

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
August 5, 1976

MARATHON OIL COMPANY,)	
)	
Petitioner,)	
)	
v.)	PCB 76-159
)	
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY,)	
)	
Respondent.)	

OPINION AND ORDER OF THE BOARD (by Mr. Goodman):

On May 20, 1976, Marathon Oil Company (Marathon) filed a Petition for Extension of Variance before the Pollution Control Board (Board). Marathon seeks a variance from Rule 206(c) of the Air Pollution Control Regulations (Chapter 2) for its fluid catalytic cracking unit and its catalyst regenerator unit. The variance request is based upon Marathon's installation of a carbon monoxide (CO) boiler to meet the 200 parts per million (ppm) CO standard of Rule 206(c). The Environmental Protection Agency (Agency) filed its Recommendation on July 29, 1976. No hearing has been held in this matter.

Marathon was originally granted variance for its Robinson, Illinois Refinery on January 9, 1975, Marathon Oil Company v. EPA, PCB 74-147, and was granted an extension on December 11, 1975, Marathon Oil Company v. EPA, PCB 75-398. Marathon's operations at the Robinson Refinery have been described in the prior Board decisions. The Agency's Recommendation indicates that Marathon's present CO emissions are approximately 130,000 ppm of CO. Marathon processes approximately 38,000 to 40,000 barrels of gas oil per day in its "cat cracker unit." Marathon is currently installing a CO boiler to reduce CO emission to the levels prescribed in Rule 206(c). The Agency believes that this CO boiler will reduce emissions to 200 ppm and thus achieve compliance with Rule 206(c). The approximate cost of this project is \$4,000,000.00.

In our Opinion of December 11, 1975, we held that the grant of the variance would not interfere with attainment or maintenance of

the ambient air quality standards in the area to be affected. The Agency agreed with that conclusion and indicates that there has been no change in their position.

Marathon's petition outlines the progress it has made in implementing its compliance plan and complying with the Board's Orders. The installation of the CO boiler has not been completed because two turbines essential to the operation of the CO boiler have been delayed in delivery. The Agency's Recommendation indicates that in mid-July, 1976, one turbine arrived at the construction site and is currently being installed. Marathon expects delivery of the second turbine near the end of July.

The Board finds that grant of the requested variance is justified. The hardship on which we based our earlier decisions in PCB 74-147 and PCB 75-398 remains adequate to justify such a variance. Furthermore, Marathon has shown good faith in its efforts to achieve compliance with Rule 206(c) as quickly as possible and has complied with all the conditions of the prior variances, including application for required permits, submission of progress reports to the Agency, and posting of a Performance Bond in the amount of \$100,000.00.

Marathon requests that variance be granted until September 30, 1976. We will grant the variance until that time and will retain in effect the conditions of the earlier variances.

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

ORDER

IT IS THE ORDER OF THE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD that Petitioner Marathon Oil Company be granted a variance from Rule 206(c) of Chapter 2: Air Pollution, for its Robinson, Illinois Refinery for the period June 30, 1976 to September 30, 1976, subject to the conditions shown in the Board's prior Orders in PCB 74-147 and PCB 75-398.

I, Christan L. Moffett, Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, hereby certify the above Opinion and Order were adopted on the 5th day of August, 1976 by a vote of 5-0.



Christan L. Moffett Clerk
Illinois Pollution Control Board