## ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD May 21, 2009

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS,	)	
Complainant,	)	
<u>.</u>	)	DCD 00 20
v.	)	PCB 09-20 (Enforcement - Water)
LEWIS DEVELOPMENT, LLC,	)	`
an Illinois limited liability corporation,	)	
Respondent.	)	
Respondent.	,	

OPINION AND ORDER OF THE BOARD: (by G.L. Blankenship):

On September 30, 2008, the Office of the Attorney General, on behalf of the People of the State of Illinois (People), filed a two-count complaint against Lewis Development, LLC (Lewis). See 415 ILCS 5/31(c)(1) (2006); 35 Ill. Adm. Code 103.204. The complaint concerns Lewis' residential housing development, located at the end of Ancient Oaks Drive on the northwest side of Peoria. 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 Lewis violated Sections 12(a) and 12(f) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/12(a) and (f) (2006)), and Section 309.102(a) of the Board's Water Pollution Regulations. 35 Ill. Adm. Code 309.102(a). The People allege that Lewis violated these provisions by failing to maintain adequate erosion control measures at the site and by causing the discharge of contaminants into waters of the state without a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System permit.

On April 13, 2009, the People and Lewis 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 respondents 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 *Peoria Journal Star* on April 14, 2009. 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 respondent'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 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. Respondent does not affirmatively admit the alleged violations. Respondent agreed to pay a total civil penalty of \$7,500. The People and respondent 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. Lewis must pay a civil penalty of \$7,500 for the alleged violations no later than June 22, 2009, which is first business day following the 30th day after the date of this order. Respondents must pay the civil penalty by certified check or money order payable to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, designated to the Illinois Environmental Protection Trust Fund. The case name, case number, and respondents' Federal Tax Identification Numbers must appear on the face of the certified check or the money order.
- 3. Respondents 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

Respondents 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, Illinois 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. Respondents 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 May 21, 2009, by a vote of 5-0.

John Therriault, Assistant Clerk Illinois Pollution Control Board

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