

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD  
December 5, 2002

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, )  
)  
Complainant, )  
)  
v. ) PCB 03-74  
) (Enforcement – Public Water Supply)  
CITY OF GEORGETOWN, an Illinois )  
municipal corporation, and T.K FLEMING )  
CONSTRUCTION, INC., an Illinois )  
corporation, )  
)  
Respondent. )

ORDER OF THE BOARD (by M.E. Tristano):

On November 20, 2002, the Office of the Attorney General, on behalf of the People of the State of Illinois (People), filed a five-count complaint against the City of Georgetown and T.K. Fleming Construction, Inc. (respondents). *See* 415 ILCS 5/31(c)(1) (2000) *as amended by* P.A. 92-0574, eff. June 26, 2002; 35 Ill. Adm. Code 103.204. The People allege that respondents violated Sections 12(b), 15, and 18(a) of the Environmental Protection Act (Act) (415 ILCS 5/12(b), 15, 18(a) (2000) *as amended by* P.A. 9209574, eff. June 26, 2002), and various regulations pertaining to public water supplies. The People further allege that respondents violated these provisions by failing to submit construction permit applications for a water main extension and a sewer main; failing to submit a permit application for operating the water main; constructing the water and sewer mains on a vertical plane less than 18 inches apart; failing to implement the cross-connection ordinance by conducting a survey; and failing to maintain data on inspections, repairs, and tests. The complaint concerns the City of Georgetown’s annexation of the Woodland Estates Subdivision, located in Georgetown, Vermillion County.

The Board accepts the complaint for hearing. *See* 35 Ill. Adm. Code 103.212(c). A respondent’s failure to file an answer to a complaint within 60 days after receiving the complaint may have severe consequences. Generally, if respondents fail within that timeframe to file an answer specifically denying, or asserting insufficient knowledge to form a belief of, a material allegation in the complaint, the Board will consider respondents to have admitted the allegation. 35 Ill. Adm. Code 103.204(d).

The Board directs the hearing officer to proceed expeditiously to hearing. Among the hearing officer’s responsibilities is the “duty . . . to ensure development of a clear, complete, and concise record for timely transmission to the Board.” 35 Ill. Adm. Code 101.610. A complete record in an enforcement case thoroughly addresses, among other things, the appropriate remedy, if any, for the alleged violations, including any civil penalty.

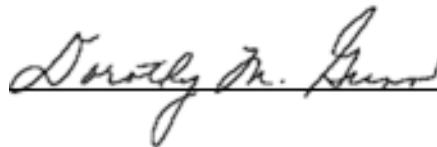
If a complainant proves an alleged violation, the Board considers the factors set forth in Sections 33(c) and 42(h) of the Act to fashion an appropriate remedy for the violation. *See* 415 ILCS 5/33(c), 42(h) (2000). Specifically, the Board considers the Section 33(c) factors in determining, first, what to order the respondent to do to correct an on-going violation, if any, and, second, whether to order the respondent to pay a civil penalty. The factors provided in Section 33(c) bear on the reasonableness of the circumstances surrounding the violation, such as the character and degree of any resulting interference with protecting public health, the technical practicability and economic reasonableness of compliance, and whether the respondent has subsequently eliminated the violation.

If, after considering the Section 33(c) factors, the Board decides to impose a civil penalty on the respondent, only then does the Board consider the Act's Section 42(h) factors in determining the appropriate amount of the civil penalty. Section 42(h) sets forth factors that may mitigate or aggravate the civil penalty amount, such as the duration and gravity of the violation, whether the respondent showed due diligence in attempting to comply, any economic benefit that the respondent accrued from delaying compliance, and the need to deter further violations by the respondent and others similarly situated.

Accordingly, the Board further directs the hearing officer to advise the parties that in summary judgment motions and responses, at hearing, and in briefs, each party should consider: (1) proposing a remedy for a violation, if any, including whether to impose a civil penalty, and supporting its position with facts and arguments that address any or all of the Section 33(c) factors; and (2) proposing a civil penalty, if any, including a specific dollar amount, and supporting its position with facts and arguments that address any or all of the Section 42(h) factors.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

I, Dorothy M. Gunn, Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, certify that the Board adopted the above order on December 5, 2002, by a vote of 6-0.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Dorothy M. Gunn", written over a horizontal line.

Dorothy M. Gunn, Clerk  
Illinois Pollution Control Board