

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

August 20, 2026

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS,	)	
	)	
Complainant,	)	
	)	
v.	)	PCB 27-08
	)	(Enforcement – Air, CAAPP)
EQUISTAR CHEMICALS, LP, a Delaware	)	
limited partnership,	)	
	)	
Respondent.	)	

ORDER OF THE BOARD (by A. Liva):

On August 12, 2026, the Office of the Attorney General, on behalf of the People of the State of Illinois (People), filed a four-count complaint against Equistar Chemicals, LP (Equistar). The complaint concerns Equistar's plastics and organic chemical manufacturing facility at 8805 North Tabler Road, Morris, Grundy County. Accompanying the complaint was a stipulation, proposal for settlement, and request for relief from the hearing requirement. The parties therefore seek to settle the complaint without a hearing. For the reasons below, the Board accepts the complaint and directs the Clerk to provide public notice of the stipulation, proposed settlement, and request for hearing relief.

Under the Environmental Protection Act (Act) (415 ILCS 5 (2024)), 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 (2024); 35 Ill. Adm. Code 103. In this case, the People allege that Equistar violated the following sections of the Act and the Board's air pollution regulations:

- Count I: Causing or allowing volatile organic material (VOM) emissions to enter the atmosphere from emission units in an amount greater than 8lbs/hour from October 2018 through March 2019 in violation of Sections 218.301 and 201.141 of the Board's air pollution regulations, 35 Ill. Adm. Code 218.301 and 201.141, and Section 9(a) of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/9(a) (2024).
- Count II: Causing or allowing VOM emissions to enter the atmosphere from emission units in an amount greater than 8 lbs/hr from July through September 2024 in violation of Sections 218.301 and 201.141 of the Board's air pollution regulations, 35 Ill. Adm. Code 218.301 and 201.141, and Section 9(a) of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/9(a) (2024).
- Count III: Causing or allowing VOM emissions to enter the atmosphere in an amount greater than 8 lbs/hr from July through September 2024 in violation of Section 39.5(6)(a) of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/39.5(6)(a) (2024), and

Conditions 4.2.2(d)(i)(A), 4.2.2(h)(i)(A), 4.5.2(b)(i)(E), and 2.3(a) of the 2017 Permit.

Count IV: Causing or allowing air pollution in violation of Section 9(a) of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/9(a) (2024), and Section 201.141 of the Board Air Pollution Regulations, 35 Ill. Adm. Code 201.141.

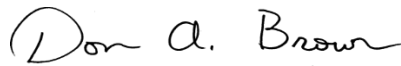
The Board finds that the complaint meets the applicable content requirements of the Board's procedural rules and accepts the complaint. *See* 35 Ill. Adm. Code 103.204(c).

On August 12, 2026, simultaneously with the People's complaint, the People and Equistar 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) (2024)). This filing is authorized by Section 31(c)(2) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/31(c)(2) (2024)), 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, Equistar neither admits nor denies the alleged violations and agrees to pay a civil penalty of \$390,000.

Unless the Board determines that a public 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) (2024); 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 20, 2026, by a vote of 5-0.



Don A. Brown, Clerk
Illinois Pollution Control Board