## ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD January 22, 2009

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS,	)	
Complainant,	)	
•	)	
V.	)	PCB 08-102
	)	(Enforcement - Water)
CITY OF COFFEEN,	)	
	)	
Respondents.	)	
	)	

## OPINION AND ORDER OF THE BOARD (by S.D. Lin):

On June 27, 2008, the Office of the Attorney General, on behalf of the People of the State of Illinois (People), filed an amended three-count against the City of Coffeen. The complaint concerns the operation of the City of Coffeen's wastewater treatment plant (WWTP), in Montgomery County-which it operates under National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit number ILG580243. The parties now seek to settle without a hearing. For the reasons below, the Board accepts the parties' stipulation and proposed settlement.

Under the Environmental Protection Act (Act) (415 ILCS 5 (2006)), the Attorney General and the State's Attorneys may bring actions before the Board on behalf of the People to enforce Illinois' environmental requirements. *See* 415 ILCS 5/31 (2006); 35 Ill. Adm. Code 103. In this case, the People allege that the City of Coffeen violated Sections 12(a), (f), 18, and 19 of the Act (415 ILCS 5/12(a), (f), 5/18, 5/19 (2006)), Section 305.102(b) of the Board's water pollution regulations (35 Ill. Adm. Code 305.102(b)), Sections 611.831 and 653.605 of the Board's public water supply regulations, 35 Ill. Adm. Code 611.831, 653.605, and specified terms and conditions of Coffeen's NPDES permit. The People allege that Coffeen violated these provisions by (1) failing to submit or timely submit Discharge Monitoring Reports as required by its NPDES permit; (2) failing to take samples as required by its NPDES permit; and (3) failing to submit monthly operating reports for the months of March, April, and May 2008.

On December 9, 2008, the People and the City of Coffeen filed a stipulation and proposed settlement, accompanied by a request for relief from the hearing requirement of Section 31(c)(1) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/31(c)(1) (2006)). This filing is authorized by Section 31(c)(2) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/31(c)(2) (2006)), which requires that the public have an opportunity to request a hearing whenever the State and a respondent propose settling an enforcement action without a public hearing. *See* 35 Ill. Adm. Code 103.300(a). The Board provided notice of the stipulation, proposed settlement, and request for relief. The newspaper notice was published in the *Hillsboro Journal-News* on December 15, 2008. The Board did not receive any requests for hearing. The Board grants the parties' request for relief from the hearing requirement. *See* 415 ILCS 5/31(c)(2) (2006); 35 Ill. Adm. Code 103.300(b).

Section 103.302 of the Board's procedural rules sets forth the required contents of stipulations and proposed settlements. *See* 35 Ill. Adm. Code 103.302. These requirements include stipulating to facts on the nature, extent, and causes of the alleged violations and the nature of the City of Coffeen's operations. Section 103.302 also requires that the parties stipulate to facts called for by Section 33(c) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/33(c) (2006)), which bears on the reasonableness of the circumstances surrounding the alleged violations. The City of Coffeen neither admits nor denies the alleged violations. The stipulation also addresses the factors of Section 42(h) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/42(h) (2006)), which may mitigate or aggravate the civil penalty amount. The City of Coffeen agrees to pay a civil penalty of \$1,890.00. The People and the City have satisfied Section 103.302. The Board accepts the stipulation and proposed settlement.

This opinion constitutes the Board's findings of fact and conclusions of law.

## **ORDER**

- 1. The Board accepts and incorporates by reference the stipulation and proposed settlement.
- 2. City of Coffeen must pay a civil penalty of \$1,890.00 no later than February 23, 2009, which is the first business day after the 30th day after the date of this order. The City of Coffeen must pay the civil penalty by certified check or money order, payable to the Illinois Environmental Protection Trust Fund. The case name, case number, and the City of Coffeen's Federal Tax Identification Number must appear on the face of the certified check or money order.
- 3. City of Coffeen must submit payment of the civil penalty to:

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Fiscal Services Division 1021 North Grand Avenue East P.O. Box 19276 Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276

City of Coffeen must send a copy of the certified check or money order, and any transmittal letter to:

Environmental Bureau Illinois Attorney General's Office 500 South Second Street Springfield, IL 62706

4. Penalties unpaid within the time prescribed will accrue interest under Section 42(g) of the Environmental Protection Act (415 ILCS 5/42(g) (2006)) at the rate set forth in Section 1003(a) of the Illinois Income Tax Act (35 ILCS 5/1003(a) (2006)).

5. City of Coffeen must cease and desist from the alleged violations.

## IT IS SO ORDERED.

Section 41(a) of the Environmental Protection Act provides that final Board orders may be appealed directly to the Illinois Appellate Court within 35 days after the Board serves the order. 415 ILCS 5/41(a) (2006); *see also* 35 Ill. Adm. Code 101.300(d)(2), 101.906, 102.706. Illinois Supreme Court Rule 335 establishes filing requirements that apply when the Illinois Appellate Court, by statute, directly reviews administrative orders. 172 Ill. 2d R. 335. The Board's procedural rules provide that motions for the Board to reconsider or modify its final orders may be filed with the Board within 35 days after the order is received. 35 Ill. Adm. Code 101.520; *see also* 35 Ill. Adm. Code 101.902, 102.700, 102.702.

I, John Therriault, Assistant Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, certify that the Board adopted the above opinion and order on January 22, 2009, by a vote of 5-0.

John Therriault, Assistant Clerk Illinois Pollution Control Board