

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
December 18, 2014

ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL)
PROTECTION AGENCY,)
)
Complainant,)
)
v.) AC 15-19
) (IEPA No. 368-14-AC)
SUSAN VORIS and MARK PRATT,) (Administrative Citation)
)
Respondents.)

ORDER OF THE BOARD (by D. Glosser):

On October 31, 2014, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Agency) timely filed an administrative citation against Susan Voris and Mark Pratt (collectively respondents). *See* 415 ILCS 5/31.1(c) (2012); 35 Ill. Adm. Code 101.300(b), 108.202(c). The administrative citation concerns respondents' facility located in Redbud, Randolph County. The property is commonly known to the Agency as the "Redbud/Voris Property" site and is designated with Site Code No. 13-118-005-00. For the reasons below, the Board accepts Mark Pratt's¹ petition to contest the administrative citation.

Under the Environmental Protection Act (Act) (415 ILCS 5 (2012)), an administrative citation is an expedited enforcement action brought before the Board seeking civil penalties that are fixed by statute. Administrative citations may be filed only by the Agency or, if the Agency has delegated the authority, by a unit of local government, and only for limited types of alleged violations. *See* 415 ILCS 5/21(o), 21(p), 22.51, 22.51a, 31.1(c), 42(b)(4), 42(b)(4-5), 55(k) (2012); 35 Ill. Adm. Code 108.

In this case, the Agency alleges that on October 1, 2014, respondents violated Section 21(p)(1) and (p)(7) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/21(p)(1) and (p)(7) (2012)) by open dumping of waste leading to litter and deposition of general construction or demolition debris or clean construction or demolition debris at the Randolph County site. The Agency asks the Board to impose on respondents the statutory \$1,500 civil penalty for each alleged violation, for a total civil penalty of \$3,000.

As required, the Agency served the administrative citation on Mark Pratt within "60 days after the date of the observed violation." 415 ILCS 5/31.1(b) (2012); *see also* 35 Ill. Adm. Code 101.300(c), 108.202(b). Any petition to contest the administrative citation was due by December 15, 2014. On December 8, 2014, Mark Pratt timely filed a petition. *See* 415 ILCS 5/31.1(d) (2012); 35 Ill. Adm. Code 101.300(b), 108.204(b). Mark Pratt alleges the violations were a result of uncontrollable circumstances. *See* 35 Ill. Adm. Code 108.206.

¹ On December 4, 2014, the Board accepted Susan Voris' petition for review.

The Board accepts the petition and directs the hearing officer to proceed expeditiously to hearing. The hearing officer will give the parties at least 21 days written notice of the hearing. *See* 35 Ill. Adm. Code 108.300; 415 ILCS 5/31.1(d)(2) (2012). By contesting the administrative citation, Mark Pratt may have to pay the hearing costs of the Board and the Agency. *See* 415 ILCS 5/42(b)(4-5) (2012); 35 Ill. Adm. Code 108.500. A schedule of the Board's hearing costs is available from the Clerk of the Board and on the Board's Web site at www.ipcb.state.il.us. *See* 35 Ill. Adm. Code 108.504.

Mark Pratt may withdraw his petition to contest the administrative citation at any time before the Board enters its final decision. If Mark Pratt chooses to withdraw his petition, he must do so in writing, unless he does so orally at hearing. *See* 35 Ill. Adm. Code 108.208. If Mark Pratt withdraws his petition after the hearing starts, the Board will require Mark Pratt to pay the hearing costs of the Board and the Agency. *See id.* at 108.500(c).

The Agency has the burden of proof at hearing. *See* 415 ILCS 5/31.1(d)(2) (2012); 35 Ill. Adm. Code 108.400. If the Board finds that respondents violated Section 21(p)(1) and (p)(7) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/21(p)(1) and (p)(7) (2012)), the Board will impose civil penalties on respondents. The civil penalty for violating any provision of Section 21(p) is \$1,500 for each violation, except that the penalty amount is \$3,000 for each violation that is the person's second or subsequent adjudicated violation of that provision. *See* 415 ILCS 5/42(b)(4-5) (2012); 35 Ill. Adm. Code 108.500(a). However, if the Board finds that respondents "has shown that the violation resulted from uncontrollable circumstances, the Board shall adopt a final order which makes no finding of violation and which imposes no penalty." 415 ILCS 5/31.1(d)(2) (2012); *see also* 35 Ill. Adm. Code 108.500(b).

IT IS SO ORDERED.

I, John T. Therriault, Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, certify that the Board adopted the above order on December 18, 2014, by a vote of 4-0.



John T. Therriault, Clerk
Illinois Pollution Control Board