

SERVICE LIST

Michael Eiserman
Agent and Manager for Downtown Oil
5533 Birchwood Ave
Skokie, Illinois 60077

Michael Eiserman
Agent and Manager for Downtown Oil
25 Oakmont
Highland Park, IL 60035

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Arlene R. Haas, an Assistant Attorney General, certify that on the 8th day of July, 2022, I caused to be served the foregoing Notice of Filing and Complaint on the parties named on the attached Service List, by certified mail with return receipt by placing envelope with postage office located at 100 W. Randolph, Chicago, IL 60601.

/s/ Arlene R. Haas
Arlene R. Haas
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3. Respondent was an Illinois limited liability company that involuntarily dissolved on September 29, 2020.

4. At all times relevant to this Complaint, Respondent owned and operated a gasoline dispensing facility located at 7600 S. Chicago Ave., Chicago, Cook County, IL (the "Facility").

5. As of the date of filing of this Complaint, the Facility is located in an area of Environmental Justice ("EJ") concern as identified using Illinois EPA EJ Start.

6. Respondent owns and operates gasoline dispensing pumps at the Facility that emit volatile organic compounds ("VOCs") into the environment.

7. Section 9(a) of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/9(a) (2020), provides as follows:

No person shall:

(a) Cause or threaten or allow the discharge or emission of any contaminant into the environment in any State so as to cause or tend to cause air pollution in Illinois, either alone or in combination with contaminants from other sources, or so as to violate regulations or standards adopted by the Board under this Act.

8. Section 3.315 of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/3.315 (2020), provides the following definition:

"Person" is any individual, partnership, co-partnership, firm, company, limited liability company, corporation, association, joint stock company, trust, estate, political subdivision, state agency, or any other legal entity, or their legal representative, agent or assigns.

9. Respondent, a limited liability company, is a "person" as that term is defined in Section 3.315 of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/3.315 (2020).

10. Section 3.165 of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/3.165 (2020), provides the following definition:

"Contaminant" is any solid, liquid, or gaseous matter, any odor, or any form of energy, from whatever source.

11. VOCs are “contaminants” as that term is defined by Section 3.165 of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/3.165 (2020).

12. Section 218.586(i)(1)(B) of the Illinois Pollution Control Board (“Board”) Air Pollution Regulations, 35 Ill. Adm. Code 218.586(i)(1)(B), provides as follows:

No later than December 31, 2016, an owner or operator of a gasoline dispensing operation shall complete the decommissioning of all vapor collection and control systems in accordance with all of the provisions specified in subsection (i)(2).

13. Section 218.586(a)(7) of the Board Air Pollution Regulations, 35 Ill. Adm. Code 218.586(a)(7), provides the following definition:

“Gasoline dispensing operation” means any operation where motor vehicle fuel is dispensed into motor vehicle fuel tanks or portable containers from a storage tank with a capacity of 2176 liters (575 gallons) or more.

14. The Facility is a “gasoline dispensing operation,” as that term is defined in Section 218.586(a)(7) of the Board Air Pollution Regulations, 35 Ill. Adm. Code 218.586(a)(7).

15. Section 218.586(a)(11) of the Board Air Pollution Regulations, 35 Ill. Adm. Code 218.586(a)(11), provides the following definition:

“Owner” or “operator” means any person who owns, leases, operates, manages, supervises or controls (directly or indirectly) a gasoline dispensing operation.

16. Respondent is an “owner” or “operator”, as that term is defined in Section 218.586(a)(11) of the Board Air Pollution Regulations, 35 Ill. Adm. Code 218.586(a)(11).

17. Section 218.586(i)(2)(C) of the Board Air Pollution Regulations, 35 Ill. Adm. Code 218.586(i)(2)(C), provides as follows:

The owner or operator of a gasoline dispensing operation and the contractors that performed the decommissioning shall complete and sign a decommissioning checklist and certification, provided by the Agency, documenting the decommissioning procedures performed. Within 30 days after completion of the decommissioning procedures specified by subsection (i)(2)(B), the owner or operator shall provide the completed checklist and certification and the test results to the Agency.

18. By December 31, 2016, Respondent was required to decommission its vapor collection and control system in accordance with Section 218.586(i)(1)(B) of the Board Air Pollution Regulations, 35 Ill. Adm. Code 218.586(i)(1)(B), and therefore was required to submit a decommissioning checklist, certification, and test results within 30 days after completion of decommissioning procedures, pursuant to Section 218.586(i)(2)(C) of the Board Air Pollution Regulations, 35 Ill. Adm. Code 218.586(i)(2)(C).

19. Respondent did not timely submit a decommissioning checklist, certification, or test results to Illinois EPA.

20. By failing to timely submit a decommissioning checklist, certification, and test results to Illinois EPA, Respondent violated Section 218.586(i)(2)(C) of the Board Air Pollution Regulations, 35 Ill. Adm. Code 218.586(i)(2)(C).

21. On information and belief, Respondent failed to timely decommission its vapor collection and control system and thereby violated Section 218.586(i)(1)(B) of the Board Air Pollution Regulations, 35 Ill. Adm. Code 218.586(i)(1)(B).

22. By violating Sections 218.586(i)(1)(B) and 218.586(i)(2)(C) of the Board Air Pollution Regulations, 35 Ill. Adm. Code 218.586(i)(1)(B) and 218.586(i)(2)(C), Respondent caused or threatened or allowed the discharge or emission of VOCs into the environment so as to violate regulations adopted by the Board, and has thereby violated Section 9(a) of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/9(a) (2020).

WHEREFORE, Complainant, PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, respectfully requests that the Board enter an Order against Respondent, Downtown Oil Company, LLC, a dissolved Illinois limited liability company, with respect to Count I:

1. Authorizing a hearing in this matter at which time Respondent will be required to answer the allegations herein;

2. Finding that Respondent has violated Section 9(a) of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/9(a) (2020), and Sections 218.586(i)(1)(B) and 218.586(i)(2)(C) of the Board Air Pollution Regulations, 35 Ill. Adm. Code 218.586(i)(1)(B) and 218.586(i)(2)(C);

3. Ordering Respondent to cease and desist from any future violations of Section 9(a) of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/9(a) (2020), and Sections 218.586(i)(1)(B) and 218.586(i)(2)(C) of the Board Air Pollution Regulations, 35 Ill. Adm. Code 218.586(i)(1)(B) and 218.586(i)(2)(C);

4. Requiring Respondent to decommission its vapor collection and control system pursuant to Section 218.586(i)(1)(B) of the Board Air Pollution Regulations, 35 Ill. Adm. Code 218.586(i)(1)(B) and submit a decommissioning checklist, certification, and test results to Illinois EPA pursuant to Section 218.586(i)(2)(C) of the Board Air Pollution Regulations, 35 Ill. Adm. Code 218.586(i)(2)(C);

5. Assessing against Respondent a civil penalty of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) for each violation of the Act and pertinent regulations, and an additional civil penalty of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) for each day of violation;

6. Taxing all costs in this action, including, but not limited to, attorney, expert witness and consultant fees against Respondent; and

7. Granting such other relief as the Board deems appropriate and just.

Respectfully submitted,

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS
by KWAME RAOUL, Attorney General
of the State of Illinois

MATTHEW J. DUNN, Chief
Environmental Enforcement/Asbestos
Litigation Division

BY: */s/ Stephen J. Sylvester*
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