ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD May 26, 2022

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS,)	
Complainant,)	
v.) PCB 22-11	
UNITED READY MIX, INC., a Delaware corporation,) (Enforcement - Water)) (Enforcement - Water))))
Respondent.)	

ORDER OF THE BOARD (by J. Van Wie):

On October 13, 2021, the Office of the Attorney General, on behalf of the People of the State of Illinois (People), filed a four-count complaint against United Ready Mix, Inc. (Ready Mix). The complaint concerns Ready Mix's two manufacturing locations - one located at 2101 S. Second Street, Pekin, Illinois (Pekin site), and one located at 1 Leland Street, Peoria, Illinois (Peoria site). The parties now seek to settle without a hearing. For the reasons below, the Board accepts the parties' stipulation and proposed settlement.

Under the Environmental Protection Act (Act) [415 ILCS 5 (2020)], the Attorney General and the State's Attorneys may bring actions before the Board to enforce Illinois' environmental requirements on behalf of the People. See 415 ILCS 5/31 (2020); 35 Ill. Adm. Code 103. In this case, the People allege that Ready Mix violated Sections 12(a) and 12(f) of the Act [415 ILCS 5/12(a), 12(f) (2020)] and Section 309.102(a) of the Board's Water Pollution Regulations [35 Ill. Adm. Code 309.102(a)] at both the Pekin and Peoria sites. The People allege that Ready Mix committed these violations by operating the concrete manufacturing facilities at the Pekin and Peoria sites without National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit coverage for such operations and by causing, threatening, or allowing the discharge of stormwater from the Pekin and Peoria sites so as to violate Board regulations. On November 4, 2021, the Board accepted the complaint for hearing.

On March 22, 2022, the parties filed a stipulation and proposal for settlement, accompanied by a request for relief from the hearing requirement of Section 31(c)(1) of the Act [415 ILCS 5/31(c)(1) (2020)]. This filing is authorized by Section 31(c)(2) of the Act [415 ILCS 5/31(c)(2) (2020)], which requires that the public have an opportunity to request a hearing whenever the State and a respondent propose settling an enforcement action without a public hearing. See 35 Ill. Adm. Code 103.300(a). The Board provided notice of the stipulation, proposed settlement, and request for relief. The newspaper notice was published in the *Journal Star* on April 10, 2022, and the *Pekin Daily Times* on April 12, 2022. The Board did not receive any requests for hearing. The Board grants the parties' request for relief from the hearing requirement. See 415 ILCS 5/31(c)(2) (2020); 35 Ill. Adm. Code 103.300(b).

Section 103.302 of the Board's procedural rules sets forth the required contents of stipulations and proposed settlements. *See* 35 Ill. Adm. Code 103.302. These requirements include stipulating to facts on the nature, extent, and causes of the alleged violations and the nature of Ready Mix's operations. Section 103.302 also requires that the parties stipulate to facts called for by Section 33(c) of the Act [415 ILCS 5/33(c) (2020)], which bears on the reasonableness of the circumstances surrounding the alleged violations. The stipulation also addresses the factors of Section 42(h) of the Act [415 ILCS 5/42(h) (2020)], which may mitigate or aggravate the civil penalty amount. Under the proposed settlement, Ready Mix affirmatively admits the alleged violations and agrees to pay a civil penalty of \$13,140.¹ The Board accepts the stipulation and proposed settlement.

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

ORDER

- 1. The Board accepts and incorporates by reference the stipulation and proposed settlement.
- 2. Ready Mix must pay a civil penalty of \$13,140 no later than Monday, June 27, 2022, which is the first business day following the 30th day after the date of this order. Ready Mix must pay the civil penalty by certified check or money order payable to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency for deposit into the Environmental Protection Trust Fund. The case name and case number must appear on the certified check or money order.
- 3. Ready Mix must submit payment of the civil penalty to:

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Fiscal Services Division 1021 North Grand Avenue East P.O. Box 19276 Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276

Ready Mix must send a copy of the certified check, money order, and any transmittal letter to:

Christina L. Nannini, Assistant Attorney General Illinois Attorney General's Office Environmental Bureau 500 South Second Street Springfield, Illinois 62701

_

¹ The Stipulation and Proposal for Settlement states the "settlement of this matter does not include a supplemental environmental project." However, it also states that the release from liability is "[i]n consideration of the Respondent's completion of the environmentally beneficial project," which is not defined in the stipulation.

- 4. Penalties unpaid within the time prescribed will accrue interest under Section 42(g) of the Environmental Protection Act [415 ILCS 5/42(g) (2020)] at the rate set forth in Section 1003(a) of the Illinois Income Tax Act [35 ILCS 5/1003(a) (2020)].
- 5. Ready Mix must cease and desist from future violations of the Environmental Protection Act and Board regulations that were the subject of the complaint.

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) (2020); 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. Filing a motion asking that the Board reconsider this final order is not a prerequisite to appealing the order. 35 Ill. Adm. Code 101.902.

Names and Addresses for Receiving Service of Any Petition for Review Filed with the Appellate Court	
Parties	Board
Illinois Attorney General's Office Attn: Christina L. Nannini 500 South Second Street Springfield, Illinois 62701 Christina.nannini@ilag.gov	Illinois Pollution Control Board Attn: Don A. Brown, Clerk James R. Thompson Center 100 West Randolph Street, Suite 11-500 Chicago, Illinois 60601 don.brown@illinois.gov
Johnson Bunce Noble PC Executive Offices – Parkway Plaza 7800 N. Sommer Street, Suite 425 Peoria, IL 61615 309-691-9650	

I, Don A. Brown, Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, certify that the Board adopted the above opinion and order on May 26, 2022, by a vote of 4-0.

Don A. Brown, Clerk

Illinois Pollution Control Board

Don a. Brown