

BP Amoco Petition Drive

Michigan City, IN – Michigan City Mayor Chuck Oberlie issued the following statement regarding the planned expansion at the BP Amoco Whiting Refinery:

“The citizens of Michigan City and our immediate surrounding areas depend upon the fresh water of Lake Michigan as our source of drinking water. But even more importantly, we must accept our responsibility to act as stewards of this outstanding natural resource for children, grandchildren and all generations of citizens that have yet to be born.

As stewards of clean water in Lake Michigan, we must take action to ask BP Amoco to join us in these critical efforts to reduce pollution in Lake Michigan, rather than adding pollution to the lake. We can urge BP to re-evaluate their current expansion plans and be a global leader who implements pollution reduction solutions rather than succumbing to the easy way out.

A section of the BP website is dedicated to the environmental requirements for new projects and the BP website contains the following quote: ‘BP needs to convince its critics that in a company of such size, it is able to turn good headquarters policies into effective operational practice.’ We must urge BP to begin ‘effective operational practice’ right here in Northwest Indiana with an improved system that will not result in increased ammonia and increased industrial waste into Lake Michigan.

We have duplicated the ‘Save Lake Michigan’ petition drive initiated by the City of Chicago and we ask as many local residents as possible to sign the petitions and return them to the Mayor’s Office in City Hall, or fax them to the Mayor’s Office at 219-873-1515. Petition forms can be downloaded from the emichigancity.com website, or they can be obtained directly from the Mayor’s Office at City Hall.”