

BEFORE THE ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF:)

PROPOSED EXTENSION OF ADJUSTED STANDARD)

AS 2007-2

APPLICABLE TO ILLINOIS-AMERICAN)

(Adjusted Standard)

WATER COMPANY'S ALTON PUBLIC WATER)

SUPPLY FACILITY DISCHARGE)

TO THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER)

UNDER 35 ILL. ADM. CODE 304.124 AND 304.106)

TESTIMONY OF DONALD E. SANDIDGE

WITNESS IDENTIFICATION AND BACKGROUND

Q. Please state your name and business address.

A. My name is Donald E. Sandidge. I work at 101 East Third Street, Alton, Illinois 62002.

Q. By whom are you employed?

A. I am the Mayor of the City of Alton, Illinois.

PURPOSE OF TESTIMONY

Q. What is the purpose of your testimony in this proceeding?

A. The purpose of my testimony is to: (1) Speak out against lagoon treatment at the Alton plant of Illinois-American Water Company; (2) explain that our community does not want increased truck traffic on our scenic byway; (3) point out that there will be adverse economic consequences for our residents if the Adjusted Standard is not extended; and (4) encourage the Pollution Control Board to stay the course with an offset project that is achieving positive environmental results.

LAGOON TREATMENT

Q. What are your concerns about lagoon treatment?

A. When the water company initially contemplated building a new plant in Alton, we held a public meeting at the historic Stratford Hotel in July, 1998. Attending that meeting were Illinois EPA officials and some of our 30,500 residents. Local homeowners voiced their

32 strong concern about the potential of lagoons being constructed at the new water plant. Local
33 residents and city officials did not want lagoons to be built at that time. I assure you today
34 that these residents and the City of Alton still hold the same position—we do not want
35 lagoons at the water plant.

36 **TRUCK TRAFFIC ON THE SCENIC BYWAY**

37 **Q. What are your concerns about truck traffic?**

38 A. As I understand the treatment process, soil particles settle into the bottom of lagoons. That
39 soil or mud is then dredged or excavated from the lagoons and placed into trucks which haul
40 the residuals to a landfill. The City has been informed that up to 17 truckloads per day would
41 have to travel our scenic highway here in Alton. At the very least, projections are that two or
42 three truck trips would be needed each day. As a result, on-site treatment will lead to
43 increased truck traffic along one of the nation's most scenic highways. Incidentally, those
44 trucks would also be running near a beautiful new park, Piasa Park, and right over a popular
45 bike trail. The City of Alton is opposed to that traffic and hopes to avoid it.

46 **HIGHER WATER RATES FOR ALTON RESIDENTS**

47 **Q. What is your understanding of the effect lagoon treatment would have on the rates paid
48 by Alton residents, Mayor Sandidge?**

49 A. There will definitely be a financial impact. Lagoons and the residual-handling technologies
50 that accompany lagoons are more expensive than the current option, which is to directly
51 discharge waste water to the Mississippi River (returning solids to their point of origination).
52 These additional costs will be passed on to the water company's ratepayers, which includes
53 home owners and businesses in Alton.

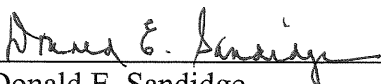
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54 THE ALTON COMMUNITY DOES NOT WANT TO LOSE THE ENVIRONMENTAL
55 BENEFITS OF THE CURRENT OFFSET PROJECT.

56 **Q. What do you understand to be the benefits of the Piasa Creek Watershed Project in your**
57 **community?**

58 A. We are very proud of the environmental impact achieved already by the Piasa Creek
59 Watershed Project. I realize that Illinois-American Water Company has been the primary
60 contributor to that Project, and I also realize that the Project owes its success to the
61 Company's contributions. Sediment reduction projects benefit our community, which is
62 partially located in the watershed. Our community is also located in the Mississippi River
63 watershed, which benefits from less sedimentation coming out of Piasa Creek. It is my
64 understanding that if the Adjusted Standard is not extended, Illinois-American Water
65 Company will no longer fund the maintenance or upkeep of the offset projects implemented
66 so far and the projects which might otherwise be implemented through 2010. Since Illinois-
67 American Water Company has already achieved an offset of 2 to 1, and expects to achieve
68 even greater success over the next three years, the City of Alton encourages the Pollution
69 Control Board to continue this valuable offset project. It makes no sense to treat residuals and
70 allow valuable sediment reduction projects to languish and eventually lose their effectiveness.
71 It only makes sense to continue preventing twice as much sediment (or more) from reaching
72 the river as the Alton plant would otherwise discharge.

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74
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Donald E. Sandidge

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
)
COUNTY OF MADISON)

AFFIDAVIT

I, Donald E. Sandidge, after being duly sworn on oath, state that the foregoing Testimony is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

Donald E. Sandidge
Donald. E. Sandidge

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to
before me this 21st day
of August, 2007

Ellen D. Sullivan
NOTARY PUBLIC

