

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD  
September 5, 1974

TEXACO, INC. )  
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 v. ) PCB 74-134  
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 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY )  
 )

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

Petitioner requests a variance from Rules 203(d)(1) (particulates) and 206(c) (Carbon Monoxide) as applied to its Lockport Refinery. A hearing was held on June 28, 1974.

Texaco operates a petroleum refinery immediately adjacent to the City of Lockport in Will County, Illinois, which manufactures motor gasolines, aviation fuels, diesel and heating oil, and heavy fuel oil, utilizing approximately 72000 barrels of crude oil per calendar day. The refined products are distributed in the northern portion of Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Iowa, Minnesota and other states. About 800 persons are employed at the refinery (Variance Petition, pp. 1 and 2).

The source of the CO and particulate emissions is a Fluid Catalytic Cracking Unit which is a facility for converting high boiling-range gas oils into gasolines, furnace oil and fuel oil components and by-product gases (Variance Petition, p. 2).

A Catalyst Regenerator is used to burn off carbon deposits from the catalyst material and it is this process which is the source of the emissions (Variance Petition, p. 3).

Rule 203(d)(1) limits particulate emissions for this unit to 81 lbs. per hour. Present emissions are 166 lbs. per hour. Rule 206(c) limits the CO emissions to 200 ppm. Presently it is 110,000 ppm (Variance Petition, p. 4).

Texaco has contracted with Bechtel, Inc. of San Francisco, California to design and construct facilities to bring the FCCU Regenerator into compliance with the Board's rules. When completed, emissions will be practically zero CO and 25 lbs. per hour of particulates. The facilities are to consist of two CO boilers and two electrostatic precipitators (Variance Petition, p. 4) costing approximately \$6,110,000 (Variance Petition, p. 5).

The Bechtel contract was awarded on January 20, 1972 (R. 10 and Ex. 1). The Environmental Protection Agency (Agency) construction permit was applied for on June 23, 1972 and was received on September 19, 1972. Field construction was started on November 28, 1972 with a completion date set at December 20, 1973 (R. 10 and 11). In October, 1973 it became apparent that the contractor would not meet his completion date. The main reason was a shortage of skilled craftsmen (R. 18) and delay in deliveries. Completion dates were successively pushed back to January 31, 1974, March 15, 1974, and finally, July 5, 1974 (R. 18, 19, 20). In addition, about three months are required for adjustments and other preparations after completion of construction (R. 41).

Testimony has been given that closing down the FCCU for non-compliance would deprive the area of 700,000 gal. of gasoline daily and could result in laying off about 600 people employed by the refinery (R. 48, 49). The Board has stated many times that a variance denial is not a shutdown order and does not accept this argument.

Petitioner cites a study made by Air Resources, Inc., showing that the air quality at the refinery is better than the standards set by the Board in Rule 307 (Petition 9).

We concur with the Agency that Petitioner has been conscientious in attempting to bring this source into compliance; that the continued operation of the facility will have no great effect on ambient air quality, and in view of the foregoing, the variance be granted. No bond is required by the Board because of the imminent completion of this massive abatement program.

This Opinion constitutes the Board's findings of facts and conclusions of law.

ORDER

It is the Order of the Board that:

Petitioner be granted a variance from Rule 203(d)(1) and Rule 206(c) of the Illinois Pollution Control Board until October 1, 1974.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

I, Christan L. Moffett, Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, hereby certify the above Opinion and Order were adopted on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of September, 1974 by a vote of 4-0.

  
Christan L. Moffett, Clerk