ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD October 19, 2023

| PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, |) |
|--|----------------------------|
| Complainant, |) |
| V. |) PCB 24-13 |
| KAPPA PRODUCTS CORPORATION, an Illinois corporation, |) (Enforcement - Air)) |
| |) |
| Respondent. |) |

OPINION AND ORDER OF THE BOARD (by M.D. Mankowski):

On August 16, 2023, the Office of the Attorney General, on behalf of the People of the State of Illinois (People), filed a four-count complaint against Kappa Products Corporation (Kappa). The complaint concerns Kappa's rendering facility located at 1301 East 99th Street in Chicago, Cook County (Facility). 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 (2022)), the Attorney General and the State's Attorneys may bring actions before the Board on behalf of the People to enforce Illinois' environmental requirements. *See* 415 ILCS 5/31 (2022); 35 Ill. Adm. Code 103. In this case, the People allege that Kappa violated the Act and Board regulations as follows:

Count I: Section 9(a) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/9(a) (2022)) and Section 201.141 of the Board's air rules (35 Ill. Adm. Code 201.141) by causing, threatening, or allowing the discharge of contaminants from the Facility into the environment so as to cause or tend to cause air pollution.

Count II: Section 9(a) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/9(a) (2022)) and Section 212.309(a) of the Board's air rules (35 Ill. Adm. Code 212.309(a)) by failing to implement the 2015 Program and failing to operate under any fugitive particulate matter operating program designed to reduce fugitive particulate matter emissions.

Count III: Section 9(a) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/9(a) (2022)) and Section 212.312 of the Board's air rules (35 Ill. Adm. Code 212.312) by failing to amend the operating program to reflect current operations at the Facility and submit an amended program to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) for review.

Count IV: Section 9(a) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/9(a)) and Section 212.316(g)(1), (g)(2), and (g)(5) of the air rules (35 III. Adm. Code 212.316(g)(1), (g)(2),(g) (5))

by failing to keep written records of the application of dust control measures used at the Facility, submit the required annual report for calendar years 2019 and 2020, and submit the required quarterly reports for the fourth quarter of 2019, all of 2020, and the first quarter of 2021.

On August 16, 2023, the People and Kappa 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). The Board provided notice of the stipulation, proposed settlement, and request for relief. The newspaper notice was published in the *Chicago Sun-Times* on September 13, 2023. 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) (2022); 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 Kappa's'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) (2022)), which bears on the reasonableness of the circumstances surrounding the alleged violations. Kappa does not affirmatively admit the alleged violations. The stipulation also addresses the factors of Section 42(h) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/42(h) (2022)), which may mitigate or aggravate the civil penalty amount. Under the proposed settlement, Kappa agrees to pay a civil penalty of \$32,000 within 30 days after the date of this order. The People and Kappa have satisfied Section 103.302. 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. Kappa must pay a civil penalty of \$32,000 no later than Monday, November 20, 2023, which is the first business day following the 30th day after the date of this order. Kappa 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. Kappa 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

Kappa must send a copy of the certified check or money order and any transmittal letter to:

Rebecca Kanz, Assistant Attorney General Environmental Bureau Illinois Attorney General's Office 69 West Washington Street, Suite 1800 Chicago, Illinois 60602

- 4. Penalties unpaid within the time prescribed will accrue interest under Section 42(g) of the Environmental Protection Act (415 ILCS 5/42(g) (2022)) at the rate set forth in Section 1003(a) of the Illinois Income Tax Act (35 ILCS 5/1003(a) (2022)).
- 5. Kappa 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) (2022); *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 | | |
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| Parties | Board | |
| Illinois Attorney Generals' Office Attn.: Rebecca Kanz, Asst. Attorney General Environmental Bureau 69 West Washington Street, Suite 1800 Chicago, Illinois 60602 Rebecca.Kanz@ilag.gov | Illinois Pollution Control Board Attn: Don A. Brown, Clerk 60 East Van Buren Street, Suite 300 Chicago, Illinois 60605 don.brown@illinois.gov | |

| Kappa Products Corporation | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Attn.: Margaret A. Hill | |
| Blank Rome LLP | |
| 130 North 18th Street | |
| Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103 | |
| margaret.hill@blankrome.com | |

I, Don A. Brown, Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, certify that the Board adopted the above opinion and order on October 19, 2023, by a vote of 4-0.

Don a. Brown

Don A. Brown, Clerk Illinois Pollution Control Board