats are stored at the facility. “The Eleanor Boathouse is home to several [rowing teams, clubs, and organizations](#) that brave the Chicago River nearly year-round to train for competitions”. I watched as three full boats of teenagers from St. Ignatius High School practiced and raced in an area of the river, “the site’s distinct turning basin”. Do the parents of these kids realize they are exercising close to a metal shredding company? I don’t know. “the city works to transform the long-polluted and neglected river into its next recreational frontier, the boathouse invites communities on the South Side and throughout the city to share in the river’s continued ecological and infrastructural revitalization”. The boathouse was designed by world-renowned Jeanne Gang, architect for the award-winning “Aqua” building east of Michigan Avenue and the boathouse was made with the “goal of introducing more residents to rowing and restoring riverfront property that had been contaminated for years”. The Boathouse cost \$8.8 million dollars to build. Most of the money was privately funded. Some came from Chicago TIF funds. The city should continue on it’s goal to rid the city of contamination by declining SIM’s application for a new permit. (all quotes in this paragraph are from

the following: the WTTW website, **Studio Gang's \$9M Bridgeport Boathouse Wins River Org's Top Award**

[Alex Ruppenthal](#) | June 8, 2018 “

More private businesses have moved in that cater to recreation on the South Branch of the Chicago River. The first is a business that rents kayaks to on the South Fork of the South Branch of the Chicago River that connects to the turn basin by Park 571. The other is the “Chicago Yacht Works” @ 2550 S Ashland Ave that stores yachts and sailboats in the wintered. Their property is directly adjacent to SIMS on the river. Cogle Foods @ 2801 S Ashland has a bike path behind it's building and next to the Chicago River. They have recycling garbage cans and even have bird feeders on their property.

So, with all of these parks and initiatives to improve the ecology of the South Branch of the Chicago River, what on earth is a metal shredding company doing right next to it? It's time to have SIMS move out. Hopefully the land at 2500 S. Paulina can be decontaminated and used to house something completely different. How about a dog park for Pilsen, a BMX bike racing course, a company that can create a park for kids like “The Forge” in Lemont. Our kids need places to go, exercise and stay out of trouble. I suggest the city work to bring in these types of companies that build up our citizens, physically and mentally.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please feel free to reach me if I can be of any assistance. I will follow up this letter with pictures of SIMS and the parks I have mentioned.

Thank you,

Gail Selleg

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## Public comments

Ms denise follmar >

Tue 6/4/2024 2:21 PM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

[Warning: External email]

The CDPH website for Sims reads, in part, “All written public comments should be submitted to [envcomments@cityofchicago.org](mailto:envcomments@cityofchicago.org) by June 21, 2024. Comments received will be made available after the public comment period ends. Background materials are available below, including the [public notice](#) that was shared on April 22 and updated May 3, as well as original and ongoing public comments [available here](#).”

### Community Environment Information

The CDPH Chicago Community Environment Information page.  
Check here for information on what's happening in your ...

Two of the above statements contradict one another. If comments won't be made available until after the public comment period ends, how can “ongoing public comments” be posted between now and June 21? My initial thought was that the word “ongoing” was inserted in error, but then I realized it may have been used intentionally to give a false sense of transparency, and to distract from the fact that CDPH has not posted a single comment about Sims in over 6 months. The fact that CDPH had been posting ongoing comments for almost 2 years beginning in December 2021, only to change course, stop posting comments after October 2023, and now state that comments won't be made available until after the close of the public comment period certainly gives the impression that CDPH has something to hide. Perhaps CDPH has been receiving comments that raise legitimate concerns regarding Sims which CDPH doesn't want the public to see. In the interest of transparency, I'm calling on CDPH to immediately post comments submitted to CDPH from October 2023 through May 2024.

Sincerely,  
Denise Ross

## Fire at Sims

Peter Palanca < >

Tue 6/4/2024 2:23 PM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

[Warning: External email]

The February 18, 2022 permit denial letter issued by CDPH to Southside Recycling includes the following statements:

*“The history of the operation of the site, which has been problematic, does not provide CDPH with confidence that the company will run the site in strict compliance with permit conditions, which CDPH considers essential for avoiding negative impacts on the environment, health, and quality of life for residents of the Southeast side.”*

*“Therefore, for all the reasons explained above, CDPH finds that the facility proposes to undertake an inherently dangerous activity in a vulnerable community area, and the Applicant failed to provide sufficient evidence that the Facility can comply and stay in compliance with the terms and conditions of a Permit, the Code, or the Rules as necessary to fully protect the residents of the Southeast Side. Accordingly, the permit application is denied.”*

As CDPH is well aware, Sims is located in the most vulnerable community area of Chicago, and it is the only Large Recycling Facility currently operating in the City. So what evidence has Sims provided that gives CDPH confidence they can comply with the terms and conditions of a Permit, the Code, or the Large Recycling Facility rules as necessary to fully protect the residents of Pilsen?

Is it the numerous Notices of Violation issued by CDPH to Sims?

Is it the ongoing issue of shredder fluff blowing offsite from Sims in violation of the Code and Sims expired Class IVB recycling facility permit?

Is it the dozens of complaints filed against Sims?

Is it the \$225,000 fine paid to U.S. EPA for violation of the Clean Air Act?

Is it the ongoing lawsuit filed by the Illinois Attorney General against Sims following a referral by Illinois EPA?

Is it the fire that occurred last year in which Sims failed to notify the Pilsen community?

Is it the fires that are constantly breaking out at other Sims facilities around the country?

If any company has shown that it is totally incapable of fully protecting the residents of Pilsen, it is Sims. The latest example of this fact is another fire that occurred less than 2 weeks ago at a Sims facility in California (see links below).

<https://www.rwcpulse.com/environment/2024/05/23/fire-breaks-out-at-sims-metal-in-redwood-city/>

<https://abc7news.com/post/crews-battling-large-fire-sending-off-huge-plume/14859040/>

<https://www.ktvu.com/news/large-fire-burning-redwood-city>

<https://www.nbcbayarea.com/news/local/redwood-city-fire-seaport/3545740/>

## Deny the Permit to Sims Metal

Maria Cecilia Quiñones Peña < >

Tue 6/4/2024 3:29 PM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

[Warning: External email]

My name is Maria Cecilia Quiñones Peña and I am a resident of Chicago. I stand with the Pilsen Environmental Rights and Reform Organization (PERRO) and community members in **denying Sims Metal Large Recycling Permit**.

Additionally, Sims Metals should halt shredder operations until the Chicago Department of Public Health addresses the data from the Sims monitors and has an additional meeting to discuss the health implications. We demand that Sims Metals either enclose their facility and achieve zero emissions or shut down shredder operations entirely.

Sims Metals is just a quarter mile from Benito Juarez Community Academy and Whittier Elementary. Projections indicate that toxic metal shredder dust is blowing directly tower the high school and residents of an already environmentally burdened community. The city should also not consider Sim's permit while the Perez EPA monitor detects high levels of lead and manganese. This should be addressed first.

Thanks,  
Maria

## Deny the Permit to Sims Metal

Alex Bernard < >

Wed 6/5/2024 7:52 AM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

[Warning: External email]

My name is Alexandra Bernard and I am a resident of Chicago. I stand with the Pilsen Environmental Rights and Reform Organization (PERRO) and community members in **denying Sims Metal Large Recycling Permit.**

Additionally, Sims Metals should halt shredder operations until the Chicago Department of Public Health addresses the data from the Sims monitors and has an additional meeting to discuss the health implications. We demand that Sims Metals either enclose their facility and achieve zero emissions or shut down shredder operations entirely.

Sims Metals is just a quarter mile from Benito Juarez Community Academy and Whittier Elementary. Projections indicate that toxic metal shredder dust is blowing directly toward the high school and residents of an already environmentally burdened community. The city should also not consider Sim's permit while the Perez EPA monitor detects high levels of lead and manganese. This should be addressed first.

Thanks,

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Alexandra Bernard

## Sims Metals Permit | Public Comment

Isabella Bonito < >

Mon 6/10/2024 12:51 PM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

[Warning: External email]

Hi,

My name is Isabella Bonito, and I'm a resident of Chicago. I stand with the Pilsen Environmental Rights and Reform Organization (PERRO) and community members in denying Sims Metals Large Recycling Permit. Additionally, Sims Metals should halt shredder operations until the CDPH addresses the data from the Sims monitors and has an additional meeting to discuss the health implications.

PERRO demands that Sims Metals either enclose their facility and achieve zero emissions or shut down shredder operations entirely. Sims Metals is just a quarter mile from Benito Juarez Community Academy and Whittier Elementary. Projections indicate that toxic metal shredder dust is blowing directly toward the high school and residents of an already environmentally burdened community. The city should also not consider Sim's permit while the Perez EPA monitor detects high levels of lead and manganese.

Thank you for taking the time to read my comment.

Best,

Isabella Bonito

## Sims Metals Permit | Public Comment

Pedro Bernal < >

Mon 6/10/2024 1:17 PM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

[Warning: External email]

Hi,

My name is Pedro Bernal, and I'm a resident of Chicago. I stand with the Pilsen Environmental Rights and Reform Organization (PERRO) and community members in denying Sims Metals Large Recycling Permit. Additionally, Sims Metals should halt shredder operations until the CDPH addresses the data from the Sims monitors and has an additional meeting to discuss the health implications.

PERRO demands that Sims Metals either enclose their facility and achieve zero emissions or shut down shredder operations entirely. Sims Metals is just a quarter mile from Benito Juarez Community Academy and Whittier Elementary. Projections indicate that toxic metal shredder dust is blowing directly toward the high school and residents of an already environmentally burdened community. The city should also not consider Sim's permit while the Perez EPA monitor detects high levels of lead and manganese.

Thank you for taking the time to read my comment.

Best,

Pedro Bernal

## SIMS METAL - EAST CHICAGO AUTOMOBILE SHREDDER APPLICATION

Kevin Trant < >

Tue 6/18/2024 12:55 PM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

[Warning: External email]

Dear City of Chicago,

Is CDPH aware that the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) is holding a public meeting on June 27 at Calumet College of St. Joseph, Room #200 in Whiting, IN to discuss Sims Metal Management (Sims) and a draft permit for a large automobile shredder that Sims plans to install and operate at their East Chicago, Indiana facility? And is CDPH aware that if IDEM issues the permit, Sims won't be controlling ANY of the Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs), Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAPs), or Particulate Matter (PM) generated from the shredding of automobiles?

The Notice of Public Meeting from IDEM (***see link below***) states, "*Due to several comments received by IDEM from interested parties, a public meeting will be held on June 27, 2024 to discuss air permitting for Metal Management Indiana, Inc. dba Sims Metal.*" The Notice goes on to say that "*The public meeting will not include formal presentations but will give the public an opportunity to submit written comments, ask questions, and discuss air pollution concerns with IDEM staff. Written comments and supporting documentation can be presented at the public meeting, or if you do not plan to attend this meeting, you can send written comments to IDEM before the end of the public notice period. The public notice period will end on Monday, July 1, 2024. 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.*"

I call on the CDPH to attend the meeting, and to inquire how the IDEM can buy the argument presented by Sims that installing pollution controls on a large automobile shredder in East Chicago is not economically feasible, and will put the company at an economic disadvantage, while at the same time Sims is currently installing pollution controls on a large automobile shredder less than 20 miles away at their facility in Pilsen. In addition, I call on the CDPH to encourage Chicago residents, particularly those on the Southeast side of the City, to attend this public meeting and/or submit written comments to IDEM since air quality will certainly be negatively affected by the tons and tons of additional pollution that would be emitted into the Chicagoland area if Sims is allowed to operate an automobile shredder with no pollution controls.

<https://permits.air.idem.in.gov/47255d.pdf>

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Trant



## SIMS METAL - DEFICIENT PERMIT APPLICATION

Kevin Trant < >

Tue 6/18/2024 1:11 PM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

[Warning: External email]

Dear City of Chicago,

I write to express my dissatisfaction with how Sims Metal is receiving deferential consideration from the CDPH. Sims stated in their application for a Large Recycling Facility (LRF) Permit “Condition 3.8 of the RLRf requires the design report contain a copy of the variance in the nature of a special use (Special Use Variance) if applicable. The Paulina Facility does not possess a variance for a special use from the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA), so it is not included in the Design Report.”

Section 3.8 of the City of Chicago LRF Rules states “If applicable, the Design Report shall contain a copy of any Special Use (pursuant to Section 17-13-0900 of the Code) or Variation (pursuant to Section 17-13-1100 of the Code) approved by the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA), and any plans and drawings referenced therein.”

Sims, or their representatives, obviously misread the LRF Rules which require an applicant to provide either 1) a Special Use, OR 2) a Variation, or were looking at a prior version of the LRF Rules before Section 3.8 was revised and corrected in June 2020 (well before Sims’ November 2021 permit application was submitted). Regardless of the reason, Sims’ application is deficient by failing to provide the information requested in Section 3.8. CDPH should issue a Deficiency Letter to Sims for not providing information and/or documentation responsive to Section 3.8 and why has that deficiency letter not been issued to date?

Furthermore, the LRF Rules do not include any language exempting “existing” recycling facilities from the requirements of Section 3.8, nor do they include any language stating that Section 3.8 only applies to “new” or “expanding” facilities. So why didn’t CDPH issue a Deficiency Letter to Sims for failing to provide a copy of a Special Use or a Variation just like CDPH issued a Deficiency Letter to Southside Recycling for allegedly not providing documentation responsive to Section 3.8? CDPH’s application should be considered incomplete and deficient by not providing the required proof of the Special Use.

Following Southside Recycling’s submittal of an initial LRF Permit application, which included a copy of the minutes from the Zoning Board of Appeals documenting approval of a Special Use, CDPH responded by issuing a Deficiency Letter to Southside Recycling for failing to provide a copy of the “Findings of the Zoning Board of Appeals.” Then, despite promptly submitting the Findings of the Zoning Board of Appeals, CDPH ultimately issued a Permit Denial letter to Southside Recycling which cited “significant deficiencies” in the permit application including “failing to provide a copy of the April 22, 2019 Findings of the Zoning Board of Appeals, CAL 178-19-S & 179-19-Z (hearing held March 15, 2019), and any plans and drawings referenced

there, as required under section 3.8 of the Rules for Large Recycling Facilities (“the Large Recycling Rules”).”

CDPH apparently has one set of standards for Southside Recycling and another set of standards for Sims. On the one hand, Southside Recycling provided sufficient evidence, from the beginning, that the Zoning Board of Appeals approved a Special Use for an LRF, yet CDPH still issued a Deficiency Letter and requested Findings of the Zoning Board of Appeals (including plans and drawings), despite the fact that Section 3.8 of the LRF Rules only require “a copy of any Special Use.” Then, despite promptly responding to CDPH’s request, which went above and beyond the requirements of Section 3.8, CDPH accuses Southside Recycling of exhibiting a “lack of responsiveness” by not providing documentation that is not required, or even mentioned, anywhere in the LRF Rules.

Meanwhile, Sims submitted an incomplete and deficient application two and a half years ago, they continue to operate an LRF under an expired non-LRF permit, with no pollution controls, and CDPH has failed to identify a single deficiency with Sims’ LRF Permit application.

The double standard on display by CDPH is shameful!

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Trant

## Public comment sims Metal

M. Chavez < >

Wed 6/19/2024 8:20 AM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

[Warning: External email]

Is the Chicago DPH aware that the consultants who prepared the permit application for Sims, Trinity Consultants, are the same consultants who get paid to oversee the monitoring and data results for Sims? It is impossible to remain unbiased if it is potentially financially beneficial for Trinity Consultants . Favorable data results leads to approval of the permit , which can possibly lead to continuing or additional contracts with Sims. This is an obvious conflict of interest and puts all the monitoring and data results into doubt. How can we simply trust a for profit company to look out for the public welfare first when they can gain financially if the monitoring data results are favorable to Sims. Data results from the "near reference" weaker air monitors (operating protocol and maintenance is just as important as instrument, especially when using near reference monitoring) and update reports are all prepared by Trinity consultants.

Please do not dismiss this unethical and unacceptable behavior by Sims and Trinity consultants . The validity of the monitoring results are in serious question and these same results are the basis for the LRF permit approval . Sims should be required to hire an unbiased independent contractor to do and redo their air monitoring and reports before any permit consideration.

Please pass this information on within your agency and I hope to hear back on what the the CDPH will do to rectify this conflict of interest problem soon.

# QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN / QUALITY ASSURANCE PROJECT PLAN FOR CONTINUOUS AND FILTER BASED PARTICULATE (PM<sub>10</sub>), VOLATILE ORGANIC COMPOUND, AND METEOROLOGICAL PARAMETERS AT SIMS METAL RECYCLING FACILITY

**Metal Management Midwest, Inc.**

**TRINITY CONSULTANTS**

1801 S. Meyers Road  
Suite 350  
Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois 60181

August 2022

Project 171401.0156

## CITY OF CHICAGO PERMIT APPLICATION Rules for Large Recycling Facilities



**Metal Management Midwest, Inc.  
Paulina Facility**

**Prepared By:**

**TRINITY CONSULTANTS**  
1801 S. Meyers Road  
Suite 350  
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181  
(630) 495-1470

November 2021


Project 211401.0065

## Public Comments: Sims Metal Management Letter of Support

Trejahn Hunter <thunter@ierg.org>

Thu 6/20/2024 7:17 PM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

 1 attachments (239 KB)

Sims Letter of Support.pdf;

[Warning: External email]

City of Chicago,

Please see the attached Letter of Support for Sims Metal Management.

All the best,  
Tre

Trejahn Hunter  
Legal Associate  
Illinois Environmental Regulatory Group

**This email may contain confidential information. If you are not the person to whom this message is addressed, be aware that any use, reproduction, or distribution of this message is strictly prohibited. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and immediately delete this email and any attachments.**





Illinois Environmental Regulatory Group  
*An Affiliate of the Illinois Chamber of Commerce*

215 East Adams Street  
Springfield, IL 62701  
iergstaff@ierg.org

June 19, 2024

City of Chicago  
Chicago Department of Public Health  
111 W. Washington Street  
Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:

The Illinois Environmental Regulatory Group is writing in support of Sims Metal Management seeking to receive a permit from the Chicago Department of Public Health for its metal recycling property in Chicago.

IERG is an Illinois non-profit corporation affiliated with the Illinois Chamber of Commerce and is comprised of forty-nine (49) member companies that are regulated by governmental agencies that promulgate, enforce, or administer environmental laws, rules, regulations, or other policies.

IERG represents its members on a variety of environmental regulatory matters including the support of an open and transparent environmental permitting process.

IERG supports the efforts made by companies to operate in a manner necessary to obtain the permit according to local, State and Federal processes while also considering the economic feasibility and health impacts of the community.

IERG advocates for an equitable permitting process that is based on transparency, science, and economic reasonableness.

IERG supports Sims' effort to seek an operating permit for its facility in Chicago.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kelly Thompson'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.


Kelly Thompson  
Executive Director

## Petition!

Maria Guzman < >

Thu 6/20/2024 9:43 PM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

 1 attachments (216 KB)

PETITION TO COMMISSIONER DR.Lge.pdf;

[Warning: External email]

Please think about the children and the whole affected community's health.

**Commissioner Dr. Olusimbo Lge  
Chicago Department of Public Health**

**A PETITION**

We, the undersigned, want:

- CDPH to stop the SIMS permit process UNTIL SIMS has installed the emission control equipment and proves that it works “as intended”.

We want this done BEFORE CDPH accepts any SIMS permit application.

- full transparency and the details of the risk assessment reflecting what we and our children face.

With your scheduling of community meetings for SIMS, it seems that the City of Chicago is rushing to issue a permit for a convicted, serial polluter in Pilsen. We all know that SIMS has numerous violations occurring over and over again, which only adds to our already overburdened EJ community. We also know amazingly, after almost 2 years, that SIMS has not yet fulfilled the main terms of the Attorney General’s Consent Agreement in which it committed to install emissions control equipment to reduce their harmful emissions “by at least 81%”. Once this device is installed and proven to work, only then should SIMS be allowed to apply for permit.

Of course, there is no way of knowing the full extent of the harmful emissions SIMS has, over the years, discharged into Pilsen air and the lungs of our children, our neighbors and ourselves. It took the IL Attorney General in court to get SIMS to take responsibility for its history of violations. By overlooking SIMS history of violations and ignoring the Attorney General’s Consent Agreement in your permit process, CDPH appears to be favoring a convicted polluter over regular Chicago residents.

We only want what every community needs: clean, healthy air.

Signed, Name: Maria

Guzman \_\_\_\_\_

Phone:\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_


Organization: \_\_\_\_\_ St Paul Church \_\_\_\_\_

## Comment on CDPH review of SIMS LRF permit application

Donald Wink < >

Fri 6/21/2024 7:59 AM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

 1 attachments (534 KB)

PERRO\_June\_2024\_CDPH SIMS LRF Memos.pdf;

[Warning: External email]

Colleagues:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on this process. I have prepared the attached set of memos on six different reasons why, as I detail, it is too soon and too risky to issue the permit at this time. In one year there is the potential to know so much additional and essential information about the actual ongoing operations.

Sincerely,

Donald Wink

June 17, 2024

FROM: Donald Wink ( )  
RE: The science sa n for CDPH to issue a  
LRF Permit for SIMS

In April 2024, the Chicago Department of Public Health indicated it was considering issuing a Large Recycling Facility Permit for SIMS Metal Management, eighteen months after it suspended its review in October 2022 and over two-and-a-half years after the permit application was originally filed in 2021. The current situation in Pilsen's air, data issues with SIMS' reporting and analysis, and the incomplete status of SIMS' construction of an emissions control system required by the Illinois Attorney General's legal action all mean that issuing the permit at this time is too soon and too risky for Pilsen residents.

There are six science-based reasons supporting the assertion that it is too soon and too risky. This memo lists the six of them together. Other memos discuss each in more detail.

1. *We know that SIMS, likely from the metal shredder, emits hazardous air pollutants on a regular basis. These are currently not controlled by advanced emission control systems.* Data from the five US EPA mandated sensors at SIMS, though it comes from a SIMS contractor and is still subject to periodic outages, consistently show how levels of PM10 particulate matter and hazardous air pollutants regularly grow each day when SIMS is operating. These monitors only detect metal hazardous air pollutants in particles less than 10 microns in size. Hence, we know from the sensors that SIMS' current emissions clearly impose an additional burden on the nearby population. While these levels may not be above EPA-established thresholds, those thresholds do not account for individuals most at risk. ***It is too risky and too soon to issue a permit now when Pilsen, designated an environmental justice community because of its at-risk population, may be uniquely vulnerable to the health effects of these pollutants.***
2. *Current published data show Pilsen and other communities in and near Chicago are experiencing alarming growth in hazardous airborne pollutants emitted by SIMS.* On May 31, I distributed a memo documenting a large increase in the amount of lead and manganese, along with other metals, as detected in total suspended particles at monitors at Perez Elementary School in Pilsen. These are the highest levels in over six years. Values are also rising at Washington HS and (for lead) at a separately-operated monitor in Hammond. Though there has been a response from the USEPA suggesting the increases at Perez and Washington are due to a data processing error, an actual science-based explanation has not been presented and they have done nothing to explain the Hammond spike. ***It is too risky and too soon to issue a permit now when the only adequately documented public data suggest a looming crisis that could soon breach EPA-established thresholds for exposure of the general population in vulnerable communities.***
3. *We have no reliable data on total emissions from SIMS and we will not know those emissions until after the new emission control systems are fully operational and fully tested later in 2024 or early in 2025.* A critical moment in the history of SIMS' emissions was the finding in September 2019 that SIMS' shredder was emitting high total levels of pollutants, more than eight times higher than had been reported at the now-shuttered General Iron operation in Lincoln Park. This was followed by an ILEPA-mandated study

in Spring 2021 that showed that as much as half of the emissions were not being captured in such a test. This led to a legal action by the Illinois Attorney General in Fall 2021 and the requirement of new emission control systems, which is still not operational. At the time and subsequently, IL EPA has explained that a full, reliable emissions test on the new control system would be required on the new system before a Federally Enforceable State Operating Permit could be issued. ***It is too soon and too risky to issue a permit a LRF permit when the State itself recognizes it lacks the information for its permitting process.***

4. *SIMS' recent update of its permit application does not address several outstanding questions on the amount of reduction of pollution from the new systems.* As part of the original LRF permit application, SIMS' issued a modeling study by its paid contractor with calculated values of possible pollution levels. This was updated in May, 2024, too late for the community to discuss at CDPH's meeting that month. These latest models show that claimed PM10 impact would be reduced by 70% by the new systems. While significant, this is substantially below the 99% reduction claimed in SIMS' original construction permit application for the new emission controls systems. It is unclear if this will also achieve the 80% reduction in volatile organic material required in the Attorney Generals' action. ***It is too risky and too soon to issue a permit when SIMS's own data do not seem to meet prior claims or requirements.***
5. *The CDPH has not completed the community impact assessment that was promised as part of the original delay in the LRF Permit Review.* In October 2022, the CDPH postponed a decision on the LRF application until it had adequate information from the US EPA Monitoring System about "the company's compliance and community impacts." No study has been done that examines the relationship of SIMS' pollution emissions to community health, whether based only on the PM10 monitoring system or on as-yet unmeasured total emissions. ***It is too risky and too soon to issue a permit when there is no independent analysis of potential or actual emissions on the community.***
6. *There are unanswered questions about whether the new emission control systems may add additional pollution burdens to the community.* At the time the new emission control system was proposed, several concerns were raised. One was about the claim that hazardous metal air pollution emissions would be controlled in a system that merely oxidizes PM10 particles but does not capture potentially hazardous metal oxide emissions. A second was about the differential impact of adding substantial amounts of nitrogen oxides to the air, potentially increasing ozone in the community and the region. The ILEPA response to these concerns dismisses them with language about presumed (not documented) reduction claims for metals and that the projected 6 tons of nitrogen oxide emissions is below a regulatory level. ***It is too risky and too soon to issue a permit when there is a reasonable scientific basis for concluding that SIMS' control system could worsen certain pollutants in a vulnerable community.***

This memo and the supporting memos are all available for download the Google folder linked to the QR code at right.



June 18, 2024

FROM: Donald Wink (  
RE: The data are clear: SIMS pollutes Pilsen air!

This memo provides more information on one of the science-based reasons why it is premature for the Chicago Department of Public Health to issue a Large Recycling Facility Permit for SIMS Metal Management.

***We know that SIMS, likely from the metal shredder, emits hazardous air pollutants on a regular basis. It is too risky and too soon to issue a permit now when Pilsen, designated an environmental justice community because of its at-risk population, may be uniquely vulnerable to the health effects of these pollutants.***

This memo focuses on the evidence that the SIMS Metal Management Facility regularly emits pollutants from its operation. Though they may be below EPA action levels for the general populations, these emissions do add to the burden in a vulnerable community. And when other factors make air dangerous, SIMS makes that worse.

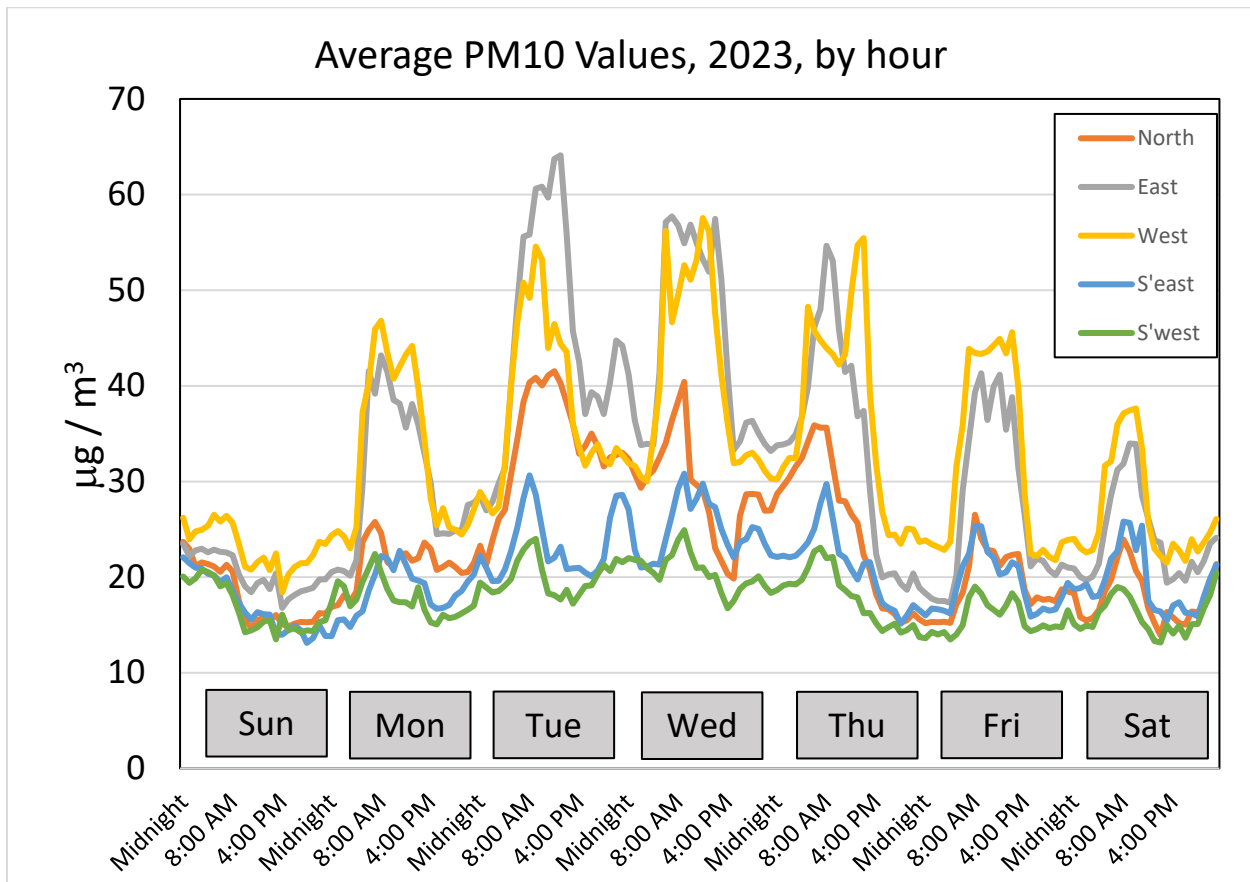
In April 2022 the US EPA issued a request for SIMS to install a set of five “near-reference” monitors on its site. Though there are problems with missing data and, for many months, the data lacked standard threshold levels, there is a regular reporting process from these monitors, based on data provided by a contractor paid by SIMS. There are five monitor sites—two close to the shredder (“East” and “West”), one at the edge of the property near Blue Island Avenue (“North”) and two close to the edge of the property near the Chicago River (“Southwest” and “Southeast”). They are operated by and get reports from a paid contractor for SIMS, using “near reference” monitors that were allowed by the USEPA instead of higher performing monitors such as those at Perez Elementary School.

One part of the monitor system is at three locations and collects PM10 particulate matter (particle size below 10 micrometers). Reports indicate if data is above a threshold and “not detected” does not mean that the pollutant is not present. Since February, 2023, when the monitors have usually provided data, there are 97 weekdays when this data has been collected. The table below shows that lead and manganese are far more likely to be detected, at the East monitor, and that the average value close to the shredder is higher. A similar pattern appears for PM10, which has a much higher background. This clearly demonstrates that these pollutants are very likely to be emitted from the shredder operation.

Detection events for PM10 lead and manganese on weekdays (out of 97 weekday reports)

Monitor	Lead reported (average, $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )	Manganese reported (average, $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )	PM10 reported (average, $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )
North	33 (0.015)	47 (0.021)	87 (22.2)
East	60 (0.030)	59 (0.038)	87 (27.3)
Southwest	18 (0.025)	43 (0.018)	80 (17.5)

The other monitor system reports PM10 on an hourly basis. In this case, it is possible to get a real-time picture of SIMS' pollution. The data below use data from 2023 (with the exception of readings in the aftermath of a fire in February). It shows that every week, every workday, there are major increases especially at the monitors adjacent to the shredder and on most days at the North monitor, closest to Juarez and Perez schools.



The data do not cross thresholds but two things are critical. First, vulnerable populations, including those with asthma, are clearly getting an additional dose of these pollutants, and it is unclear what thresholds will impact them. Second, data from Summer 2023 show that when other factors (such as wildfire smoke) do cause generally hazardous air, SIMS' operation adds even more to those dire conditions.

**Data for the analysis:** The use of a paid contractor that also does other business with SIMS and also the use of monitors that are not among posted monitors accepted by the USEPA was part of the approval from USEPA, without consultation with the community about either decision. Data are available at <https://www.epa.gov/il/sims-metal-management>. US EPA reviews the data on a monthly basis and has regularly reported that, with few exceptions, the data do not exceed levels determined by US EPA in the past to require intervention based on standards that are many years old. A claim that the standards "including the health of sensitive or at-risk groups, with an adequate margin of safety." However, these data and standards are now over fifteen years out of date and do not account for new information on sensitive populations.

June 18, 2024

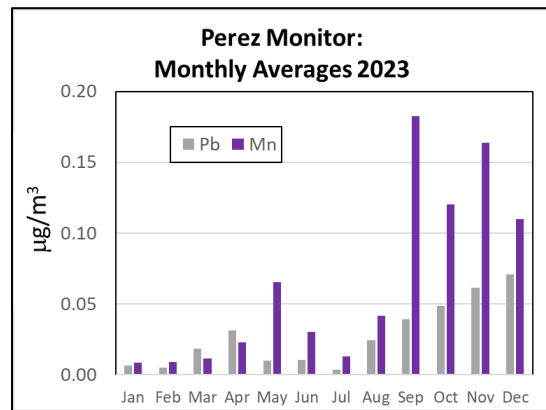
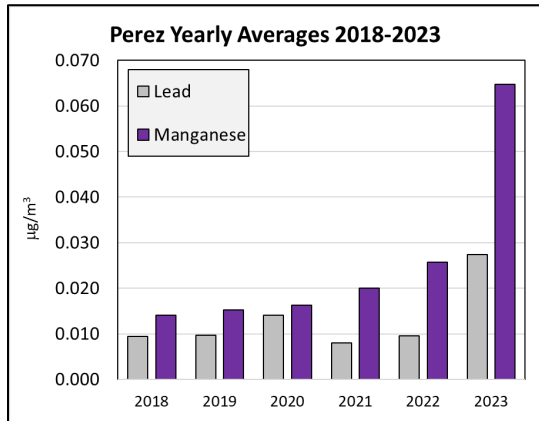
FROM: Donald Wink (  
RE: Alarming Increases in Chicago Metal Hazardous Air Pollutants

This memo provides more information on one of the science-based reasons why it is premature for the Chicago Department of Public Health to issue a Large Recycling Facility Permit for SIMS Metal Management.

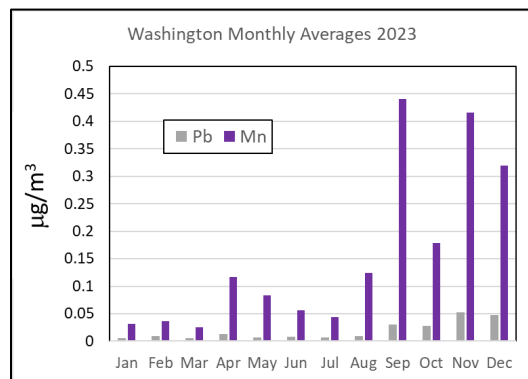
*Current published data show Pilsen and other communities in and near Chicago are experiencing alarming growth in hazardous airborne pollutants emitted by SIMS. It is too risky and too soon to issue a permit now when the only adequately documented public data suggest a looming crisis that could soon breach EPA-established thresholds for exposure of the general population in vulnerable communities.*

This memo focuses on two metals in particular, though the others are also of concern. Lead is a contributor to many health problems, including neurological issues in developing fetuses and children and persistent problems in adults. The USEPA has posted an action level of  $0.150 \mu\text{g} / \text{m}^3$  (micrograms per cubic meter) and a minimum risk level of  $300 \mu\text{g} / \text{m}^3$  for the general population. Their analyses do not consider vulnerable populations and never mentions asthma in children, now known to correlate with worse asthma symptoms in Chicago children.

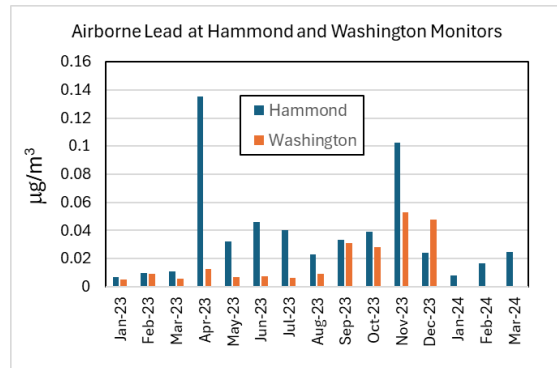
Data for the Perez monitor for lead and manganese for 2018-2024 is shown in the first figure. It shows a steady increase in manganese, especially since 2019. And data for 2023, by month, are shown in the second figure.



Data for monitors at Washington show a similar trend to those at Perez, especially for manganese.



It is also possible to compare this data with a separate monitor system at Hammond, Indiana, located 2.5 miles from Washington High School. In that case, data is only available for lead. The figure at right shows monthly lead data for the monitors at Washington and in Hammond, by month (note that the Hammond data does include two months in 2024. This shows that Hammond has also experienced high levels at the end of 2023. (There was also a very, very high level in March 2023 at Hammond— something those in its immediate neighborhood should be inquiring about).



When asked about this data earlier this month, officials at the US EPA indicated that the spike at the end of 2023 was reportedly because of a data processing error. They shared an email from someone at the Cook County Department of Environmental Services indicating:

“DES conducted a review of the variability and concentration data for metal samples collected from September through December 2023 and identified a discrepancy in an equation resulting in data being reported higher by a factor of four. DES has been using laboratories from Indiana and Wisconsin while we replace our analytical equipment. In August 2023, DES switched from Indiana to Wisconsin. Each laboratory uses different sample volumes, therefore the respective data spreadsheets are different.”

There are two issues with this explanation. First, it lacks specificity and suggests that two different errors occurred: a discrepancy in “an equation” and a “change in sample volume”. But we do not know what the discrepancy, the equation, or the effect of sample volumes would be on the data. Therefore, it is impossible to understand, at this point, how this results in a “factor of four” error. And, of course, a processing error for a new vendor for Illinois sites cannot, from what we know, explain the Hammond data.

Taken together, these data point to a looming crisis in Pilsen’s air (and major concerns about the SE Side and in Hammond, of course). Until these are resolved, issuing a permit to a known emitter of significant amounts of lead in the form of PM10 particles is too risky and too soon.

**Data for the analysis:** The Cook County Department of Environment and Sustainability operates two monitors for the metals in total suspended particles in environmentally sensitive communities in Chicago: one at Perez Elementary in Pilsen and another at Washington High School on the Southeast Side, not far from the Indiana Border. Data on multiple metallic hazardous air pollutants (metal HAPS) were provided for 2021, 2022, and 2023 by the Illinois Department of Public Health after a FOIA request on May 15 . In addition, data for previous years at Perez were provided as a single spreadsheet from the ILEPA. In addition, the USEPA provides information on multiple air pollutants at these sites and others, including one in Hammond, Indiana, as part of its public information (<https://www.epa.gov/outdoor-air-quality-data/download-daily-data>). ILEPA lead data was downloaded for 2021, 2022, 2023 and (for Indiana), January and February 2024.



**Update June 19, 2024:** On June 18 USEPA communicated that they have posted "the correct monitoring data" for the three Illinois sites (Perez, Washington, and Air Products / Granite City). Indeed, a comparison of the data with that downloaded on May 31 shows that for September-Dec 2023 the data are now a factor of 4.33 lower for all measurements. This change removes the increase that was in the data before. However, it is still the case that we don't know what is behind the correction, other than a claim about a spreadsheet and/or sample volume error that went on for months without correction until it was brought to their attention as part of our concerns about SIMS. And there is no correction yet available for other metals, nor any explanation of why the Washington HS "corrected" data is now so much lower than that at the nearby Hammond, Indiana monitor.

June 20, 2024

FROM: Donald Wink ( )  
RE: The Unknown Emissions of SIMS Metal Shredder

This memo provides more information on one of the science-based reasons why it is premature for the Chicago Department of Public Health to issue a Large Recycling Facility Permit for SIMS Metal Management.

*We have no reliable data on total emissions from SIMS and we will not know those emissions until after the new emission control systems are fully operational and fully tested later in 2024 or early in 2025. **It is too soon and too risky to issue a permit a LRF permit when the State itself recognizes it lacks the information for its permitting process.***

At the heart of the decision about SIMS Metal Management's application for a Large Recycling Facility Permit is its hammermill shredder. Since 2017 it has been clear that this is a major source of air pollution. For that reason, in 2018 the US EPA issued a judgment requiring SIMS to pay a \$225,000 civil penalty after a finding that SIMS was operating without the appropriate state permit to match its emissions of more than 25 tons of volatile organic matter. SIMS was also required to apply for a Federally Enforceable State Operating Permit (FESOP), which it did in January 2019. However, no action has been taken on the FESOP or its updates for a simple reason: **No one really knows how much pollution is actually emitted from the SIMS shredder!**

In September 2019 a SIMS' contractor, Mostardi Platt, attempted to do an emissions capture test. This did get data that, among other things, showed that SIMS' shredder emits pollution at a rate about seven times that of the General Iron shredder in Lincoln Park (which has now been closed). For example, they reported the shredder had a potential to emit lead at a rate of 3.7 grams per hour, whereas a similar test at General Iron's shredder in June 2018 showed average lead emissions of 0.5 grams per hour. Later on, attempts were made to determine whether the emissions tests were capturing all of the emissions. Data reported by SIMS' contractor for a December 2020 test was rejected by the State and an independent test was done in May 2021 under more careful conditions. This showed that "The capture efficiency of the system was estimated to be less than 50%." So, whatever had been reported in September 2019, was too low by an unknown factor.

This failed capture test led to the action in Fall, 2021 by the Illinois Attorney General's Office, fining SIMS again (!!) and requiring SIMS to install a new emissions control system that would permit proper testing. Until that control system is operational, the IL EPA will not be able to determine emissions properly and can take no further action on the FESOP. So, the State had delayed action on a permit since 2018 because they don't know the emissions. And, therefore, information based on any previous emissions test from SIMS is unreliable.

In conclusion: Any current decisions or studies based on previous emissions tests, including the data used in the modelling studies that accompany the LRF permit and its revisions, are based on unreliable data. All we know is that the SIMS shredder emits a much higher rate than the one General Iron scrapped in Lincoln Park.

June 20, 2024

FROM: Donald Wink ( )  
RE: SIMS' varying based on unreliable data  
and unclear processes

This memo provides more information on one of the science-based reasons why it is premature for the Chicago Department of Public Health to issue a Large Recycling Facility Permit for SIMS Metal Management.

*SIMS' recent update of its permit application does not address several outstanding questions on the amount of reduction of pollution from the new systems. **It is too risky and too soon to issue a permit when SIMS's own data do not seem to meet prior claims or requirements.***

This memo focuses on how documents submitted by SIMS contain varying claims on its future pollution levels. This occurs in permit applications and as part of its contractor's modeling studies and many are based on data we know to be unreliable. With these uncertainties, it is no surprise that it is not possible to understand what they themselves can expect.

A requirement of the CDPH's requirements for a Large Recycling Facility permit from June, 2020 is to "provide sufficient information to Demonstrate that the Facility will be designed and Operated in a manner that prevents public nuisance and protects the public health, safety, and the environment." To satisfy this, applicants may provide "reports, analyses, calculations, modeling, studies, or other information necessary to validate the accuracy and truthfulness of representations made in the application." Associated with this is to do an air modeling study that "shall evaluate airborne emissions from each Point Source and Fugitive Source."

Therefore, a key part of the SIMS' application is an Air Modeling Study in Appendix R of the LRF permit application, done by its contractor, Trinity Consultants. This study has several points of confusion. For example, they indicate that "PM10 emission rates are based on *existing permit limits, AP-42 emission factors, and stack test results*" (emphasis added). This key input parameter was set at a rate of 0.7507 grams per second over a 24-hour period. There was no explanation of where this input value came from. Similar choices are made about metal hazardous air pollutants, which were, it seems, scaled from that PM10 rate. But there are no data presented for the values that they used, just the claimed results. Of course, the original application also uses data from a test in September 2019 that, we later learned, was done with insufficient capture of emissions from the shredder. SIMS has never admitted, to my knowledge, that the 2019 test was found to be not reliable later. Therefore, even in the original application it is not possible for a reader, from what was written, to determine what was actually done to get input parameters.

Recently, SIMS has submitted an update to the air modeling study, dated May 13, 2024. This replaces input data for the shredder ("SHREDTOP") in the original study with data for both the regenerative thermal oxidizer ("RTO") that will now be the source of processed shredder emissions. There are now data presented for emission rate from the RTO that is substantially lower than for the original application. For example, the input value for PM10 is now 0.0170 grams per second, a reduction of 97.7%. How this number was arrived at is also not explained.

Unlike in the original application, they now report projected average metal hazardous air pollutant emission rates. The specific origin of these (presumably, a scaling factor of some sort) are still not referenced or otherwise explained.

When we turn to the “bottom line” amounts in the updated modeling study we find some surprising claims. The new study projects a 24-hour PM10 impact of  $42.61 \mu\text{g} / \text{m}^3$ . This compares to  $145.69 \mu\text{g} / \text{m}^3$  in the original study—only a 70.7% reduction. The original study has a predicted maximum lead 3-month average of  $0.0092 \mu\text{g} / \text{m}^3$ . Now, the modeling study projects  $0.00564 \mu\text{g} / \text{m}^3$ . This is a 38.6% reduction. Why these reductions are uneven is not explained. Nor is it understandable how what might be a 98% reduction in the average emission rate leads to more modest reductions in actual impact values.

Finally, it is interesting to note that the modeling results seem to be projecting a much lower reduction pollutants that was promised in the proposal for the new emission control system. There, a consistent claim was that the RTO / Venturi Scrubber technology would reduce particulate matter (and therefore presumably PM10) by 99%. We do not know why the modeling study is so disappointingly different from that value.

It may well be that the analyses were done in a proper way with respect to the operation of the AEROMOD software. However, this memo outlines several examples where varying outcome results are not explained. Until this is all understandable to the CDPH in concrete ways, the overall conclusions of the modeling study remain uncertain, to say the least.

In summary, the SIMS modeling analysis contains many uncertainties. Some of these are in how the information is presented. Other uncertainties arise when we look at the actual claims. And throughout, the apparent continued reliance on the September 2019 stack test points to fundamental flaws in the initial data. With uncertainties like this, the LRF application seems to be short of the required certainty and transparency that CDPH asked for.

June 20, 2024

FROM: Donald Wink ( )  
RE: Unknown information on community health impacts of SIMS' pollution

This memo provides more information on one of the science-based reasons why it is premature for the Chicago Department of Public Health to issue a Large Recycling Facility Permit for SIMS Metal Management.

*The CDPH has not completed the community impact assessment that was promised as part of the original delay in the LRF Permit Review. **It is too risky and too soon to issue a permit when there is no independent analysis of potential or actual emissions on the community.***

This memo focuses on how a key component of the CDPH decision to delay a decision on the SIMS' Large Recycling Facility permit has not been met.

SIMS Metal Management submitted their original LRF Permit Application in Fall, 2021. After a period of public comment, the CDPH announced in February 2022 that it was delaying action. The following Fall, after meeting with community representatives over the summer, a major discussion event was scheduled for October. This was cancelled at a late stage, specifically to wait for the ability to use data from US EPA required monitors and the community impact. At the same time, it was noted that a recent IL EPA decision would also result in a new emissions control system. Hence, it was reasonable to infer that CDPH would take no action until (a) the new controls were in place; (b) new and reliable stack testing had been done, as per the requirements of the State construction permit; (c) sufficient information was available from the monitors, and (d) a health impact study had been done.

As is obvious from the fact that, even now, the new emission controls are not operational, points (a) and (b) have not been met. Similarly, there is now some data, albeit only with "near-reference monitors" for pollutants in the air near SIMS. But other than simply noting that the values are not above action levels, there has been no analysis of the data outside of the obvious trends that show that SIMS in general and its shredder operations specifically do add PM10 and hazardous metal air pollutants to the air of Pilsen on a regular basis. Hence, (c) hasn't been done, either. Finally, no health impact assessment has been conducted including, as is especially appropriate in a designated environmental justice community, with information from the latest research on at-risk populations.

There are models for what might be an appropriate level of analysis. For example, a 2020 study of areas near Houston metal recyclers (Han *et al.*, *Journal of the Air & Waste Management Association* <https://doi.org/10.1080/10962247.2020.1755385>) used well-characterized data from high-quality monitors to determine that cancer risks ranged as high as 23.6 per million at the fence line for the recycler with the highest levels of metals. In two cases, a cancer risk above 1 per million was also found at the "near neighborhood site." They indicated that nickel, cobalt, and arsenic are the greatest contributors to the cancer risk. A similar study could maybe be done with the SIMS data, though as we also know the monitors are not as sensitive as the ones used in the Houston study.

June 20, 2024

FROM: Donald Wink ( )  
RE: Hazards that may increase with the new SIMS emission controls

This memo provides more information on one of the science-based reasons why it is premature for the Chicago Department of Public Health to issue a Large Recycling Facility Permit for SIMS Metal Management.

***There are unanswered questions about whether the new emission control systems may add additional pollution burdens to the community. It is too risky and too soon to issue a permit when there is a reasonable scientific basis for concluding that SIMS' control system could worsen certain pollutants in a vulnerable community.***

This memo focuses on how there is a reasonable basis to expect the new SIMS emission controls to increase hazards in the air.

SIMS metal management was compelled to install a new emission control system for the SIMS metal shredder, centered on a regenerative thermal oxidizer (RTO) and a Venturi scrubber, as a part of an action from the Illinois' Attorney General in Fall, 2022. There are claims that this system will lower emissions of PM10 and volatile organic matter by more than 99% and these claims are reasonable based on those technologies. For example, the high temperatures generated by the combustion of natural gas in the RTO are highly likely to completely convert any organic matter into carbon dioxide.

As part of the application, SIMS also noted that the system would result in significant amounts of nitrogen oxides being formed (and emitted). This is because the same high temperature combustion process causes small amounts of nitrogen in the air to also be converted into nitrogen oxides (often referred to as "NOx"), with projected emissions of 6.36 tons of NOx. It is also claimed that metal emissions will be dramatically curtailed. However, it is not explained how that will occur since no amount of high temperature conversion can convert a hazardous metal, such as lead or chromium, into a different chemical element. What high temperature combustion can reasonably be expected to do is to convert metal pollutants into volatile high-valent metal oxides. One example is for chromium, which can easily be seen as becoming volatile chromium(VI) oxide. Chromium (VI) emissions would be highly dangerous, because chromium in that state is a virulent and well-known carcinogen.

I raised these and other concerns when the original construction proposal was circulated in 2022 for public comment. A "Responsiveness Summary" accompanied the ILEPA's issuance of a construction permit. In this, they address all comments received, including the ones about NOx and high-valent metal oxides.

For the NOx they wrote: "These increases are well below the significant increase levels in both 35 Ill. Adm. Code Part 203 (25 tons/year for NOx) and 35 Ill. Adm. Code Part 204 (40 tons/year for CO)." Hence, the ILEPA recognized that, because the levels were lower than regulations required, they should grant the permit. However, we know well that there are many days when Chicago has air pollution alerts, for example "air pollution action days" that can be caused by, among other things, ozone. The major source of ozone in Illinois air is, in fact, NOx emissions.

While IL EPA may be bound by the (questionable) threshold in the regulations, there is no reason why the CDPH cannot recognize a lower potential-to-emit level as a basis for its decision.

For high-valent metal oxides, they wrote “It is presumed that the control train will reduce organic HAP emissions similarly to reductions of Volatile Organic Material (VOM). It is also presumed that metal HAP emissions will be reduced similarly, as PM emissions will be reduced by the proposed control train that would be authorized by the draft construction permit.” Indeed, an understanding of chemistry supports the first presumption: burning all organic material at a high temperature will reduce the levels hazardous organic molecules, by definition. But, as noted, no amount of combustion can do this to any other element. So the second presumption is, regrettably, not based in science. And, given this threat, there is reason for CDPH to wait on a decision on the permit until the threat of high-valent metal oxides, such as chromium(VI), is addressed.

## Sims public comment from affected resident

Bryan Esenberg < >

Fri 6/21/2024 8:25 AM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

[Warning: External email]

I live at . I have owned and lived here since 2011. Apparently I am too far to receive notices about Sims, but I am not too far that I don't smell that death trap! Without fail there are days my family and I can smell the metal in the air. Being in a ring of highways never helps, but Sims offer that clean air addition that is very noticeable. My favorite part of Simms is when my kid asks to see the dinosaurs crunching cars as we drive home. Simms lights up at all times to move trash and burn garbage. My inhaler needs have only increased since living here. Appreciate the transparency, honesty and cancer giving gifts of Simms. Rich people get to kick out recyclers in Lincoln Park, us in Pilsen accept it as part of the charm. Gross.




## Sims Metal Large Recycling Facility Permit: Letter from CFL and Chicago & Cook County Building and Construction Trades

Isabel Dobbel <idobbel@chicagolabor.org>

Fri 6/21/2024 1:25 PM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

 1 attachments (556 KB)

6.21.24, CFL&CCBTC Letter.pdf;

[Warning: External email]

Good afternoon,

Please see the attached letter from Chicago Federation of Labor President Robert G. Reiter, Jr. and Chicago & Cook County Building & Construction Trades Council President Mike Macellaio in support of Sims Metal Management's Large Recycling Facility permit.

Please let me know if you have any have any questions.

Thank you

Izzy Dobbel  
Political Director  
Chicago Federation of Labor  
180 N. Stetson, Suite 1529  
Chicago, IL 60601  
312-222-1000  
C:



180 N. STETSON AVENUE, SUITE 1529  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60601  
312-222-1000 • CHICAGOLABOR.ORG

Robert G. Reiter, Jr.  
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June 21, 2024

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of the Chicago Federation of Labor and the Chicago & Cook County Building & Construction Trades Council, we are writing to you in support of the application filed by Metal Management Midwest (d/b/a Sims Metal) for their Large Recycling Facility permit from the city of Chicago. We represent over 300 unions who in turn represent more than 500,000 working men and women. As labor advocacy organizations, we fight for working families in Chicago and Cook County to have access to high-quality jobs with fair pay, benefits, and pensions. Sims Metal has operated in the neighborhood for over 30 years. They employ about 100 union workers represented by Teamsters Local 731. The workers at Sims Metal provide an essential service that responsibly and safely dispose of unwanted materials in our region. These union workers provide a service to our community while enjoying a collective bargaining agreement that ensures family-supporting wages and a voice on the job. Furthermore, workers who are in a union also have a voice at the workplace, improved workplace health and safety, and sustain the middle class.

Companies like Sims Metal have done their due diligence to implement environmental precautions for the neighborhood and their workers. They have adhered to all federal, state, and local regulations. They have enacted an effective emissions mitigation strategy for the benefit of their neighbors, workers, and contractors. Sims Metal installed air monitors to ensure that their emission controls are working effectively. Since air monitoring began in 2022, the U.S. EPA reports that no 24-hour readings for dust, volatile organic compounds, or metal concentrations have exceeded federal, state, or local health-based standards. While the 24-hour air monitoring is showing positive results, the company's \$25 million advanced emissions control project is well under way to be completed in 2024 exclusively by union trades. Sims is one of the few recycling companies in the United States making significant investments in clean air.

Sims has openly welcomed the rigorous new operational regulations set by the City of Chicago and has successfully proven they are committed to meeting each requirement. The company's commitment ensures the safety and health of all Chicagoans, especially nearby residents. We ask you to please approve Sims Metal's Large Recycling Facility permit.

Sincerely,

Robert G. Reiter, Jr.  
President  
Chicago Federation of Labor

Michael Macellaio  
President  
Chicago & Cook County Building & Construct Trades

# Re: Sims Metal Large Recycling Facility Permit: Letter from CFL and Chicago & Cook County Building and Construction Trades

Charles Parnell <charley@parnellpa.com>

Fri 6/21/2024 1:31 PM

To:Isabel Dobbel <idobbel@chicagolabor.org>

Cc:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

[Warning: External email]

Looks great. Thanks so very much. I really appreciate your efforts.

Charley Parnell  
Parnell Public Affairs

On Jun 21, 2024, at 1:25 PM, Isabel Dobbel <idobbel@chicagolabor.org> wrote:

Good afternoon,

Please see the attached letter from Chicago Federation of Labor President Robert G. Reiter, Jr. and Chicago & Cook County Building & Construction Trades Council President Mike Macellaio in support of Sims Metal Management's Large Recycling Facility permit.

Please let me know if you have any have any questions.

Thank you

Izzy Dobbel  
Political Director  
Chicago Federation of Labor  
180 N. Stetson, Suite 1529  
Chicago, IL 60601  
312-222-1000  
C:  
<6.21.24, CFL&CCBTC Letter.pdf>

# Deny Sims Permit

Zitlalli Paez <zpaez@lvejo.org>

Fri 6/21/2024 3:27 PM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

[Warning: External email]

To whom this may concern,

Hi name is Zitlalli Paez and I am a lifelong resident of the Pilsen neighborhood. I stand with the Pilsen Environmental Rights and Reform Organization (PERRO) and community members in denying Sims Metals Large Recycling Permit. Additionally, Sims Metals should halt shredder operations until the Chicago Department of Public Health addresses the data from the Sims monitors and has an additional meeting to discuss the health implications. PERRO demands that Sims Metals either enclose their facility and achieve zero emissions or shut down shredder operations entirely. Sims Metals is less than ten blocks away from SIXTEEN schools. This means the students of sixteen schools are vulnerable to the air pollution released by Sims Metal. Projections indicate that toxic metal shredder dust is blowing directly toward the Benito Juarez high school and residents of an already environmentally burdened community. The city should also not consider Sim's permit while the Perez EPA monitor detects high levels of lead and manganese. This should be addressed first!

--



**Zitlalli Paez (she/her)**  
**Digital Strategy Fellow** at the  
Little Village Environmental Justice Organization

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## Sims Metal Management -- Public Comment

Alec Messina <amessina@ilchamber.org>

Fri 6/21/2024 4:50 PM

To: envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

[Warning: External email]

The public comment below has been sent on behalf of Lou Sandoval, President and CEO of the Illinois Chamber of Commerce.

June 21, 2024

To whom it may concern:

I am writing on behalf of the Illinois Chamber of Commerce in support of Sims Metal and its application for their Large Recycling Facility permit from the City of Chicago.

It is the mission of the Illinois Chamber to support pro-business, pro-growth, pro-Illinois policies that are essential not only to our members, but also to the State and its citizens. The Illinois Chamber is the state's largest general business advocacy organization working on behalf of thousands of members and all businesses across the state. Regardless of the size of a business or organization, the Illinois Chamber keeps members continuously educated and involved in crafting policy and best practices for operating their businesses.

We believe approval of this permit is critical for a variety of reasons. First, Sims Metal has about 100 direct employees, almost all of whom live in Chicago. Failure to act not only jeopardizes these jobs, but would give other employers pause when considering opening or expanding a highly regulated business, such as Sims Metal, in Chicago. Second, recycling is critical. Sims Metal recycles smaller scrap metal items along with larger ones, such as end-of-life cars and appliances, all of which are eventually transformed into new products. This allows the State to save valuable landfill space, and to lessen the environmental impact caused by utilizing only unrecycled metals. Third, Sims Metal has made a significant commitment to environmental protection. The company is investing \$25 million in state-of-the-art advanced emissions controls this year, a project that has already been approved by the Illinois EPA and the City of Chicago.

With that in mind, the Illinois Chamber of Commerce is thrilled to support this project and advocate for its approval and permitting. We ask that you support a project that will spur job growth and propel our state to a new level of prosperity.

Lou Sandoval  
President and CEO  
Illinois Chamber of Commerce

**Alec Messina**  
**Executive Director, Energy**

P: 217.522.5512; ext. 234

C:

E: [amessina@ilchamber.org](mailto:amessina@ilchamber.org)

W: [www.ilchamber.org](http://www.ilchamber.org)



**CAPITAL CITY Office**  
215 E. Adams Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62701

## Requesting answers for Sims Pilsen meeting

Zitlalli Paez <zpaez@lvejo.org>

Fri 6/21/2024 7:26 PM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

[Warning: External email]

Good Afternoon Dr.Olumsimbo Ige,

My name is Zitlalli Páez, I am a long life resident of the Pilsen neighborhood. As someone who lives, works, and hangs out in Pilsen with friends, I felt the need to comment during the Sims community meeting of today 6/21/24. I asked you these questions and asked you to please answer thoughtfully. They are exactly as I asked today:

1. Why has sims been functioning for 2 and 1/2 years without a permit? How can they function during the city wide bad air quality advisory earlier in the week ?
2. Why hasn't CDPH investigated the pollution matter that is PM2.5 not just PM10 in their cumulative health impact assessment?
3. Why is there a large metal shredder facility approximately one mile or less away from SIXTEEN SCHOOL? The schools that are primarily made up of low income, children of color.
4. Why can we trust sims to hire, their own private consultants ( TRINITY CONSULTANTS) THEN report to the EPA?
5. Why does CDPH only follow the EPA benchmarks and not the benchmarks set by science and health communities that say even a bit of exposure to lead, manganese and chromium can have life lasting impacts on a person?
6. Are you going to allow yet another polluter in the south side of Chicago make profits that are causing our lives?pitty contributions to the Pilsen pantry is not worth our lives.
7. Why hasn't cook county or the epa release a statement that the data collected from their monitors was reported inaccurately for November and December of 2023? How are we supposed to trust the city department of public health is doing its job if it can't tell the public when mistakes are made. Mistakes that can end our lives.
8. People with respiratory or cardiovascular illnesses are vulnerable to all the pollution coming from the Pilsen industrial corridor, so if we let sims continue to operate without knowing that they are not able to control emissions. They should not function. Sims should not be making money while we are sick and dying.



**Zitlalli Paez (she/her)**  
**Digital Strategy Fellow** at the  
Little Village Environmental Justice Organization

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## Comments on SIMs Metal

Theresa McNamara <

>

Fri 6/21/2024 9:11 PM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

 2 attachments (29 KB)

CDPH COMMENTS Ed St Pius 6-21-24.docx; TRMc CDPH COMMENTS 6-21-24.docx;

[Warning: External email]

Dear Commissioner,  
Please review Brian Mckeon email comments on Sims.

Thank you for your time tonight.

Theresa Reyes McNamara  
Southwest Environmental Alliance  
312-439-5928



CDPH Ed McNamara comments at St Pius 6-21-24

Why are we here today??

As the Illinois Attorney General pointed out in his October 22, 2021, lawsuit against SIMS METAL MANAGEMENT for failing to demonstrate a threshold reduction in uncontrolled emissions from its metal shredding and recycling facility in Pilsen. **“SIMS’ actions created a public health risk by exposing the community to uncontrolled emissions from its facility”**, IL Attorney General Kwame said. **“We have seen the damage these actions can cause in environmental justice communities.**

There, of course, is no way of knowing the full extent of the harmful emissions SIMS has, over the years, discharged into Pilsen air and the lungs of our children, our neighbors and ourselves.

It took serious legal action by the Illinois Attorney General in court to get SIMS to take responsibility for its history of violations.

How can CDPH be blind to this and opt to ignore any mention of the Attorney General’s Consent Agreement in their permit process, CDPH appears to be favoring this polluter over communities of regular Chicago residents.

We only want what every community needs: clean, healthy air.

**Theresa Reyes McNamara comments on SIMs/ CDPH 6/21/24 Meeting  
Southwest Environmental Alliance**

**I 'm Theresa Reyes McNamara, a McKinley Park resident and chair of the Southwest Environmental Alliance.**

**What do we want? We want to Stop SIMs Permit Process**

**I am a Chicago taxpayer as are most of the people in this room. CDPH gets paid with those tax dollars, I thought to protect us.**

**It feels like you all came into our community having already decided on who you are going to protect – it's not our kids with asthma, it's not our family members with heart attacks or strokes. It's SIMS, a serial polluter.**

**If this was not true then why would you have accepted an incomplete application from SIMs?**

**On April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 CDPH chose to start the public permit process, an application that should have been ignored because it was NOT complete - put whatever label you want on your actions – our community sees this as another clear sign of environmental racism.**

**Look around you, see the people who are getting sick from companies like this. In our communities, our numbers are high for upper respiratory ailments – as we all know we live in already overburdened community.**

**What do we want? Two things:**

- **We want SIMS to complete their legal obligations in their Consent Agreement with the Attorney General's to install an emission reduction device to reduce harmful emissions by at least 81% (and then prove it works as intended)**
- **We need a detailed health risk assessment on our adults and children. What is posted TODAY a few hours before this meeting only speaks of benchmarks.**

**Before a SIMs LRF permit is even considered both things need to be accomplished!**

**Bottom line: Our need for clean air, healthy air is just ignored again and again – shame on you, CDPH, if you don't follow through.**

## Sims Comments 6.21.2024

Brian Mckeon < >

Fri 6/21/2024 10:59 PM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>;Olusimbo Ige <Olusimbo.Ige@cityofchicago.org>;Gabriela Wagener-Sobrero <Gabriela.Wagener-Sobrero@cityofchicago.org>;Angela Tovar <Angela.Tovar@cityofchicago.org>;Abraham Bradshaw <Abraham.Bradshaw@cityofchicago.org>;Claudia Guzman <Claudia.Guzman@cityofchicago.org>

📎 1 attachments (995 KB)

Comment Attachment.pdf;

[Warning: External email]

### **Sims is Currently Operating Under an Terminated Operating Permit and Must Cease Operations**

Sims is currently operating under a permit which has expired. The first page of Sims' current operating permit issued November 30, 2018 states that "[t]his permit allows for the operation of the Facility from 11/16/2018 through 11/15/2021 upon which time the permit shall terminate by its own terms." CDPH also allowed Sims to continue to operate on that permit if they applied for a subsequent operating permit before November 21, 2018. "If a subsequent operating permit is applied for on or before 11/21/2018, this permit shall remain in effect until the CDPH acts on the pending permit application." Sims' subsequent operating permit application was submitted to CDPH in November of 2021. Because a "subsequent operating permit" was not "applied for... before 11/21/2018", Sims' operating permit "terminate[d] by its own terms" on November 15, 2021. Without a valid and current Large Recycling Facility permit, Sims is operating illegally and should cease operations immediately.

-----

### **CDPH must deny the Sims Large Recycling Facility operating permit due to an incomplete annual recycling report.**

The 2023 Annual Recycling Report submitted by Sims is lacking several elements required by the Chicago Municipal Code.

An annual recycling report must contain "the approximate percentage of each type or category of recyclable material collected by the permittee" (see Chicago Municipal Code 11-4-2535(a)(3)). In Sims' 2023 Annual Recycling Report the table labeled "Percentage of Recyclable Materials Collected per Facility" has been left completely blank. Sims has provided no information regarding the approximate percentage of each category of waste material the company collected in 2023. This information is required by the code, and was not provided.

An annual recycling report must also contain "the name and location to which each type or category of recyclable material was delivered" (see Chicago Municipal Code 11-4-2535(a)(3)). In Sims' 2023 Annual Recycling Report the tables labeled "Percentage of Recyclable Materials Collected per Facility", "Approximate Percentage of Construction and Demolition Debris Collected and the Receiving Facility", and "Approximate Percentage of Waste delivered to Each Facility" require entries for "Name of Facility", "Name of Receiving Facility", and "Facility Name" (respectively). All of these entry columns have been left blank by Sims. Sims has provided no information as to the name and location of any facilities which have received the various categories of recyclable material. This information is required by the code, and has not been provided.

An annual recycling report also requires information regarding "the approximate percentage of each type or category of recyclable material delivered to each named location" (see Chicago Municipal Code 11-4-2535(a)(3)). While Sims' 2023 Annual Recycling Report contains some figures regarding Gross Tonnage of certain materials collected, there is no information regarding the percentage of each category of material nor to what locations such material was delivered (see Sims' 2023 Annual Recycling Report tables labeled "Percentage of Recyclable Materials Collected per Facility", "Approximate Percentage of Construction and Demolition Debris Collected and the Receiving Facility", and "Approximate Percentage of Waste delivered to Each Facility"). Again this is information required by the code which Sims has failed to provide.

The information referenced above is required by the Chicago Municipal Code and is not optional. The code uses very strong language in saying that "The annual report...shall contain the following data and information..." (see Chicago Municipal Code 11-4-2535(a)). The use of "shall" makes it quite clear that providing each subcategory of information is compulsory. Since Sims has not provided this vital and necessary information required by the code, their 2023 Annual Recycling Report should be considered incomplete.

The Chicago Municipal Code anticipated that a company might submit an incomplete Annual Recycling Report. According to the code, "If a permittee under this section... submits an incomplete annual recycling report, such permittee's permit under this section shall not be renewed by the Department of Public Health until such time that the annual recycling report required under Section 11-4-250 is submitted and is complete." (Chicago Municipal Code 11-4-2520). Again, the use of "shall" requires CDPH to deny the renewal of a Large Recycling

Facility operating permit when an Annual Recycling Report is incomplete. For this reason, CDPH must not renew Sims' Large Recycling Facility operating permit.

-----

**CDPH must deny the Sims Large Recycling Facility operating permit due to lack of the required documentation submitted to other regulatory agencies, which should be contained in the permit application but is not.**

The CDPH Rules for Large Recycling Facilities requires that any documents submitted to other regulatory agencies be included in the Large Recycling Facility permit application and referenced within the permit application. "Documentation submitted to other regulatory agencies, such as the EPA, IEPA, the MWRD, and other City departments, relating to the construction or operation of a waste facility, a Recycling Facility, a discharge source, or an emission source must be included in the application as an Attachment and referenced in the application." (see CDPH Rules for Large Recycling Facilities, Effective June 5, 2020, p 15). The permit application does not reference any documents submitted to other regulatory agencies. The US EPA maintains a website related to data it has received from Sims. "Sims submits monthly reports to EPA with air monitoring, quality assurance, and facility operational data. EPA closely reviews monthly submittals and routinely follows up with Sims as questions arise during EPA's review of the data." (see <https://www.epa.gov/il/sims-metal-management#summary>).

"In response to EPA's request for information, each month, Sims provides EPA with information about hours the shredder is in operation, scrap delivery methods and times, etc."

(see <https://www.epa.gov/il/sims-metal-management#feb2024>).

Additionally, Sims is currently under court supervision related to a 2021 lawsuit with the Illinois Office of the Attorney General. As a part of this suit, Sims is required to submit regular status reports to the court and the AG's office. None of these reports nor any information provided to the US EPA has been included in the Large Recycling Facility permit application or referenced therein as required by CDPH rules. There are doubtless troves of other documentation which Sims has submitted to other regulatory agencies (e.g. Illinois Environmental Protection Agency) which has also not been included in the Sims Large Recycling Facility permit application. As such, the application is incomplete and should not be considered sufficient for CDPH review. CDPH should deny Sims' application based on the incomplete nature of the application and their inability to provide all required information.

At the very least, CDPH should require Sims to submit all required documentation, update their permit application, and make all information public. Without this vital and legally required information, the public cannot properly evaluate and respond to the Sims permit application, rendering the Notice & Comment process ineffective and insufficient.

-----

**Permit Application Deficient**

Section 3.7 of the Rules for Large Recycling Facilities requires the Permit Applicant to provide evidence of payment of property taxes by "providing copies of the most recent tax bill and check" or "by providing a copy of the most recent tax bill that has been stamped paid". While Sims included tax payment documentation in their initial application, they have included no tax payment evidence for taxes paid in 2022, 2023, or 2024 (for tax years 2021, 2022, and 2023 respectively). As such, Sims has not provided the "most recent" tax payment documentation as required by the Rules for Large Recycling Facilities, Section 3.7.

"The application shall include Documentation evidencing the payment of real estate property taxes by providing copies of the most recent tax bill and check; or by providing a copy of the most recent tax bill that has been stamped paid by the Cook County Treasurer's office, or payment receipts issued by said office."(Rules for Large Recycling Facilities, 3.7. Property Taxes)

**Issue a Deficiency Letter to Sims**

Due to the missing items mentioned herein, CDPH should find that Sims' Large Recycling Facility permit application is not complete and has not met all requirements of the Code and the Rules. Sims' application is not complete and should be considered a Deficient Application. Upon receiving a Deficient Application, CDPH is empowered to deny the permit application (see Section 4(a) of the CDPH Guidelines Regarding Permitting Process For Consequential Large Recycling Facilities, Reprocessable Construction/Demolition Material Facilities, and Waste Handling Facilities, July 2022 Update). Alternatively, if CDPH is not inclined to issue a denial to Sims due to the insufficiency of their Deficient Application, at least a request for more information should be issued by CDPH. CDPH is empowered by Section 4(a) of the CDPH Guidelines Regarding Permitting Process For Consequential Large Recycling Facilities (see above) to request additional information from Sims in an effort to close the gaps present in the application which was found deficient. CDPH should require Sims to cure their deficiencies by providing both a written response and supplementary information.

**Issue a Draft Permit for the Public to see and consider**

Sims' Large Recycling Facility permit application is incomplete, deficient, and does not meet all requirements of the Code and Rules. However, if CDPH does not believe that the application is deficient or incomplete, then the significant issues raised through the public comment process should prompt CDPH to first post a Draft Permit. CDPH is empowered to post a Draft Permit for public review and comment by Section 5(a) of the CDPH Guidelines Regarding Permitting Process For Consequential Large Recycling Facilities, Reprocessable Construction/Demolition Material Facilities, and Waste Handling Facilities, July 2022 Update. ("If, however, there are significant issues raised during the public comment period on the application, then, upon finding that the application is complete and meets all requirements of the Code and Rules, CDPH will prepare and post a draft permit on the City's website for public review and comment. Interested members of the

public may submit comments on the draft permit to CDPH") This would allow community feedback about what the parameters of the permit will be, and what General or Special conditions CDPH thinks should be placed upon Sims to ensure public safety.

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### **Issue a Permit with Special Conditions**

If the CDPH does not believe that the previously proposed actions are appropriate the CDPH should at least impose special conditions on any operating permit granted to Sims. The Municipal Code empowers CDPH to impose conditions upon a Large Recycling Facility to protect the health, safety and welfare of city residents. "The Commissioner may impose reasonable permit conditions to protect the public health, safety or welfare of the city." Chicago Municipal Code 11-4-040(e)

CDPH should identify and impose Special Conditions designed to protect the community and its residents from harm and potential harm from the pollution of Sims. CDPH imposed Special Conditions should require Sims to operate in a way which is less injurious to the public health of the children and adults in the nearby community. Some examples of Special Conditions which would benefit the community are:

- Operating hours: Sims should not have expanded operating hours, and the previous "Recycling Facility Hours of Operation WAIVER" should be rescinded and/or allowed to lapse.
- Require efficiency of AG suit: CDPH should obtain the specifics of the agreement reached by Sims and the Illinois Attorney General and incorporate all requirements, prohibitions, and standards required in that agreement as a Special Condition placed upon Sims' operating permit. Any failure to comply with the terms of the agreement will constitute a breach of Sims operating permit and can cause Sims to forfeit said operating permit. Of particular importance is the filtering efficiency required under the agreement for the Air Pollution Control Devices. CDPH should require continual operation of these Air Pollution Control Devices and require that the filtering efficiency contained in the agreement is also the standard at which CDPH requires Sims to produce.
- Keep capacity at current level: Even with increased Air Pollution Control Devices, if Sims is allowed to increase the tonnage they are allowed to process and shred the overall pollution to the surrounding area will increase. The capacity at which Sims is allowed to process should not be increased, and if anything should be reduced to ensure cleaner air for neighborhood residents.
- Pollution control devices must be in regular operation: Sims must not be allowed to install Air Pollution Control Devices and then not utilize them as intended. If Sims is not operating the Air Pollution Control Devices as they were designed, this should be considered a violation of their operating permit.
- Pollution control devices must be adequately maintained: Sims must maintain and keep in working order all Air Pollution Control Devices. If the Air Pollution Control Devices are not functioning for any reason, Sims should be required to cease operations until the Air Pollution Control Devices are restored to regular working order.
- Sims must take all steps necessary for the safe and legal operation of the Air Pollution Control Devices so that the use of the Air Pollution Control Devices is uninterrupted in the regular daily functioning of the facility. Sims should be required to keep up with all legal and regulatory requirements to operate the Air Pollution Control Devices. If the Air Pollution Control Devices are not functioning for any reason, Sims should be required to cease operations until the issue has been resolved and the Air Pollution Control Devices can again be utilized.
- No shredding activities on days in which ambient air quality is already at a dangerous level (ex. March 2023 Canadian Wildfires). With issues caused by climate change as well as certain severe weather events, there will be certain days in which Chicago's ambient air quality is very poor. CDPH should require that on such days Sims does not engage in metal shredding on those days.

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### **Issue a short term permit**

If CDPH does not think Sims should be denied an operating permit, CDPH should consider issuing a short term permit. CDPH is empowered to issue a Large Recycling Facility operating permit for a term not exceeding three years. However, CDPH may issue an operating permit for a shorter term. The Air Pollution Control Devices required by the AG suit are slated to be installed and operational in fall of 2024. Once these controls are in place Sims will have to show that the machinery is operating at the efficiency level required by the terms of the agreement. If Sims fails to meet this standard they should not enjoy the continued use of an operating permit which will extend for three years (from issuance). A short term permit is appropriate in this case so that CDPH can better monitor Sims' activities and whether or not they are able to get the Air Pollution Control Devices to work at the efficiency required.

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### Issues raised during the 6.21.2024 Public Meeting.

#### **The Air Dispersion Modeling Report is Flawed**

The Air Dispersion Modeling Report was created by making assumptions about the performance of the "future emission control system". However the actual efficiency of the system is unknown and has not been tested. CDPH should require actual data on the efficiency of the Air Pollution Controls when all Air Pollution Controls are installed and in working order.

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#### **EPA's Conclusion is unsupported, offers no evidence or analysis, and does not properly assess health risks to the community**

The conclusion from the EPA that "emissions from Sims would not cause either short- or long-term health effects for the community near the facility" is conclusory and does not provide any specific evidence or analysis to show how this conclusion was reached. If the EPA has come to this conclusion, they should submit a detailed report which cites the particular data used, the methods employed, and the analysis which leads to the conclusion. The brief paragraph posted on the EPA website is merely conclusory and should not be considered by the CDPH. Additionally, EPA qualifies their position by saying they adopt the conclusion only "if monitoring data collected over the last year represent typical levels". There has been no evidence that this does represent typical levels. The monitoring data should be compared with the data about how much material was processed by the shredder on any given day. Sims is allowed to shred 3,000 gross tonnes of material

per day, however if they have limited their daily capacity during the past year of air monitoring so that the particulate in the air would not exceed standards, this should not be considered what the "typical levels" of air pollution would be. (e.g. If Sims is allowed under their permit to shred 3000 gross tonnes of material per day, but has limited daily shredding to 1000 gross tonnes of material per day during air monitoring this will not show what air pollution levels will be when they reach their allowable limit of 3000 gross tonnes of material per day.

EPA also claims that they were able to reach their conclusion that the community will not see any negative short- or long-term health effects by comparing "monitoring results to current health benchmarks. This does not constitute a proper Risk Assessment, is methodologically flawed, does not differentiate between adults and children, and utilizes no localized or community specific factors. For these reasons the conclusion reached by EPA should be disregarded by CDPH. EPA was also silent on the impact of Sims being located in close proximity to multiple schools and what role this factor might play in the risk calculation for children living or attending school in the area.

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Comment submitted on behalf of Brian McKeon and the community organization Lucha por la Villita.



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
CITY OF CHICAGO

November 30, 2018

Ms. Deborah Hays  
Metal Management Midwest Inc  
2500 S. Paulina  
Chicago, Illinois 60608

**Subject: City of Chicago Class IVB Recycling Facility Permit (ENVREC104577)  
Metal Management Midwest, Inc – 2500 S Paulina St  
Effective date: 11/16/2018 to 11/15/2021**

Dear Ms. Hays,


A permit is hereby granted by the City of Chicago Department of Public Health (“CDPH”) to Metal Management Midwest Inc. dba Sims Metal Management (“the Permittee”) to operate a Class IVB Recycling Facility located within the corporate limits of the City of Chicago at 2500 S Paulina St (“the Facility”).

Please carefully review all conditions outlined in this permit. Incorporated into this permit by reference are the following: 1) the application dated September 10, 2018 (“the Application”); and 2) all other supplemental information submitted as part of this application including drawings, sheets, and specifications. In the event of a conflict with said references, the terms and conditions of this permit shall prevail.

The Permittee shall fully comply with Article XX, Chapter 11-4 of the Municipal Code of Chicago (“[the Ordinance](#)”) and the Recycling Facility Rules and Regulations (“[the Regulations](#)”). The Permittee shall also fully comply with the Standard Conditions outlined in Attachment A and the Special Conditions outlined in Attachment B of this permit.

This permit allows for the operation of the Facility from 11/16/2018 through 11/15/2021 upon which time the permit shall terminate by its own terms. On or before 11/15/2021, the Permittee may apply to the CDPH for a new operating permit for the following year. If a subsequent operating permit is applied for on or before 11/21/2018, this permit shall remain in effect until the CDPH acts on the pending permit application. If you have any questions concerning this permit, please contact me at (312) 745-3136.

Sincerely,

  
Renante U  
Marante  
2018.11.30  
08:04:08 -06'00'

Renante Marante  
Environmental Engineer III

## 11-4-2535 Annual report required.

(a) Any person who requires a permit under Section 11-4-2520 to operate or maintain a recycling facility shall submit to the Commissioner a written annual report summarizing all recycling activities occurring at the facility during each calendar year. The annual report required under this section shall be submitted by such person to the department no later than February 28th of each year, following the calendar year to which such report relates. Such report shall contain the following data and information:

- (1) the full name and business address of the recycling facility;
  - (2) the full name, business telephone number and e-mail address of a responsible person to contact regarding the content of any written report submitted under this section;
  - (3) the tonnage of all recyclable materials per material type or category, collected by the permittee during the applicable reporting period; the approximate percentage of each type or category of recyclable material collected by the permittee; the name and location to which each type or category of recyclable material was delivered; and the approximate percentage of each type or category of recyclable material delivered to each named location;
  - (4) if applicable, the tonnage of all municipal solid waste collected by the permittee during the applicable reporting period; the name and location to which the municipal solid waste was delivered; and the approximate percentage of municipal solid waste delivered to each named location;
  - (5) if applicable, the tonnage of all construction and demolition debris, per material type or category, collected by the permittee during the applicable reporting period; the approximate percentage of each type or category of construction and demolition debris collected by the permittee; the name and location of the facility to which each type or category of construction and demolition debris was delivered; and the approximate percentage of each type or category of construction or demolition debris delivered to each named location; and
  - (6) any other information that the Commissioner may require to implement the requirements of this chapter.
- (b) Penalties imposed for violations of this section shall be as provided in Section 11-4-030 of this Code.

(Added Coun. J. 11-5-93, p. 40151; Corrected. Coun. J. 4-13-93, p. 49112; Amend Coun. J. 10-7-98, p. 78812; Amend Coun. J. 4-9-08, p. 24657, § 6; Amend Coun. J. 7-20-16, p. 28694, § 6; Amend Coun. J. 11-15-23, p. 6542, Art. V, § 15)



## 11-4-2520 Permit – Required.

No person shall engage in the business of operating a recycling facility in the City of Chicago without having first obtained a written recycling facility permit from the Commissioner. Recycling facilities requiring a permit under this section shall comply with this article, the rules promulgated hereunder, the permit and its conditions and any other applicable laws and ordinances. Each permit shall be renewed in accordance with the rules adopted by the Commissioner, but in no case shall the permit be for longer than three years.

No initial recycling facility permit shall be issued for any class of recycling facility set forth in Section 11-4-2540 unless the activity for which a permit under this section is required is a permitted or special use within the zoning district where such facility will be authorized to operate.

If a permittee under this section fails to submit in a timely manner the annual recycling report required under Section 11-4-250 or submits an incomplete annual recycling report, such permittee's permit under this section shall not be renewed by the Department of Public Health until such time that the annual recycling report required under Section 11-4-250 is submitted and is complete.

(Coun. J. 12-9-92, p. 25465; Amend Coun. J. 10-7-98, p. 78812; Amend Coun. J. 4-9-08, p. 24657, § 6; Amend Coun. J. 2-9-11, p. 112149, § 15; Amend Coun. J. 7-20-16, p. 28694, § 5; Amend Coun. J. 10-27-21, p. 39543, Art. VI, § 2)

### 3. **Application Requirements for a Large Recycling Facility Permit**

A Large Recycling Facility must apply for and receive a permit in accordance with these rules as follows:

- A New Facility must receive a permit before beginning operations;
- An Expanding Facility must receive a permit for the Expansion before beginning construction or otherwise implementing the Expansion;
- A Modifying Facility must receive a permit amendment before beginning any Modification; and
- An Existing Facility must renew its permit every three years before the expiration of its current permit.

Permit applications shall contain Documentation sufficient to Demonstrate that the Facility is designed and will be operated in a manner that protects public health, safety, and the environment. Documentation submitted to other regulatory agencies, such as the EPA, IEPA, the MWRD, and other City departments, relating to the construction or operation of a waste facility, a Recycling Facility, a discharge source, or an emission source must be included in the application as an Attachment and referenced in the application. Pursuant to 11-4-310 of the Code, the Applicant may request the Department to treat with confidentiality any information the Applicant deems a Trade Secret or containing Confidential Business Information.

The application requirements and contents for a Large Recycling Facility are described below and summarized in Appendix A.

#### 3.1. Professional Engineer

The permit application shall be prepared under the direction of and shall contain the name, address, registration number, seal, and signature of, a Professional Engineer (“PE”). A PE stamp is not required on subsequent renewal applications if no Modification or Expansion is being proposed by the Applicant.

#### 3.2. Submission Format

The Applicant must submit the entire application electronically in a portable document format (.pdf) file format or in another format approved by CDPH.

### 3.3. Description of Operations

Provide a brief description of the Operator's business and the operations that currently or will take place at the Facility.

### 3.4. Applicant Summary

The application shall contain an Applicant summary that clearly identifies the Person applying for the permit. In the case of a sole-proprietorship, the application shall include the name, address, and phone number of the owner of the proprietorship or, in the case of a partnership or corporation, the application shall include the name, address, contact name, and phone number of the partnership or corporation.

### 3.5. Facility and Property Summary

The application shall include a Facility and Property summary containing the following:

- a. The Facility's street address and telephone number;
- b. The Facility's and the Property's Property Index Numbers (PINs);
- c. A description of other operations by the Operator occurring at the Property outside the scope of the recycling permit, if any; and
- d. A list of businesses, other than the Applicant, that are operating on the Property, if any.

### 3.6. Property Owner's Authorization

The application shall include a notarized letter, signed by the Owner, authorizing the Operator to use the Property as a Large Recycling Facility. This letter is required even if the Applicant is the Owner.

### 3.7. Property Taxes

The application shall include Documentation evidencing the payment of real estate property taxes by providing copies of the most recent tax bill and check; or by providing a copy of the most recent tax bill that has been stamped paid by the Cook County Treasurer's office, or payment receipts issued by said office.

interest in the application, CDPH will schedule a community meeting within the **thirty (30) day** comment period referenced above to explain the permitting process, allow the applicant to present the proposed facility and operations, and hear any local feedback or concerns. CDPH will provide at least **ten (10) business days'** notice of the community meeting. Notices for waste handling and reprocessible construction/demolition material ("C/D material") facilities will be posted in accordance with the [Rules of Procedure for Notice of Hearings](#).

(c) To help ensure a meaningful sharing of information, CDPH requests that public comments on the application address whether or not the application meets all applicable requirements in the Code and relevant underlying rules ("Rules"), and that they be as concrete and specific as possible.

### **(3) Permit Application Review, Review of Public Comments on Application, Completeness Determination.**

**No sooner than five (5) days and no later than thirty (30) days** from the end of the public comment period on the application, CDPH will review the public comments and complete a review of the application per the standards set forth in the Code and Rules. Within this same time period, CDPH will make a determination regarding whether the application is complete and meets all requirements of the Code and Rules.

### **(4) Deficient Application.**

(a) If, within **sixty (60) days** of posting of the application or any supplemental application<sup>3</sup>, CDPH finds any deficiency in the application, CDPH may either **deny the permit** or **request more information**, depending on the extent of the deficiencies. If CDPH has questions during its review of the application, CDPH may notify the applicant and request a written response, supplementary information, or both, as deficiencies are identified. CDPH will post each such notification on the City's website. Within **ten (10) business days** from receipt of the applicant's response, CDPH will post the response (minus any designated CBI) on the City's website. Each posting of a supplemental application will trigger a new thirty (30) day written comment period.

(b) If, after reviewing all of the applicant's responses, CDPH finds that the application is still incomplete or does not meet all requirements, CDPH will either notify the applicant of the remaining deficiencies and provide a final opportunity to remedy them, or will issue a permit denial letter, depending on the nature and extent of the deficiencies. If the permit is denied, the applicant will be informed of the appeal process per Code requirements.

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<sup>3</sup> As used in these Guidelines, a "supplemental application" is a revised application submitted in response to an inquiry or deficiency letter from CDPH.

## **(5) Draft Permit and Public Comments on Draft Permit.**

(a) If, within **sixty (60) days** of posting of the application or supplemental application, CDPH finds that the application is complete and meets all requirements of the Code and Rules, and if there were not significant issues raised during the public comment period on the application, then CDPH will proceed with permit issuance.

If, however, there are significant issues raised during the public comment period on the application, then, upon finding that the application is complete and meets all requirements of the Code and Rules, CDPH will prepare and post a draft permit on the City's website for public review and comment. Interested members of the public may submit comments on the draft permit to CDPH through [envcomments@cityofchicago.org](mailto:envcomments@cityofchicago.org). CDPH requests that public comments address whether or not the draft permit meets all applicable requirements in the Code and Rules, and that they be as concrete and specific as possible.

(b) If a draft permit is issued, CDPH will accept and consider written public comments on the draft permit for **thirty (30) days** from posting of the draft permit.

## **(6) Permit Issuance and Summary Document.**

(a) Within **thirty (30) days** of the close of the public comment period on the draft permit, CDPH will review all public comments and will make any necessary adjustments to the draft permit. If all requirements for permit issuance are met, CDPH will finalize the permit and proceed with permit issuance. In addition, as soon as practicable following a review of the public comments, CDPH will prepare a response document that summarizes the comments received during the public comment periods (both written and expressed verbally at the community meeting, if one is held) and describes the basis for CDPH's decision regarding the permit application and issuance of the permit.

If, however, CDPH determines that all requirements for permit issuance are not met, CDPH will either request supplemental information from the applicant (following the process described above) or else will issue a permit denial letter and inform the applicant of the appeal process provided in the Code.

(b) If a permit is issued, the final permit and response summary document will be posted on the City's website when the permit is issued or shortly thereafter.

## **(7) Timeframes for Permit Decisions**


(a) For waste handling facilities, the Commissioner will render a decision on the application within the timeframes set forth under Section 11-4-1660 of the Ordinance.

## Comment regarding the SIMS application for permit 2024

Gail Selleck <

Wed 6/26/2024 11:22 AM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

 1 attachments (22 KB)

SIMSapplicationforpermit.docx;

[Warning: External email]

To Whom It May Concern:

Attached are my comments regarding SIMS Metal Management application permit. I exhort the City of Chicago to decline a permit for SIMS to operate in the City of Chicago.

Thank you,

Gail Selleg

June 26, 2024

To the Chicago Department of Public Health

Re: SIMS Metal Shredding @ 2500 S Paulina, Chicago, IL 60608

[Envcomments@cityofchicago.org](mailto:Envcomments@cityofchicago.org)

To Whom It May Concern:

I regret not being able to attend the June 21, 2024 meeting at St. Pius in the Pilsen neighborhood. I have started to review documents regarding the application process for SIMS Metal Management at 2500 S Paulina St, Chicago, IL 60608. I am writing none the less and hope my comments may help in stopping SIMS from renewing their permit.

The most egregious part of SIMS location on Paulina is that they operate in very close proximity to (3) three public parks. SIMS is across from The **Canalport Riverwalk**, address 2900 S Ashland Ave, Chicago, IL 60608. SIMS is not supposed to be operating within (660) six hundred sixty feet of a park. I think SIMS is closer to the Canalport Riverwalk than this, especially if you consider that they probably have a variance to operate on the easement next to the South Branch of the Chicago River. They also use large cranes to move the shredded metal over the river and into the barges they use for transport. The barges on the river are docked one and sometimes two, next to each other into the river. With the materials and operations extending into the river, they are even closer to the Riverwalk, closer to the people, the naturalized area, animals, fishing stands for the fisherman. Please, I exhort you to have a surveyor measure these distances accurately. There have been fishing tournaments held at this park in the past. I don't believe there are any tournaments happening currently. There is a sign in the park describing the public art in the park and reads as follows: "The images on this public artwork and mosaic planter symbolize community members' hopes for a future with cleaner air and water, a restored Chicago River ecosystem and greater local access to the riverfront". The sign has a logo for Earth Chicago with website earthchicago.org. A statement next to the logo reads as follows: "E(art)H Chicago is a citywide community-based art initiative to raise awareness, create dialogue and inspire action on climate change, natural resource use and environmental justice". There also is the acronym and logo for the ISEIF, the Illinois Science & Energy Innovation Foundation. There was just a festival June 8, 2024 at the Canalport Riverwalk. See the - <https://www.choosechicago.com/event/the-backward-river-festival-damen-silo-city/> Text of the article follows for your consideration and convenience:

“JUN 8

## FESTIVALS, FAIRS & SPECIAL EVENTS

The Backward River Festival: Damen Silo City

The Freshwater Lab at the University of Illinois Chicago will host “The Backward River Festival: Damen Silo City” ...to celebrate the efforts and achievements of environmental justice advocates and artists who live and/or work around the Damen Silos... and highlight alternative community visions for redevelopment, design and integration.... More information about the festival will be made available on [The Freshwater Lab website](#) and its social media channels. In the meantime, please email your questions to [thefreshwaterlab@gmail.com](mailto:thefreshwaterlab@gmail.com).

<https://www.facebook.com/FreshwaterLab/> “

(end of article)

The next park across the Ashland Bridge is the historic **Canal Origins Park @ 2701 S Ashland Ave**. This area on the river is used for fishing and has been restored with native plants. I met Javier Rodarte who has been fishing at The Canalport Riverwalk and Canal Origins Park since 1998. He used to work in at a steel company and Midway Wire. He said he does not fish at Canalport Riverwalk anymore because it is too close to SIMS. You can “smelled the metal being cut up”. It reminded him of the smells at the steel company and Midway Wire. He now fishes at Canal Origins Park because “there are more fish here on this side (east side) of Ashland Ave and it is less dusty”. Another proud fisherman is Enrique Bahena who has been fishing at Canal Origins Park since he was fourteen. He still comes there two times a week for recreation and is now twenty-seven. I see there are new “islands” of vegetation just off the shore of Canal Origins Park. It’s good to see that people are interested in increasing the green space here. I have heard these islands attract river otters and help take carbon dioxide out of the air during photosynthesis process of the plants.

The third park on the South Branch of the river just across the street from Canal Origins Park is **Park 571 aka the Eleanor Street Boathouse park**. Crew boats are stored at the facility. “The Eleanor Boathouse is home to several [rowing teams, clubs, and organizations](#) that brave the Chicago River nearly year-round to train for competitions”. I watched as three full boats of teenagers from St. Ignatius High School practiced and raced in an area of the river, “the site’s distinct turning basin”. Do the parents of these kids realize they are exercising close to a metal shredding company? I don’t know. “the city works to transform the long-polluted and neglected river into its next recreational frontier, the boathouse invites communities on the South Side and throughout the city to share in the river’s continued ecological and infrastructural revitalization”. The boathouse was designed by world-renowned Jeanne Gang, architect for the award-winning “Aqua” building east of Michigan Avenue and the boathouse was made with the “goal of introducing more residents to rowing and restoring riverfront property that had been contaminated for years”. The Boathouse cost \$8.8 million dollars to build. Most of the money was privately funded. Some came from Chicago TIF funds. The city should continue on it’s goal to rid the city of contamination by declining SIM’s application for a new permit. (all quotes in this paragraph are from



the following: the WTTW website, **Studio Gang's \$9M Bridgeport Boathouse Wins River Org's Top Award**

[Alex Ruppenthal](#) | June 8, 2018 “

More private businesses have moved in that cater to recreation on the South Branch of the Chicago River. The first is a business that rents kayaks to on the South Fork of the South Branch of the Chicago River that connects to the turn basin by Park 571. The other is the “Chicago Yacht Works” @ 2550 S Ashland Ave that stores yachts and sailboats in the wintered. Their property is directly adjacent to SIMS on the river. Cogle Foods @ 2801 S Ashland has a bike path behind it's building and next to the Chicago River. They have recycling garbage cans and even have bird feeders on their property.

So, with all of these parks and initiatives to improve the ecology of the South Branch of the Chicago River, what on earth is a metal shredding company doing right next to it? It's time to have SIMS move out. Hopefully the land at 2500 S. Paulina can be decontaminated and used to house something completely different. How about a dog park for Pilsen, a BMX bike racing course, a company that can create a park for kids like “The Forge” in Lemont. Our kids need places to go, exercise and stay out of trouble. I suggest the city work to bring in these types of companies that build up our citizens, physically and mentally.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please feel free to reach me if I can be of any assistance. I will follow up this letter with pictures of SIMS and the parks I have mentioned.

Thank you,

Gail Selleg

**Deny the permit!!!**

emily kramer < >

Fri 6/28/2024 11:13 AM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

[Warning: External email]

CDPH denied a large recycling facility permit to Southside Recycling due to the potential health risks to the southeast side community, even though Southside Recycling's shredder was built to contain nearly all emissions from the shredding process. Meanwhile, CDPH has been allowing Sims to continue operating for years with no pollution controls. Does CDPH not care about the people of Pilsen? Does CDPH not realize that Pilsen has 3 schools within a half mile of Sims or that the area around Sims is 70 times more densely populated than the area around Southside Recycling? The only conclusion to be drawn from these facts is that the people of Pilsen don't matter to CDPH nearly as much as the people of the Southeast side.

## Compliance History of Sims

emily kramer <

Fri 6/28/2024 11:14 AM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

[Warning: External email]

Section 4.0 of the City of Chicago Department of Public Health Rules and Regulations for Recycling states as follows:

Before granting a new permit or renewing an existing permit for any recycling facility, the Commissioner will conduct an evaluation of the applicant's prior experience in recycling or junk facility operations or other waste handling operations. The Commissioner may deny or refuse to renew a permit if the evaluation shows that:

(1) the applicant, or any owner or officer of the applicant, or any person having control of applicant or any of its operations, has, within the past three years, violated any federal, state, or local laws, regulations, standards, permit conditions, or ordinances in the operation of any junk facility, recycling facility, or any other type of waste or recyclable materials handling facility or site, including, but not limited to, the operation of a junk, recycling, or waste handling facility without required permits; or

(2) conditions at a previously permitted site or facility, existing at any time during the pendency of the Department's review of a permit renewal application, pose a material threat to continued compliance with any of the laws, regulations, standards, permit conditions, or ordinances identified in subsection (1) above. For purposes of this section, the phrase "material threat to continued compliance" shall mean analytical data, facility records, instrument readings, laboratory results, or photographic evidence sufficient to establish a prima facie showing of a violation(s) of any of the laws, regulations, standards, permit conditions, or ordinances identified in subsection (1) above.

If the Commissioner denies (or refuses to renew) any permit under this section, the Department shall transmit to the applicant, in accordance with the notice provisions in section 11-4-040(b), a written statement as to the reasons the permit application was denied.

For purposes of this regulation, violations committed by an entity may be attributed to any person having ownership or control of the entity or any of its operations.

In the case of Sims Large Recycling Facility (LRF) Permit application, CDPH should be considering violations going back more than three years given their horrendous compliance history going back decades, not just at their Pilsen facility but at many other facilities owned and operated by Sims around the country. Nevertheless, CDPH should at least look back three years from the date that Sims submitted their application for an LRF Permit, or the date that the facility's Class IVB Recycling Permit expired, both of which occurred in November 2021. After all, CDPH should certainly not be allowed to delay acting on Sims' LRF Permit application for the last two and a half years and then only consider violations committed by Sims within the three years prior to today, or some future randomly selected date.


## SIMS Metal Shredding comments regarding stopping SIM from gaining a new permit

Gail Selleck < >

Sat 6/29/2024 3:46 AM

To:envcomments <envcomments@cityofchicago.org>

Cc:State Representative Theresa Mah <rep.theresamah@gmail.com>

 1 attachments (22 KB)

SIMSapplicationforpermit.docx;

[Warning: External email]

To Whom it may concern in the permitting department and the Chicago's Department of Public Health. Enclosed are my comments regarding stopping SIMS metal from obtaining a new permit to operate in Pilsen. I figure this is better late than never. There are many scientific reasons to stop the permitting process. The geographic location of SIMS seems to violate how close it is to the Canalport Riverwalk park. A simple survey of the distance between SIMS and the park will show if it violates being under six hundred sixty feet from a park. With cranes hanging over the river to transfer shredded metal into the barges for transport down the river, the operating distance from SIMS proves to be even closer to the park.

Please see the attached documents of comments. Like I mention, my comments are better late than never and I hope they will be considered.

Thank you,

Gail Selleg

June 26, 2024

To the Chicago Department of Public Health

Re: SIMS Metal Shredding @ 2500 S Paulina, Chicago, IL 60608

[Envcomments@cityofchicago.org](mailto:Envcomments@cityofchicago.org)

To Whom It May Concern:

I regret not being able to attend the June 21, 2024 meeting at St. Pius in the Pilsen neighborhood. I have started to review documents regarding the application process for SIMS Metal Management at 2500 S Paulina St, Chicago, IL 60608. I am writing none the less and hope my comments may help in stopping SIMS from renewing their permit.

The most egregious part of SIMS location on Paulina is that they operate in very close proximity to (3) three public parks. SIMS is across from The **Canalport Riverwalk**, address 2900 S Ashland Ave, Chicago, IL 60608. SIMS is not supposed to be operating within (660) six hundred sixty feet of a park. I think SIMS is closer to the Canalport Riverwalk than this, especially if you consider that they probably have a variance to operate on the easement next to the South Branch of the Chicago River. They also use large cranes to move the shredded metal over the river and into the barges they use for transport. The barges on the river are docked one and sometimes two, next to each other into the river. With the materials and operations extending into the river, they are even closer to the Riverwalk, closer to the people, the naturalized area, animals, fishing stands for the fisherman. Please, I exhort you to have a surveyor measure these distances accurately. There have been fishing tournaments held at this park in the past. I don't believe there are any tournaments happening currently. There is a sign in the park describing the public art in the park and reads as follows: "The images on this public artwork and mosaic planter symbolize community members' hopes for a future with cleaner air and water, a restored Chicago River ecosystem and greater local access to the riverfront". The sign has a logo for Earth Chicago with website earthchicago.org. A statement next to the logo reads as follows: "E(art)H Chicago is a citywide community-based art initiative to raise awareness, create dialogue and inspire action on climate change, natural resource use and environmental justice". There also is the acronym and logo for the ISEIF, the Illinois Science & Energy Innovation Foundation. There was just a festival June 8, 2024 at the Canalport Riverwalk. See the - <https://www.choosechicago.com/event/the-backward-river-festival-damen-silo-city/> Text of the article follows for your consideration and convenience:

“JUN 8

## FESTIVALS, FAIRS & SPECIAL EVENTS

The Backward River Festival: Damen Silo City

The Freshwater Lab at the University of Illinois Chicago will host “The Backward River Festival: Damen Silo City” ...to celebrate the efforts and achievements of environmental justice advocates and artists who live and/or work around the Damen Silos... and highlight alternative community visions for redevelopment, design and integration.... More information about the festival will be made available on [The Freshwater Lab website](#) and its social media channels. In the meantime, please email your questions to [thefreshwaterlab@gmail.com](mailto:thefreshwaterlab@gmail.com).

<https://www.facebook.com/FreshwaterLab/> “

(end of article)

The next park across the Ashland Bridge is the historic **Canal Origins Park @ 2701 S Ashland Ave**. This area on the river is used for fishing and has been restored with native plants. I met Javier Rodarte who has been fishing at The Canalport Riverwalk and Canal Origins Park since 1998. He used to work in at a steel company and Midway Wire. He said he does not fish at Canalport Riverwalk anymore because it is too close to SIMS. You can “smelled the metal being cut up”. It reminded him of the smells at the steel company and Midway Wire. He now fishes at Canal Origins Park because “there are more fish here on this side (east side) of Ashland Ave and it is less dusty”. Another proud fisherman is Enrique Bahena who has been fishing at Canal Origins Park since he was fourteen. He still comes there two times a week for recreation and is now twenty-seven. I see there are new “islands” of vegetation just off the shore of Canal Origins Park. It’s good to see that people are interested in increasing the green space here. I have heard these islands attract river otters and help take carbon dioxide out of the air during photosynthesis process of the plants.

The third park on the South Branch of the river just across the street from Canal Origins Park is **Park 571 aka the Eleanor Street Boathouse park**. Crew boats are stored at the facility. “The Eleanor Boathouse is home to several [rowing teams, clubs, and organizations](#) that brave the Chicago River nearly year-round to train for competitions”. I watched as three full boats of teenagers from St. Ignatius High School practiced and raced in an area of the river, “the site’s distinct turning basin”. Do the parents of these kids realize they are exercising close to a metal shredding company? I don’t know. “the city works to transform the long-polluted and neglected river into its next recreational frontier, the boathouse invites communities on the South Side and throughout the city to share in the river’s continued ecological and infrastructural revitalization”. The boathouse was designed by world-renowned Jeanne Gang, architect for the award-winning “Aqua” building east of Michigan Avenue and the boathouse was made with the “goal of introducing more residents to rowing and restoring riverfront property that had been contaminated for years”. The Boathouse cost \$8.8 million dollars to build. Most of the money was privately funded. Some came from Chicago TIF funds. The city should continue on it’s goal to rid the city of contamination by declining SIM’s application for a new permit. (all quotes in this paragraph are from





**SEA** Southwest Environmental Alliance

Para: [chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo](http://chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo)  
Fecha: 12 de junio de 2024  
Re: NO permiso para Sims Metal Management

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Me opongo porque:

- Sims tuvo que ser demandado por el fiscal general, después de violar 40 leyes ambientales, para obligarlos a obedecer la ley.
- Sims violaron la ley y no deberían tener más derechos que los residentes que obedecen la ley.
- Tenemos derecho a saber, con datos actuales, qué riesgos para la salud provoca Sims. La ciudad de Chicago no ha dado esa información a la gente de Pilsen.
- Los niños están en riesgo. Hay más de 3.000 niños en escuelas cercanas a Sims que se ven afectados por la contaminación. Ésa es una alta prioridad.
- Altos niveles de contaminantes están registrando los monitores de la Escuela Primaria Pérez. Creemos que Sims es uno de los contribuyentes. Demuestre que no lo son.
- Sims enviaron la solicitud en 2021. Solicite a Sims que envíen una nueva solicitud DESPUÉS de haber instalado el sistema de control y haber demostrado que reduce las emisiones.
- Estoy cansado/a de oler los malos olores de Sims y respirar el aire lleno de polvo de Sims. También estoy cansado/a de los muchos camiones en Blue Island Avenue.
- Nuestra comunidad debe ser tratada de manera justa. No deberíamos ser el basurero de contaminadores como Sims.
- Otros comentarios:

Nombre



Domicilio

Correo electrónico





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To: chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo
Date: June 12, 2024
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I oppose any consideration of a permit until they have installed the control system the court has demanded they do. Once it is installed, the city must wait until it is proven to the community that it is working and effectively reducing emissions.

I am opposed because:

- checkbox Sims had to be sued by the Attorney General, after they violated 40 environmental laws, to force them to obey the law.
checkbox Sims violated the law and should not have more rights than residents who obey the law.
checkbox We have the right to know, with current data, what health risks are caused by Sims. The City of Chicago has not given that information to the people of Pilsen.
checkbox Children are at risk. There are over 3,000 children in schools near Sims being affected by their pollution. That is a high priority.
checkbox High levels of pollutants are registering from monitors at Perez Elementary School. We believe Sims is one of the contributors. Prove they are not.
checkbox Sims submitted the application in 2021. Please require Sims to submit a new application AFTER they have installed the control system and have proven it reduces emissions.
checkbox I am tired of smelling bad smells from Sims and breathing the air full of dust from Sims. I am also tired of the many trucks on Blue Island Avenue.
checkbox Our community should be treated fairly. We should not be the garbage can for polluters like Sims.
checkbox Other Comments:

Name [Handwritten Signature]

Address [Redacted]

Email \_\_\_\_\_



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- Checkboxes with reasons for opposition: Sims had to be sued by the Attorney General... Sims violated the law... We have the right to know... Children are at risk... High levels of pollutants... Sims submitted the application in 2021... I am tired to smelling bad smells... Our community should be treated fairly... Other Comments:

Signature: NABIBE Aboelkass

Redacted address

Email



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Otros comentarios:

Sims debe de reducir los altos niveles de contaminación y después que hayan instalado todo lo necesario para reducir estos riesgos y demuestren que ya no contaminan porque reciben el permiso para operar.

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Handwritten signature: Alfredo Alfaro

Redacted address

Redacted email

Handwritten mark



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Maria Repeda A

Nombre

[Redacted]

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Handwritten text: THE POLLUTION AROUND SIMS IS SEEN WHEN YOU PASS BY. THE FLOOR OF OUR STREETS ARE FULL OF DUST AND DIRT FROM SIMS. YOU CAN SEE THE TIRE MARKS COME FROM THEIR TRUCKS. THE AIR IS BAD BECAUSE YOU CAN SEE THE WATER TRUCK SPRAY SOME TIMES.

Name: PATRICIA REYES Address: [Redacted]

Email: [Redacted]





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- 10 checkboxes with corresponding text: Sims had to be sued by the Attorney General... Sims violated the law... We have the right to know... Children are at risk... High levels of pollutants... Sims submitted the application in 2021... I am tired to smelling bad smells... Our community should be treated fairly... Other Comments:

Name: MARY GALAN

Address: [Redacted]

Email: [Redacted]

[Redacted]



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- Other Comments:

*Martín A. Lopez*  
Name

[Redacted]  
Address

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Email





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Otros comentarios:

Handwritten text: YA BASTA Fuera de Nuestra Area por el bien de Nuestras FAMILIAS...

Handwritten name: Ramon ANAYA

Redacted address area

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Handwritten signature: Maria E. Arciniega

Name

Address

Email



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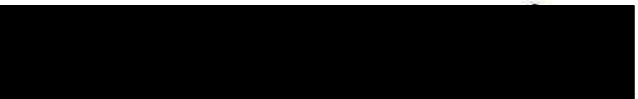
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Nombre



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Marc Kjerland
Name

[Redacted]
Address

[Redacted]
Email



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Joel Moreno  
Nombre

  
Domicilio

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- Sims tuvo que ser demandado por el fiscal general, después de violar 40 leyes ambientales, para obligarlos a obedecer la ley.
- Sims violaron la ley y no deberían tener más derechos que los residentes que obedecen la ley.
- Tenemos derecho a saber, con datos actuales, qué riesgos para la salud provoca Sims. La ciudad de Chicago no ha dado esa información a la gente de Pilsen.
- Los niños están en riesgo. Hay más de 3.000 niños en escuelas cercanas a Sims que se ven afectados por la contaminación. Ésa es una alta prioridad.
- Altos niveles de contaminantes están registrando los monitores de la Escuela Primaria Pérez. Creemos que Sims es uno de los contribuyentes. Demuestre que no lo son.
- Sims enviaron la solicitud en 2021. Solicite a Sims que envíen una nueva solicitud DESPUÉS de haber instalado el sistema de control y haber demostrado que reduce las emisiones.
- Estoy cansado/a de oler los malos olores de Sims y respirar el aire lleno de polvo de Sims. También estoy cansado/a de los muchos camiones en Blue Island Avenue.
- Nuestra comunidad debe ser tratada de manera justa. No deberíamos ser el basurero de contaminadores como Sims.
- Otros comentarios:

Araceli Saucedo

Nombre

[Redacted]

Domicilio

Correo electrónico



**SEA** Southwest Environmental Alliance

Para: [chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo](http://chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo)  
Fecha: 12 de junio de 2024  
Re: NO permiso para Sims Metal Management

**Me opongo a que Sims Metal Management reciba un permiso que, entiendo, está siendo considerado por usted. Apoyo la cancelación de la audiencia pública del 21 de junio.**

Me opongo a cualquier consideración de un permiso hasta que hayan instalado el sistema de control que el tribunal les ha exigido. Una vez instalado, la ciudad debe esperar hasta que se le demuestre a la comunidad que está funcionando y reduciendo efectivamente las emisiones.

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Sims enviaron la solicitud en 2021. Solicite a Sims que envíen una nueva solicitud DESPUÉS de haber instalado el sistema de control y haber demostrado que reduce las emisiones.

Estoy cansado/a de oler los malos olores de Sims y respirar el aire lleno de polvo de Sims. También estoy cansado/a de los muchos camiones en Blue Island Avenue.

Nuestra comunidad debe ser tratada de manera justa. No deberíamos ser el basurero de contaminadores como Sims.

Otros comentarios:

Sims is making people in this community sick

Nayeli Chavez  
Nombre

[Redacted]  
Domicilio

[Redacted]  
Correo electrónico





SEA Southwest Environmental Alliance

Para: [chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo](http://chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo)  
Fecha: 12 de junio de 2024  
Re: NO permiso para Sims Metal Management

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- Otros comentarios:

Jesus Duarte  
Nombre

[Redacted]  
Domicilio

[Redacted]  
Correo electrónico



SEA Southwest Environmental Alliance

To: chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo
Date: June 12, 2024
Re: NO permit for Sims Metal Management

I am opposed to Sims Metal Management receiving a permit which I understand is being considered by you. I support cancelling the June 21st Public Hearing.

I oppose any consideration of a permit until they have installed the control system the court has demanded they do. Once it is installed, the city must wait until it is proven to the community that it is working and effectively reducing emissions.

I am opposed because:

- 8 checked boxes with reasons: Sims had to be sued by the Attorney General, Sims violated the law, right to know, children at risk, pollutants at school, application in 2021, bad smells, community fairness. 1 empty box for other comments.

NAS BADEN

Name

[Redacted Address]

Address

[Redacted Email]

Email



Para: [chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo](http://chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo)  
Fecha: 12 de junio de 2024  
Re: NO permiso para Sims Metal Management

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- Otros comentarios:

Marta Carrman

Nombre

  
Correo electrónico



**SEA** Southwest Environmental Alliance

Para: [chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo](http://chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo)  
Fecha: 12 de junio de 2024  
Re: NO permiso para Sims Metal Management

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- Otros comentarios:

  
Nombre

  
Domicilio

Correo electrónico



Para: [chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo](http://chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo)  
Fecha: 12 de junio de 2024  
Re: NO permiso para Sims Metal Management

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Otros comentarios: *muchos personas enfermas de asma en mi familia - Cauce es otra enfermedad que atribuyo a esta compañía por los malos olores*

*Rosalva Ruiz*

Nombre





SEA Southwest Environmental Alliance

To: chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo
Date: June 12, 2024
Re: NO permit for Sims Metal Management

I am opposed to Sims Metal Management receiving a permit which I understand is being considered by you. I support cancelling the June 21st Public Hearing.

I oppose any consideration of a permit until they have installed the control system the court has demanded they do. Once it is installed, the city must wait until it is proven to the community that it is working and effectively reducing emissions.

I am opposed because:

- Options for opposition reasons: Sims had to be sued by the Attorney General... Sims violated the law... We have the right to know... Children are at risk... High levels of pollutants... Sims submitted the application in 2021... I am tired to smelling bad smells... Our community should be treated fairly... Other Comments:

JORGE L. MACIEL
Name

[Redacted Address]

[Redacted Email]





SEA Southwest Environmental Alliance

To: chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo
Date: June 12, 2024
Re: NO permit for Sims Metal Management

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I oppose any consideration of a permit until they have installed the control system the court has demanded they do. Once it is installed, the city must wait until it is proven to the community that it is working and effectively reducing emissions.

I am opposed because:

- Simulated list of reasons for opposition with checkboxes, including: Sims had to be sued by the Attorney General, Sims violated the law, health risks, children at risk, pollutants at Perez Elementary School, application submitted in 2021, bad smells and trucks, and other comments.

Handwritten signature: Maria Salozer

Name

[Redacted address line]

Address

[Redacted address line]

City



**SEA** Southwest Environmental Alliance

Para: [chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo](http://chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo)  
Fecha: 12 de junio de 2024  
Re: NO permiso para Sims Metal Management

**Me opongo a que Sims Metal Management reciba un permiso que, entiendo, está siendo considerado por usted. Apoyo la cancelación de la audiencia pública del 21 de junio.**

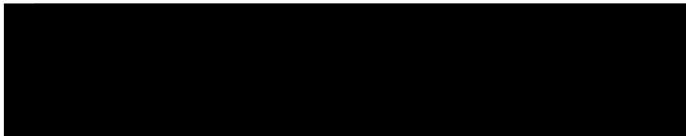
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- Nuestra comunidad debe ser tratada de manera justa. No deberíamos ser el basurero de contaminadores como Sims.
- Otros comentarios:

Imad Radwan  
Nombre

[Signature]  
Domicilio







SEA Southwest Environmental Alliance

To: chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo
Date: June 12, 2024
Re: NO permit for Sims Metal Management

I am opposed to Sims Metal Management receiving a permit which I understand is being considered by you. I support cancelling the June 21st Public Hearing.

I oppose any consideration of a permit until they have installed the control system the court has demanded they do. Once it is installed, the city must wait until it is proven to the community that it is working and effectively reducing emissions.

I am opposed because:

- Checked boxes with reasons: Sims had to be sued by the Attorney General... Sims violated the law... We have the right to know... Children are at risk... High levels of pollutants... Sims submitted the application in 2021... I am tired to smelling bad smells... Our community should be treated fairly... Other Comments:

Luz Maria Solis
Name

[Redacted Address]
Address

[Redacted Email]
Email



SEA Southwest Environmental Alliance

To: chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo
Date: June 12, 2024
Re: NO permit for Sims Metal Management

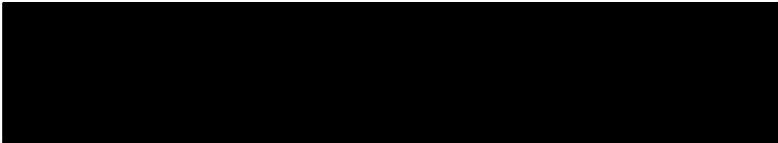
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I oppose any consideration of a permit until they have installed the control system the court has demanded they do. Once it is installed, the city must wait until it is proven to the community that it is working and effectively reducing emissions.

I am opposed because:

- Checked boxes with reasons: Sims had to be sued by the Attorney General... Sims violated the law... We have the right to know... Children are at risk... High levels of pollutants... Sims submitted the application in 2021... I am tired to smelling bad smells... Our community should be treated fairly... Other Comments:

Signature: Susan Schade
Name: \_\_\_\_\_



Email: \_\_\_\_\_



SEA Southwest Environmental Alliance

Para: chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo
Fecha: 12 de junio de 2024
Re: NO permiso para Sims Metal Management

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Me opongo porque:

- Checkboxes with reasons: Sims tuvo que ser demandado por el fiscal general... Sims violaron la ley... Tenemos derecho a saber... Los niños están en riesgo... Altos niveles de contaminantes... Sims enviaron la solicitud en 2021... Estoy cansado/a de oler los malos olores... Nuestra comunidad debe ser tratada de manera justa.

Otros comentarios: Mis 2 hijas fueron a la escuela Benito Suarez y el aire como estudiantes les afecta y afecta aun. Hay que ser concientes estan dañando a nuestra comunidad.

Maria Carabez Rangel

Nombre

D

Correo electrónico



SEA Southwest Environmental Alliance

To: chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo
Date: June 12, 2024
Re: NO permit for Sims Metal Management

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I oppose any consideration of a permit until they have installed the control system the court has demanded they do. Once it is installed, the city must wait until it is proven to the community that it is working and effectively reducing emissions.

I am opposed because:

- checkbox Sims had to be sued by the Attorney General, after they violated 40 environmental laws, to force them to obey the law.
checkbox Sims violated the law and should not have more rights than residents who obey the law.
checkbox We have the right to know, with current data, what health risks are caused by Sims. The City of Chicago has not given that information to the people of Pilsen.
checkbox Children are at risk. There are over 3,000 children in schools near Sims being affected by their pollution. That is a high priority.
checkbox High levels of pollutants are registering from monitors at Perez Elementary School. We believe Sims is one of the contributors. Prove they are not.
checkbox Sims submitted the application in 2021. Please require Sims to submit a new application AFTER they have installed the control system and have proven it reduces emissions.
checkbox I am tired of smelling bad smells from Sims and breathing the air full of dust from Sims. I am also tired of the many trucks on Blue Island Avenue.
checkbox Our community should be treated fairly. We should not be the garbage can for polluters like Sims.
checkbox Other Comments:

Handwritten signature of Anna Klueg

Name

Redacted address

Address

Redacted email

Email



SEA Southwest Environmental Alliance

To: chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo
Date: June 12, 2024
Re: NO permit for Sims Metal Management

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- Checkboxes with reasons: Sims had to be sued by the Attorney General... Sims violated the law... We have the right to know... Children are at risk... High levels of pollutants... Sims submitted the application in 2021... I am tired to smelling bad smells... Our community should be treated fairly... Other Comments:

Handwritten comment: Work at Benito Juarez I'm exposed by their chemical every single day that I'm in the campus. The community of Pilsen, Student from Juarez, & staff, Graciela Guerrero

Name

Address

Handwritten note: ->deserve to breath healthy air & be free respiration Problems.





**SEA** Southwest Environmental Alliance

Para: [chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo](http://chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo)

Fecha: 12 de junio de 2024

Re: NO permiso para Sims Metal Management

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- Otros comentarios:

*Guadalupe Blanco*

Nombre

Correo electrónico



**SEA** Southwest Environmental Alliance

Para: [chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo](http://chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo)  
Fecha: 12 de junio de 2024  
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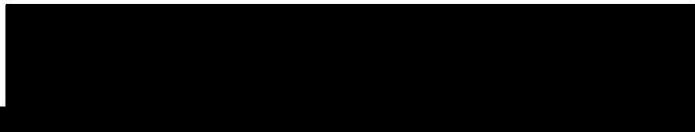
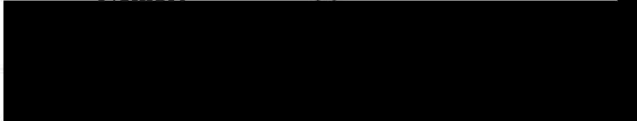
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- Otros comentarios:

*[Handwritten signature]*

*Ernestina Aguilera*  
Nombre





SEA Southwest Environmental Alliance

To: chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo
Date: June 12, 2024
Re: NO permit for Sims Metal Management

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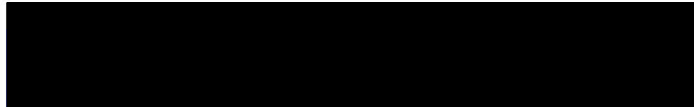
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MIRIAM LOPEZ

Name







**SEA** Southwest Environmental Alliance

To: [chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo](http://chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo)  
Date: June 12, 2024  
Re: NO permit for Sims Metal Management

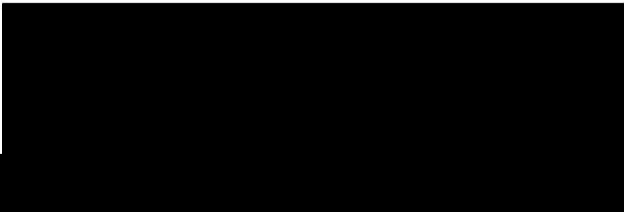
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- Other Comments:

Rita Vergara  
Name



Email



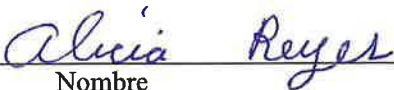
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Fecha: 12 de junio de 2024  
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Nombre

Correo electrónico



SEA Southwest Environmental Alliance

To: chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo
Date: June 12, 2024
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David Reyes

Name

Email



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Handwritten signature: Connie Perera

Email



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- Other Comments:

Gilberto Andrade

Name





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Ben Duggs
Name





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Name Jesus Guerrero [Redacted]

Email [Redacted]





SEA Southwest Environmental Alliance

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Signature: Brad Graves
Name: [Redacted]
Email: [Redacted]





**SEA** Southwest Environmental Alliance

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- Otros comentarios:

Daniel Ibanez

Nombre

Correo electrónico



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ABIGAIL MENDIOLA
Name

[Redacted]
Email



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Para: [chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo](http://chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo)  
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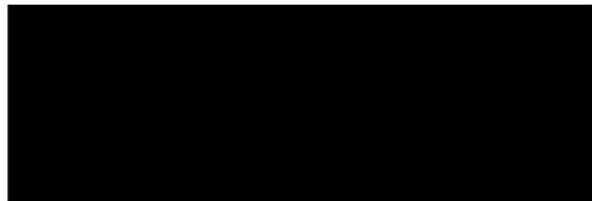
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- Otros comentarios:

Javier Cardenas  
Nombre



Correo electrónico



Para: [chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo](http://chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo)  
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Otros comentarios:

  
Silvestre Antunez  
Nombre





SEA Southwest Environmental Alliance

To: chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo
Date: June 12, 2024
Re: NO permit for Sims Metal Management

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CARLOS MARTINEZ
Name

E



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Edith Herrera

Name





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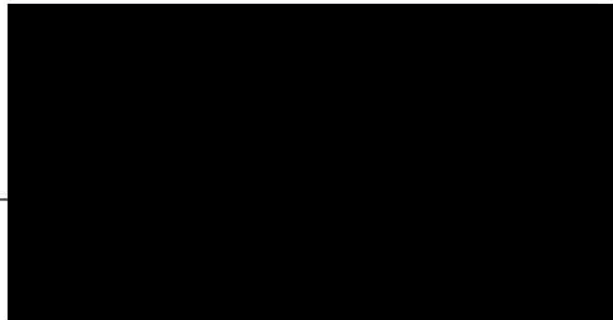
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Anaivia J. Samay  
Nombre

X  
Correo electrónico







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Fernando Romero

quiero respirar aire  
Puro en mi barrio Por favor





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To: [chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo](http://chicago.gov/envcommunityinfo)  
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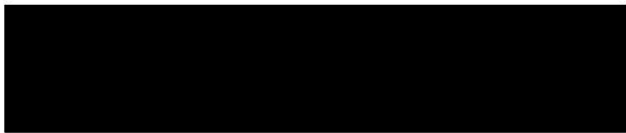
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JUAN CONTRERAS

Name



Email



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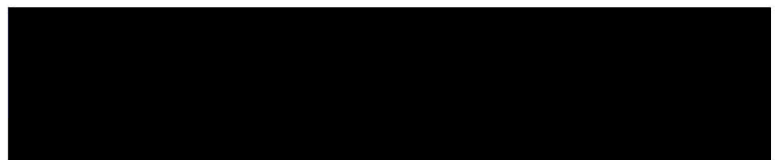
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Jesus Martinez

Nombre



Correo electrónico