## ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD July 11, 2013

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS,	)	
Complainant,	) )	
v.	)	PCB 12-92
	)	(Enforcement - Water)
S.A. LEWIS CONSTRUCTION, INC.,	)	
an Illinois corporation,	)	
	)	
Respondent.	)	

OPINION AND ORDER OF THE BOARD (by J.A. Burke):

On December 1, 2011, the Office of the Attorney General, on behalf of the People of the State of Illinois (People), filed a three-count complaint against S.A. Lewis Construction, Inc., (S.A. Lewis). The complaint concerns S.A. Lewis' development known as "Summerfield Estates First Addition," located near the intersection of Long Creek Road and Camp Warren Lane in Long Creek, Macon County. The parties now seek to settle without a hearing. Along with the violations alleged in the complaint, the stipulation addresses alleged violations regarding S.A. Lewis' development known as "Carrington Estates," located in Mt. Zion, Macon County. For the reasons below, the Board accepts the parties' stipulation and proposed settlement.

Under the Environmental Protection Act (Act) (415 ILCS 5 (2010)), the Attorney General may bring actions before the Board to enforce Illinois' environmental requirements. See 415 ILCS 5/31 (2010); 35 Ill. Adm. Code 103. In this case, count I of the People's complaint alleges that S.A. Lewis violated Section 12(a) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/12(a) (2010)) by failing to implement adequate erosion controls at the Summerfield Estates site, resulting in discharges that caused or tended to cause water pollution and violated Board regulations. Count I also alleges that S.A. Lewis violated Section 302.203 of the Board's water pollution regulations (35 Ill. Adm. Code 302.203) by allowing offensive conditions in waterways adjacent to that site. Count II alleges that S.A. Lewis violated Section 309.102(a) of the Board's water pollution regulations (35 Ill. Adm. Code 309.102(a)) and Section 12(f) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/12(f) (2010)) by causing, threatening, or allowing the discharge of a contaminant into waters of the State adjacent to the Summerfield Estates site without a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. According to count III of the complaint, by failing to post, at the Summerfield Estates site, the notification of General NPDES permit coverage, the General NPDES permit, the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), and all inspection reports, S.A. Lewis violated Section 12(f) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/12(f) (2010)).

On May 23, 2013, the People and S.A Lewis jointly 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) (2010)). This filing is authorized by Section 31(c)(2) of the Act

(415 ILCS 5/31(c)(2) (2010)), 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 *Herald & Review* on June 8, 2013, and the *Mt. Zion Region News* on June 12, 2013. 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) (2010); 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 S.A Lewis' 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) (2010)), which bears on the reasonableness of the circumstances surrounding the alleged violations. The stipulation includes "violations alleged in [the People's] Complaint as well as additional violations which occurred after the filing of the Complaint." Stipulation at 2. Specifically, in addition to including the violations alleged in counts I through III of the complaint concerning the Summerfield Estates site, the stipulation states that it "resolves the violations listed in Illinois EPA Violation Notice W-2011-50411," which appears to concern the Carrington Estates site. Id. at 3. S.A. Lewis neither admits nor denies any of the alleged violations. The stipulation also addresses the factors of Section 42(h) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/42(h) (2010)), which may mitigate or aggravate the civil penalty amount. S.A. Lewis agrees to pay a civil penalty of \$10,500. The People and S.A. Lewis have satisfied Section 103.302, except as noted below. The Board accepts the stipulation and proposed settlement. However, because the People and S.A. Lewis have provided little information specific to Violation Notice W-2011-50411, the Board declines to incorporate by reference the stipulation and proposed settlement.

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

## **ORDER**

- 1. The Board accepts the stipulation and proposed settlement.
- 2. S.A. Lewis must pay a civil penalty of \$10,500 no later than August 12, 2013, which is the first business day following the 30th day after the date of this order. S.A. Lewis must pay the civil penalty by certified check or money order payable to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency for deposit into the Environmental Protection Trust Fund. The case name, case number, and S.A. Lewis' federal tax identification number must appear on the face of the certified check or money order.
- 3. S.A. Lewis 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

S.A. Lewis must send a copy of the certified check or money order and any transmittal letter to:

Michael D. Mankowski 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) (2010)) at the rate set forth in Section 1003(a) of the Illinois Income Tax Act (35 ILCS 5/1003(a) (2010)).
- 5. S.A. Lewis must cease and desist from future violations of the Environmental Protection Act and Board regulations that were the subject of the complaint.

## 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, 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.

John T. Therriault, Clerk Illinois Pollution Control Board