

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
July 11, 2013

ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL)	
PROTECTION AGENCY,)	
)	
Complainant,)	
)	
v.)	AC 13-48
)	(IEPA No. 116-13-AC)
NICO DEVELOPMENT GROUP, INC.)	(Administrative Citation)
)	
Respondent.)	

OPINION AND ORDER OF THE BOARD (by C.K. Zalewski):

On May 30, 2013, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Agency) timely filed an administrative citation against Nico Development Group, Inc. (Nico). *See* 415 ILCS 5/31.1(c) (2010); 35 Ill. Adm. Code 101.300(b), 108.202(c). The administrative citation concerns Nico’s tire and grocery store located at 1024 Eleventh Street in Rock Island, Rock Island County. The property is commonly known to the Agency as the “Nico Tire and Grocery” site and is designated with Site Code No. 1610656096. For the reasons below, the Board finds that Nico violated the Environmental Protection Act (Act) (415 ILCS 5 (2010)) and orders Nico to pay \$3,000 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 April 24, 2013, Nico violated Section 55(k)(1) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/55(k)(1) (2010)) by causing or allowing water to accumulate in used or waste tires. The Agency asks the Board to impose the statutory \$3,000 civil penalty on Nico for the one violation, which is allegedly Nico’s second or subsequent violation of Section 55(k)(1). As required, the Agency served the administrative citation on Nico 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 violations 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 July 2, 2013. Nico failed to timely file a petition. Accordingly, the Board finds that Nico violated Section 55(k)(1) of the Act.

The civil penalty for violating any provision of Section 55(k) is \$1,500 for each violation, except that the penalty amount is \$3,000 for each violation that is the person's second or subsequent adjudicated violation of that provision. *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) and this is a second or subsequent adjudicated violation, the total civil penalty is \$3,000.¹ 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 Nico violated Section 55(k)(1) of the Environmental Protection Act (415 ILCS 5/55(k)(1) (2010)).
2. Nico must pay a civil penalty of \$3,000 no later than August 12, 2013, which is the first business day following the 30th day after the date of this order. Nico 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 Nico's federal employer identification number must be included on the certified check or money order.
3. Nico 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

¹ Page two of the citation notes that on March 7, 2013, the Board found Nico in violation of Section 55(k)(1) of the Act. *See IEPA v. Nico Development Group, Inc.*, AC 13-32, slip op. at 1-2 (Mar. 7, 2013).

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, Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, certify that the Board adopted the above opinion and order on July 11, 2013, by a vote of 4-0.

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

John T. Therriault, Clerk
Illinois Pollution Control Board

BEFORE THE ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

ADMINISTRATIVE CITATION

RECEIVED
CLERK'S OFFICE
MAY 30 2013
STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION)
AGENCY,)
)
Complainant,)
)
v.)
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NICO DEVELOPMENT GROUP, INC.)
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)
Respondent.)

AC 13-48
(IEPA No. 116-13-AC)

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 Nico Development Group, Inc. is the current operator ("Respondent") of a facility located at 1024, 11th Street, Rock Island, Rock Island County, Illinois. The property is commonly known to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency as Nico Tire & Grocery.
2. That said facility is designated with Site Code No. 1610656096.
3. That Respondent has operated said facility at all times pertinent hereto.
4. That on April 24, 2013 Gerald McGhee, of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's ("Illinois EPA") Peoria Regional Office inspected the above-described facility. A copy of the inspection report setting forth the results of said inspection is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

5. That on 5-22-13, Illinois EPA sent this Administrative Citation via Certified Mail No. 7012 0470 0001 2998 5621.

VIOLATIONS

Based upon direct observations made by Gerald McGhee during the course of his April 24, 2013 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 water to accumulate in used or waste tires, a violation of Section 55(k)(1) of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/55(k)(1)(2010).

CIVIL PENALTY

On March 7, 2013, the Board found NICO Development Group, Inc. in violation of Section 55(k)(1) of the Act in AC 13-32.

Because this Administrative Citation addresses a second or subsequent violation of Section 55(k)(1) of the Act, 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 Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000.00) for each violation, for a total of Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000.00). 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 June 28, 2013, 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 Three Thousand Dollar (\$3,000.00) statutory civil penalty.

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.



Lisa Bonnett, Director
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

Date: 5/21/13

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

REMITTANCE FORM

RECEIVED
CLERK'S OFFICE

MAY 30 2013

STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

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AC 13-48
(IEPA No. 116-13-AC)

FACILITY: Nico Tire & Grocery
SITE CODE NO.: 1610656096
COUNTY: Rock Island
CIVIL PENALTY: \$3,000.00
DATE OF INSPECTION: April 24, 2013

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.