

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
October 5, 2023

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS,)
)
Complainant,)
)
v.) PCB 23-28
) (Enforcement - Air)
SHABEENA AFRIDI, individually and d/b/a)
ONE STOP GAS STATION, and ARATHI)
PROPERTY, INC., an Illinois corporation,)

Respondents.

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

On August 15, 2022, the Office of the Attorney General, on behalf of the People of the State of Illinois (People), filed a one-count complaint against Shabeena Afridi, individually and d/b/a One Stop Gas Station (Afridi), and Arathi Property, Inc. (Arathi Property) (collectively, Respondents). The complaint concerns the gasoline dispensing facility formerly owned and operated by Afridi, now owned and operated by Arathi Property, located at 2950 North Cicero Avenue in Chicago, Cook County. The parties now seek to settle without a hearing. For the reasons below, the Board directs the Clerk to provide public notice of the parties' stipulation, proposed settlement, and request for relief from the hearing requirement.

Under the Environmental Protection Act (Act) (415 ILCS 5 (2022)), 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 (2022); 35 Ill. Adm. Code 103. In this case, the People allege that Respondents violated Section 9(a) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/9(a) (2022)) 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), 218.586(i)(2)(C)).

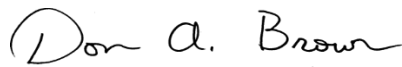
The People allege that Respondents committed these violations by causing, threatening, or allowing the discharge or emission of VOCs into the environment; by failing to timely decommission their vapor collection and control system; and by failing to submit a decommissioning checklist, certification, and test results to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA).

On September 25, 2023, the People and Respondents filed a stipulation and proposed 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) (2022)). This filing is authorized by Section 31(c)(2) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/31(c)(2) (2022)), 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). Under the proposed stipulation, the Respondents admit the alleged violations and agree to pay a civil penalty of \$5,000.

Unless the Board determines that a hearing is needed, the Board must cause notice of the stipulation, proposed settlement, and request for relief from the hearing requirement. Any person may file a written demand for hearing within 21 days after receiving the notice. If anyone timely files a written demand for hearing, the Board will deny the parties' request for relief and hold a hearing. *See* 415 ILCS 5/31(c)(2) (2022); 35 Ill. Adm. Code 103.300(b), (c). The Board directs the Clerk to provide the required notice.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

I, Don A. Brown, Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, certify that the Board adopted the above order on October 5, 2023, by a vote of 4-0.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Don A. Brown".

Don A. Brown, Clerk
Illinois Pollution Control Board