ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD May 20, 1993

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS,)	
Complainant,)	
v.)	PCB 93-64 (Enforcement)
CHICAGO SUN-TIMES, INC., a Delaware Corporation,))	(=====,
Respondent.)	

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

This matter comes before the Board upon a complaint filed March 26, 1993, on behalf of the People of the State of Illinois ("People"), by and through its attorney, Roland W. Burris, Attorney General of the State of Illinois, against Chicago Sun-Times, Inc., a Delaware Corporation located in Chicago, Cook County, Illinois. The complaint alleges that Chicago Sun-Times, Inc. has violated Section 9(a) and (b) of the Environmental Protection Act ("Act"), 415 ILCS 5/9(a) and 5/9(b) (1992), and 35 Ill. Adm. Code 201.143 and 201.144 of the Board's regulations.

Pursuant to Section 31(a)(1) of the Act, a joint Motion requesting relief from the Act's hearing requirement was filed by the parties on March 26, 1993. Notice of the waiver was published by the Board on April 15, 1993; no objection to grant of the waiver was received. Waiver of hearing is granted by the Board via today's Opinion and Order.

A Stipulation and Settlement Agreement was filed by the parties on March 26, 1993. The Stipulation sets forth facts relating to the nature, operations and circumstances surrounding the claimed violations. Chicago Sun-Times, Inc. neither admits nor denies the alleged violations. Chicago Sun-Times, Inc. agrees to pay a civil penalty of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00).

The Board has authority to impose a penalty where the parties have stipulated to a penalty, but not to a finding of violation. See, Chemetco, Inc. v. Illinois Pollution Control Board, 140 Ill. App.3d, 283, 488 N.E.2d 639, 643 (5th Dist. 1986); and Archer Daniels Midland v. Pollution Control Board, 140 Ill. App.3d 823, 489 N.E.2d 887 (3rd Dist. 1986).

The Board finds the Settlement Agreement acceptable under 35 Ill. Adm. Code 103.180. This Settlement Agreement in no way affects respondent's responsibility to comply with any federal,

state or local regulations, including but not limited to the Act and the Board's pollution control regulations.

This Opinion constitutes the Board's findings of fact and conclusions of law in this matter.

ORDER

- 1. The Board hereby accepts the Stipulation and Settlement Agreement executed by the People of the State of Illinois and the Chicago Sun-Times, Inc., concerning its operations located in Chicago, Cook County, Illinois. The Stipulation and Settlement Agreement are incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.
- The Chicago Sun-Times, Inc. shall pay the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) within 30 days of the date of this Order. Such payment shall be made by certified check or money order payable to the Treasurer of the State of Illinois, designated to the Environmental Protection Trust Fund, and shall be sent by First Class mail to:

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Fiscal Services Division 2200 Churchill Road P.O. Box 19276 Springfield, IL 62794-9276

Chicago Sun-Times, Inc. shall also write its Federal Employer Identification Number or Social Security Number on the certified check or money order.

Any such penalty not paid within the time prescribed shall incur interest at the rate set forth in subsection (a) of Section 1003 of the Illinois Income Tax Act, (35 ICLS 5/101 et seq. (1992))), as now or hereafter amended, from the date of payment is due until the date payment is received. Interest shall not accrue during the pendency of an appeal during which payment of the penalty has been stayed.

3. Chicago Sun-Times, Inc. shall cease and desist from the alleged violations.

Section 41 of the Environmental Protection Act, (415 ILCS 5/41 (1992)), provides for appeal of final orders of the Board within 35 days. The Rules of the Supreme Court of Illinois establish filing requirements. (But see also 35 Ill. Adm. Code 101.246, Motions for Reconsideration.)

IT IS SO ORDERED.