

To put the environmental “what to look for” in very simple terms (because the regulations are not simple by any stretch of the imagination), if there are gases that are emitted that are carbon based we may need to permit the source of the emissions. The state of Illinois considers emissions of Volatile Organic Materials (VOM) as most carbon based emissions (Isobutane, HC’s, etc). There are a few exemptions, but it is safe to ask questions about emitting any carbon based gas or liquid to the atmosphere. Many Freon or halogenated carbons have global warming or ozone depletion potential. So any of these emitted to the atmosphere should be looked at well in advance or alternatives found that have less potential for harm. Any disruption of the earth or environment external (emissions exiting the building or construction and excavation) to our buildings should be looked at well in advance of actually starting the project. Any release to the environment (chemicals) should be looked at least casually because even water in certain amounts and under certain conditions can be detrimental to the environment.

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