

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
March 1, 2012

ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL)	
PROTECTION AGENCY,)	
)	
Complainant,)	
)	
v.)	AC 12-24
)	(IEPA No. 406-11-AC)
ROBERT A. GERDES,)	(Administrative Citation)
)	
Respondent.)	

OPINION AND ORDER OF THE BOARD (by T.A. Holbrook):

On January 11, 2012, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Agency) timely filed an administrative citation against Robert A. Gerdes (respondent). *See* 415 ILCS 5/31.1(c) (2010); 35 Ill. Adm. Code 101.300(b), 108.202(c). The administrative citation concerns respondent's property located at 100 East Locust Street, Chatsworth, Livingston County. The property is commonly known to the Agency as the "Chatsworth/Full Throttle" site and is designated with Site Code Number 1050105013. For the reasons below, the Board finds that respondent violated the Environmental Protection Act (Act) (415 ILCS 5 (2010)) and orders respondent to pay \$1,500.00 in civil penalties.

Under the Act, an administrative citation is an expedited enforcement action brought before the Board seeking civil penalties that are fixed by statute. Administrative citations may be filed only by the Agency or, if the Agency has delegated the authority, by a unit of local government, and only for limited types of alleged violations. *See* 415 ILCS 5/21(o), 21(p), 22.51, 22.51a, 31.1(c), 42(b)(4), 42(b)(4-5), 55(k) (2010); 35 Ill. Adm. Code 108.

In this case, the Agency alleges that, on November 15, 2011, respondent violated Section 55(k)(1) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/55(k)(1) (2010)) by causing or allowing the open dumping of waste in a manner that resulted in used tires at the site accumulating water. The Agency asks the Board to impose the statutory \$1,500.00 civil penalty per violation on respondent for a total civil penalty of \$1,500.00. As required, the Agency served the administrative citation on respondent within "60 days after the date of the observed violation." 415 ILCS 5/31.1(b) (2010); *see also* 35 Ill. Adm. Code 101.300(c), 108.202(b).

To contest an administrative citation, a respondent must file a petition with the Board no later than 35 days after being served with the administrative citation. If the respondent fails to do so, the Board must find that the respondent committed the violation alleged and impose the corresponding civil penalty. *See* 415 ILCS 31.1(d)(1) (2010); 35 Ill. Adm. Code 101.300(b), 108.204(b), 108.406. Here, any petition for review was due by February 15, 2012. Respondent failed to timely file a petition. Accordingly, the Board finds that Respondent violated Section 55(k) of the Act.

The civil penalty for violating any provision of Section 55(k) is \$1,500.00 for each violation. *See* 415 ILCS 5/42(b)(4-5) (2010); 35 Ill. Adm. Code 108.500(a). Because there is one violation of Section 55(k), the total civil penalty is \$1,500.00. Under Section 31.1(d)(1) of the Act, the Board attaches the administrative citation and makes it part of the order below.

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

ORDER

1. The Board finds that Robert A. Gerdes violated Section 55(k)(1) of the Environmental Protection Act (415 ILCS 5/55(k)(1) (2010)).
2. Robert Gerdes must pay a civil penalty of \$1,500.00 no later than April 2, 2012, which is the first business day following the 30th day after the date of this order. Mr. Gerdes must pay the civil penalty by certified check or money order, made payable to the Illinois Environmental Protection Trust Fund. The case number, case name, and Mr. Gerdes's social security number or federal employer identification number must be included on the certified check or money order.
3. Robert Gerdes must send the certified check or money order and the remittance form to:

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

4. Penalties unpaid within the time prescribed will accrue interest under Section 42(g) of the Environmental Protection Act (415 ILCS 5/42(g) (2010)) at the rate set forth in Section 1003(a) of the Illinois Income Tax Act (35 ILCS 5/1003(a) (2010)).
5. Payment of this penalty does not prevent future prosecution if the violation continues.

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) (2010); *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 T. Therriault, Assistant Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, certify that the Board adopted the above opinion and order on March 1, 2012, by a vote of 5-0.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John T. Therriault". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

John T. Therriault, Assistant Clerk
Illinois Pollution Control Board

RECEIVED
CLERK'S OFFICE

JAN 11 2012

STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

BEFORE THE ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

ADMINISTRATIVE CITATION

ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL)
PROTECTION AGENCY,)
))
Complainant,))
))
v.))
))
ROBERT A. GERDES,))
))
))
))
Respondent.))

AC

12-24

(IEPA No. 406-11-AC)

ORIGINAL
RETURN TO CLERK'S OFFICE

JURISDICTION

This Administrative Citation is issued pursuant to the authority vested in the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency by Section 31.1 of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act, 415 ILCS 5/31.1 (2010).

FACTS

1. That Robert A. Gerdes is the current owner and operator ("Respondent") of a facility located at 100 E. Locust Street, Chatsworth, Livingston County, Illinois. The property is commonly known to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency as Chatsworth/Full Throttle.
2. That said facility is an open dump operating without an Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Operating Permit and is designated with Site Code No. 1050105013.
3. That Respondent has owned and operated said facility at all times pertinent hereto.
4. That on November 15, 2011, Jennifer O'Hearn of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's ("Illinois EPA") Champaign Regional Office inspected the above-described facility. A copy of her inspection report setting forth the results of said inspection is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

5. That on 1-5-2012, Illinois EPA sent this Administrative Citation via Certified Mail No. 7009 2820 0001 7496 0063.

VIOLATIONS

Based upon direct observations made by Jennifer O'Hearn during the course of her November 15, 2011 inspection of the above-named facility, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency has determined that Respondent has violated the Illinois Environmental Protection Act (hereinafter, the "Act") as follows:

- (1) That Respondent caused or allowed the open dumping of waste in a manner resulting in used tires, at this site, not altered, covered or otherwise prevented from accumulating water, a violation of Section 55(k)(1) of the Act, 415 ILCS 55(k)(1) (2010).

CIVIL PENALTY

Pursuant to Section 42(b)(4-5) of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/42(b)(4-5) (2010), Respondent is subject to a civil penalty of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) for each of the violations identified above, for a total of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00). If Respondent elects not to petition the Illinois Pollution Control Board, the statutory civil penalty specified above shall be due and payable no later than January 31, 2012, unless otherwise provided by order of the Illinois Pollution Control Board.

If Respondent elects to contest this Administrative Citation by petitioning the Illinois Pollution Control Board in accordance with Section 31.1 of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/31.1 (2010), and if the Illinois Pollution Control Board issues a finding of violation as alleged herein, after an adjudicatory hearing, Respondent shall be assessed the associated hearing costs incurred by the Illinois Environmental

Protection Agency and the Illinois Pollution Control Board. Those hearing costs shall be assessed in addition to the One Thousand Five Hundred Dollar (\$1,500.00) statutory civil penalty for each violation.

Pursuant to Section 31.1(d)(1) of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/31.1(d)(1) (2010), if Respondent fails to petition or elects not to petition the Illinois Pollution Control Board for review of this Administrative Citation within thirty-five (35) days of the date of service, the Illinois Pollution Control Board shall adopt a final order, which shall include this Administrative Citation and findings of violation as alleged herein, and shall impose the statutory civil penalty specified above.

When payment is made, Respondent's check shall be made payable to the Illinois Environmental Protection Trust Fund and mailed to the attention of Fiscal Services, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, 1021 North Grand Avenue East, P.O. Box 19276, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276. Along with payment, Respondent shall complete and return the enclosed Remittance Form to ensure proper documentation of payment.

If any civil penalty and/or hearing costs are not paid within the time prescribed by order of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, interest on said penalty and/or hearing costs shall be assessed against the Respondent from the date payment is due up to and including the date that payment is received. The Office of the Illinois Attorney General may be requested to initiate proceedings against Respondent in Circuit Court to collect said penalty and/or hearing costs, plus any interest accrued.

PROCEDURE FOR CONTESTING THIS
ADMINISTRATIVE CITATION

Respondent has the right to contest this Administrative Citation pursuant to and in accordance with Section 31.1 of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/31/1 (2010). If Respondent elects to contest this Administrative Citation, then Respondent shall file a signed Petition for Review, including a Notice of Filing, Certificate of Service, and Notice of Appearance, with the Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, State of Illinois Center, 100 West Randolph, Suite 11-500, Chicago, Illinois 60601. A copy of said Petition for Review shall be filed with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's Division of Legal Counsel at 1021 North Grand Avenue East, P.O. Box 19276, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276. Section 31.1 of the Act provides that any Petition for Review shall be filed within thirty-five (35) days of the date of service of this Administrative Citation or the Illinois Pollution Control Board shall enter a default judgment against the Respondent.



John J. Kim, Interim Director
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

Date: 11/3/2012

Prepared by: Susan E. Konzelmann, Legal Assistant
Division of Legal Counsel
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
1021 North Grand Avenue East
P.O. Box 19276
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276
(217) 782-5544

RECEIVED
CLERK'S OFFICE

JAN 11 2012

STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

REMITTANCE FORM

ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL)
 PROTECTION AGENCY,)
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 Complainant,)
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 v.)
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 ROBERT A. GERDES)
)
)
)
 Respondent.)

AC **12-24**
 (IEPA No. 406-11-AC)

ORIGINAL
 RETURN TO

FACILITY: Chatsworth/Full Throttle
 SITE CODE NO.: 1050105013
 COUNTY: Livingston
 CIVIL PENALTY: \$1,500.00
 DATE OF INSPECTION: November 15, 2011

DATE REMITTED:
 SS/FEIN NUMBER:
 SIGNATURE:

NOTE

Please enter the date of your remittance, your Social Security number (SS) if an individual or Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) if a corporation, and sign this Remittance Form. Be sure your check is enclosed and mail, along with Remittance Form, to Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Attn.: Fiscal Services, P.O. Box 19276, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276.