

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
August 22, 2024

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS,)
)
Complainant,)
)
v.) PCB 24-25
) (Enforcement - Air)
KHALID SIDDIQUI, an individual, and 55TH)
FOOD MART INC., an Illinois corporation,)
)
Respondents.)

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

On October 23, 2023, the Office of the Attorney General, on behalf of the People of the State of Illinois (People), filed a one-count complaint against Khalid Siddiqui (Siddiqui) and 55th Food Mart Inc. (Food Mart) (collectively, Respondents). The complaint concerns a gasoline dispensing facility owned by Siddiqui and operated by Food Mart located at 2006 West Garfield Boulevard in Chicago, Cook County. On July 17, 2024, the People filed a motion to deem facts admitted and for summary judgment. On August 12, 2024, the People withdrew their motion. 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.

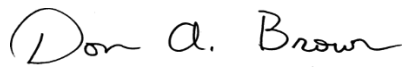
Under the Environmental Protection Act (Act) (415 ILCS 5 (2022)), the Attorney General and the State's Attorneys may bring actions before the Board to enforce Illinois' environmental requirements on behalf of the People. *See* 415 ILCS 5/31 (2022); 35 Ill. Adm. Code 103. In this case, the People allege 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's Air Pollution Regulations (35 Ill. Adm. Code 218.586(i)(1)(B), 218.586(i)(2)(C)) by failing to timely decommission their vapor collection and control system; failing to timely submit a decommissioning checklist, certification, and test results to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA); and causing, threatening, or allowing the discharge or emission of volatile organic compounds into the environment so as to violate Board regulations.

On July 17, 2024, the People filed a motion to deem facts admitted and for summary judgment. Respondents did not file a response to the motion. On August 12, 2024, the People withdrew their motion, and simultaneously 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 do not affirmatively 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 August 22, 2024, by a vote of 4-0.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Don A. Brown". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Don A. Brown, Clerk
Illinois Pollution Control Board