

For immediate release
November 7, 2002

CONTACT: Connie Newman
217/782-7630

Illinois Pollution Control Board Grants Provisional Variance to Osmose Wood Preserving Inc.

Chicago – On November 7, 2002, the Illinois Pollution Control Board granted a 30-day provisional variance from hazardous waste storage rules contained in 35 Ill. Adm. Code, 722.134(b). The provisional variance will allow Osmose Wood Preserving Inc. (Osmose) to store hazardous wastes on-site for longer than 90 days during a court-ordered soil remediation project at its former wood treatment facility near Beardstown in Cass County.

Osmose must treat the soil to certain levels prior to shipping it off-site for disposal. Three batches of soil that Osmose tested as satisfactory were rejected by the off-site landfill. The provisional variance would allow Osmose to continue storing the rejected soil without getting a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act permit while Osmose and the landfill resolve the discrepancy in the test results. The provisional variance periods would extend from November 28, 2002 to December 28, 2002 for the first batch; December 10, 2002 to January 9, 2003 for the second batch; and December 17, 2002 to January 16, 2003 for the third batch.

On November 6, 2002, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) recommended that the Board grant the provisional variance. This request

was docketed as PCB 03-064. The Board granted the provisional variance based on the IEPA's notification that compliance with the hazardous waste storage standards would impose an arbitrary or unreasonable hardship on Osmose. The applicable standards are contained in 35 Illinois Administrative Code 722.134(b).

###