

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

October 1, 2009

ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL	)	
PROTECTION AGENCY,	)	
	)	
Complainant,	)	
	)	
v.	)	AC 09-44
	)	(IEPA No. 80-09-AC)
GORDON INVESTMENT GROUP, LLC,	)	(Administrative Citation)
	)	
Respondent.	)	

OPINION AND ORDER OF THE BOARD (by S.D. Lin):

For the reasons below, the Board accepts the proposed settlement and dismissal of this administrative citation enforcement action. The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Agency) timely filed an administrative citation on May 11, 2009, against Gordon Investment Group, LLC (Gordon). The Agency alleged that on March 26, 2009, Gordon violated Sections 21(p)(1), 21(p)(3), and 21(p)(7) of the Environmental Protection Act (Act) (415 ILCS 5/21(p)(1), (p)(3), (p)(7) (2008))<sup>1</sup> by causing or allowing the open dumping of waste in a manner resulting in litter, open burning, and the deposition of general or clean construction or demolition debris. The violations allegedly took place at Gordon’s mobile home park located at 601 E. Osborn Street in Bushnell, McDonough County. The property is commonly known to the Agency as “Country Gardens Mobile Home Park” and is designated with Site Code No. 1090155029.

Gordon timely filed a petition to contest the administrative citation, which the Board accepted on June 18, 2009. On September 17, 2009, the parties filed a “stipulation of settlement and dismissal of respondent’s petition for administrative review.” Under its terms, Gordon admits it violated Section 21(p)(3) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/21(p)(3) (2008)) by causing or allowing the open dumping of waste in a manner resulting in open burning, and agrees to pay the statutory civil penalty of \$1,500 for this violation. Stipulation at 2. Gordon also agrees to the dismissal of its petition contesting the administrative citation. *Id.* at 3. The stipulation further states that the waste that was the subject of the administrative citation has been removed and properly disposed. *Id.* In addition, the Agency agrees not to refer the violations that are the subject of the administrative citation to the Office of the Illinois Attorney General or any other prosecuting authority to initiate a civil enforcement action. *Id.*

The Board accepts the stipulation and proposal for settlement. Under Section 31.1(d) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/31.1(d) (2008)), the Board therefore finds that Gordon violated Section 21(p)(3) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/21(p)(3) (2008)). Section 42(b)(4-5) of the Act (415 ILCS

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<sup>1</sup> All citations to the Act are to the 2008 compiled statutes because the provisions at issue have not been substantively amended in the 2008 compiled statutes.

5/42(b)(4-5) (2008)) establishes a civil penalty of \$1,500 for this violation. The Board accordingly assesses a civil penalty of \$1,500. To effectuate the parties' intent that Gordon pay a total civil penalty of \$1,500, the Board dismisses the alleged violations of Sections 21(p)(1) and (p)(7) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/21(p)(1), (p)(7) (2008)).

This opinion constitutes the Board's finding of fact and conclusions of law.

### **ORDER**

1. The Board accepts and incorporates by reference the stipulation and proposed settlement.
2. The Board finds that Gordon violated Section 21(p)(3) of the Environmental Protection Act (415 ILCS 5/21(p)(3) (2008)).
3. Gordon must pay a civil penalty of \$1,500 no later than November 2, 2009, which is the first business day following the 30th day after the date of this order. Gordon Investment Group, LLC must pay the civil penalty by certified check or money order, made payable to the Illinois Environmental Protection Trust Fund. The case number, case name, and Gordon's federal employer identification number must be included on the certified check or money order.
4. Gordon must send the certified check or money order to:

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
Fiscal Services Division  
1021 North Grand Avenue East  
P.O. Box 19276  
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276
5. Penalties unpaid within the time prescribed will accrue interest under Section 42(g) of the Environmental Protection Act (415 ILCS 5/42(g) (2008)) at the rate set forth in Section 1003(a) of the Illinois Income Tax Act (35 ILCS 5/1003(a) (2008)).
6. The Board dismisses the alleged violations of Sections 21(p)(1) and (p)(7) of the Environmental Protection Act (415 ILCS 5/21(p)(1), (p)(7) (2008)) and Gordon's petition to contest the administrative citation.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

Section 41(a) of the Environmental Protection Act provides that final Board orders may be appealed directly to the Illinois Appellate Court within 35 days after the Board serves the order. 415 ILCS 5/41(a) (2008); *see also* 35 Ill. Adm. Code 101.300(d)(2), 101.906, 102.706. Illinois Supreme Court Rule 335 establishes filing requirements that apply when the Illinois Appellate Court, by statute, directly reviews administrative orders. 172 Ill. 2d R. 335. The

Board's procedural rules provide that motions for the Board to reconsider or modify its final orders may be filed with the Board within 35 days after the order is received. 35 Ill. Adm. Code 101.520; *see also* 35 Ill. Adm. Code 101.902, 102.700, 102.702.

I, John T. Therriault, Assistant Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, certify that the Board adopted the above opinion and order on October 1, 2009, by a vote of 5-0.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John T. Therriault". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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John T. Therriault, Assistant Clerk  
Illinois Pollution Control Board



5. That on 5-6-09, Illinois EPA sent this Administrative Citation via Certified Mail No. 7007 3030 0002 3214 3329.

#### VIOLATIONS

Based upon direct observations made by Robert J. Wagner during the course of his March 26, 2009 inspection of the above-named facility, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency has determined that Respondent's have violated the Illinois Environmental Protection Act (hereinafter, the "Act") as follows:

- (1) That Respondent's caused or allowed the open dumping of waste in a manner resulting in litter, a violation of Section 21(p)(1) of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/21(p)(1) (2006).
- (2) That Respondent's caused or allowed the open dumping of waste in a manner resulting in open burning, a violation of Section 21(p)(3) of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/21(p)(3) (2006).
- (3) That Respondent's caused or allowed the open dumping of waste in a manner resulting in deposition of general construction or demolition debris or clean construction or demolition debris, a violation of Section 21(p)(7) of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/21(p)(7) (2006).

#### CIVIL PENALTY

Pursuant to Section 42(b)(4-5) of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/42(b)(4-5) (2006), Respondent's are subject to a civil penalty of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) for each of the violations identified above, for a total of Four Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$4,500.00). If Respondent's elect not to petition the Illinois Pollution Control Board, the statutory civil penalty

specified above shall be due and payable no later than June 15, 2009, unless otherwise provided by order of the Illinois Pollution Control Board.

If Respondent's elect to contest this Administrative Citation by petitioning the Illinois Pollution Control Board in accordance with Section 31.1 of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/31.1 (2006), and if the Illinois Pollution Control Board issues a finding of violation as alleged herein, after an adjudicatory hearing, Respondent's shall be assessed the associated hearing costs incurred by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and the Illinois Pollution Control Board. Those hearing costs shall be assessed in addition to the One Thousand Five Hundred Dollar (\$1,500.00) statutory civil penalty for each violation.

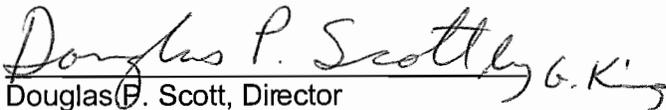
Pursuant to Section 31.1(d)(1) of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/31.1(d)(1) (2006), if Respondent's fail to petition or elect not to petition the Illinois Pollution Control Board for review of this Administrative Citation within thirty-five (35) days of the date of service, the Illinois Pollution Control Board shall adopt a final order, which shall include this Administrative Citation and findings of violation as alleged herein, and shall impose the statutory civil penalty specified above.

When payment is made, Respondent's check shall be made payable to the Illinois Environmental Protection Trust Fund and mailed to the attention of Fiscal Services, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, 1021 North Grand Avenue East, P.O. Box 19276, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276. Along with payment, Respondent's shall complete and return the enclosed Remittance Form to ensure proper documentation of payment.

If any civil penalty and/or hearing costs are not paid within the time prescribed by order of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, interest on said penalty and/or hearing costs shall be assessed against the Respondent's from the date payment is due up to and including the date that payment is received. The Office of the Illinois Attorney General may be requested to initiate proceedings against Respondent's in Circuit Court to collect said penalty and/or hearing costs, plus any interest accrued.

PROCEDURE FOR CONTESTING THIS  
ADMINISTRATIVE CITATION

Respondent's have the right to contest this Administrative Citation pursuant to and in accordance with Section 31.1 of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/31/1 (2006). If Respondent's elect to contest this Administrative Citation, then Respondent's shall file a signed Petition for Review, including a Notice of Filing, Certificate of Service, and Notice of Appearance, with the Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, State of Illinois Center, 100 West Randolph, Suite 11-500, Chicago, Illinois 60601. A copy of said Petition for Review shall be filed with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's Division of Legal Counsel at 1021 North Grand Avenue East, P.O. Box 19276, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276. Section 31.1 of the Act provides that any Petition for Review shall be filed within thirty-five (35) days of the date of service of this Administrative Citation or the Illinois Pollution Control Board shall enter a default judgment against the Respondent's.

 Date: 5/6/09  
Douglas P. Scott, Director  
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

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