October 27, 1993

STATE OIL COMPANY,)
Petitioner,)
v.) PCB 93-198) (Provisional Variance)
ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY,))
Respondent.	\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \

ORDER OF THE BOARD (by C. A. Manning):

Pursuant to Section 35(b) of the Environmental Protection Act (Act) (415 ILCS 5/35(b)), State Oil Company has requested that the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Agency) recommend that the Board grant a provisional variance to allow several of State Oil Company's gasoline dispensing operations (service stations) to continue operating even though they will not have installed operational vapor recovery equipment by November 1, 1993. Such request for a provisional variance and the Notification of Recommendation was filed with the Board by the Agency on Tuesday, October 26, 1993. Pursuant to Section 35(b) of the Act, the Board must issue the variance within two (2) days of this filing.

Pursuant to Section 35(b) of the Environmental Protection Act (Act) (415 ILCS 5/35(b)), the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Agency), by and through its Director, Mary A. Gade, seeks a provisional variance to allow

Specifically, the Agency recommends that we grant State Oil Company a forty-five (45)-day provisional variance for nineteen (19) of its facilities located in Cook, DuPage, Kendall, Lake, and McHenry Counties in the Chicago metropolitan statistical area from the Stage II vapor recovery requirements, as set forth in 35 Ill. Adm. Code 218.586, for the period beginning November 1, 1993, and continuing for forty-five (45) days or until the required vapor recovery equipment is installed, whichever comes first.

The Agency's provisional variance recommendation states that State Oil Co. has requested a provisional variance on behalf of numerous of its service stations in the Chicago area, located as follows:

County	Number	<u>of</u>	<u>Stations</u>
Lake			9
Cook			4
McHenry			3

DuPage 2 Kendall 1

The addresses of those stations are listed as follows:

County	City or Village	Street Address
Cook	Palatine	800 S. Plum Grove Road
Cook	Schiller Park	9340 Irving Park Road
Cook	Spring Grove	2551 North Route 12
Cook	Streamwood	1001 W. Irving Park Road
DuPage	Addison	246 W. Lake Street
DuPage	Carol Stream	860 Army Trail Road
Kendall	Montgomery	426 N. Route 25
Lake	Antioch	485 North Avenue
Lake	Antioch	24480 W. Grass Lake Road
Lake	Fox Lake	20 N. Route 12
Lake	Lincolnshire	435 S. Milwaukee Ave.
Lake	Mundelein	600 S. Butterfield Road
Lake	Mundelein	1080 W. Maple
Lake	Round Lake	1175 W. Route 134
Lake	Volo	31727 N. Highway 12
Lake	Wauconda	1200 North Rand Road
McHenry	Crystal Lake	5604 S. Route 31
McHenry	McHenry	3514 South Route 31
McHenry	McHenry	4713 W. Elm Street

Upon receipt of the request, the Agency issued its recommendation, notifying the Board that the failure to grant the requested forty-five (45)-day provisional variance would impose an arbitrary or unreasonable hardship on Petitioner. The Agency recommendation states that State Oil Company has already contracted for installation of Stage II vapor recovery equipment at its facilities, but that it is impossible for State Oil Company to meet the November 1, 1993 deadline for compliance due to the limited availability of equipment and construction crews to perform the installation.

Provisional variances are by their very nature temporary. The responsibilities of the Agency and the Board in these short-term provisional variances are different from the responsibilities in standard variances. (See 415 ILCS 5/35(b) & (c)). In provisional variances it is the responsibility of the Agency to make the technical determinations and finding of arbitrary or unreasonable hardship. The Board's responsibility is to adopt a formal Order, to assure the formal maintenance of the record, to assure the enforceability of the variance, and to provide notification of the action by a press release.

Having received the Agency recommendation notifying the Board that a denial of the requested relief would impose an arbitrary or unreasonable hardship, the Board hereby grants

Petitioner a provisional variance from 35 Ill. Adm. Code 218.586, subject to the following conditions:

- 1. The term of this provisional variance shall commence on November 1, 1993, and it shall expire on the date the Petitioner completes the required installation of vacuum assist Stage II vapor recovery equipment, or after forty-five (45) days have elapsed, whichever comes first;
- 2. The Petitioner shall notify the Agency of the installation of the vapor recovery equipment, by sending notification addressed as follows:

Mr. Terry Sweitzer, P.E.
Manager, Air Monitoring Section
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Division of Air Pollution Control
P.O. Box 19276
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dorothy M. Gunn, Clerk

Illinois Pollution Control Board