

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD  
May 15, 2014

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, )  
)  
Complainant, )  
)  
v. ) PCB 13-28  
) (Enforcement - Water)  
ATKINSON LANDFILL CO., an Illinois )  
corporation, )  
)  
Respondent. )

OPINION AND ORDER OF THE BOARD (by J.D. O'Leary):

On December 17, 2012, the Office of the Attorney General, on behalf of the People of the State of Illinois (People), filed a four-count complaint against Atkinson Landfill Co. (respondent). The complaint concerns respondent's active municipal solid waste landfill located at 1378 Commercial Drive in Atkinson, Henry County. 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 (2012)), 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 (2012); 35 Ill. Adm. Code 103. In this case, the People allege that respondent violated Sections 12(a) and (b) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/12(a) and (b) (2012)) and Section 309.204(a) of the Board's regulations (35 Ill. Adm. Code 309.204(a)). According to the complaint, respondent violated these provisions by threatening the discharge of a contaminant into waters of the State that could cause or tend to cause water pollution; operating trucks to haul leachate from the landfill in excess of permit limits; disposing of leachate without an Agency permit and threatening the discharge of a contaminant that could cause or tend to cause water pollution; and operating equipment to dispose of wastewater without an Agency operating permit.

On March 28, 2014, the People and respondent 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) (2012)). This filing is authorized by Section 31(c)(2) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/31(c)(2) (2012)), 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 *Star Courier* on April 10, 2014. 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) (2012); 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) (2012)), which bears on the reasonableness of the circumstances surrounding the alleged violations. The respondent 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) (2012)), which may mitigate or aggravate the civil penalty amount. Respondent agrees to pay a civil penalty of \$5,000.00. 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. Respondent must pay a civil penalty of \$5,000.00 no later than June 16, 2014, which is the first business day following the 30th day after the date of this order. Respondent 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 and case number must appear on the face of the certified check or money order.
3. Respondent 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

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

Kathryn A. Pamenter  
Assistant Attorney General  
Environmental Bureau  
Illinois Attorney General's Office  
69 W. Washington Street, Suite 1800  
Chicago, Illinois 60602

4. Penalties unpaid within the time prescribed will accrue interest under Section 42(g) of the Environmental Protection Act (415 ILCS 5/42(g) (2012)) at the rate

set forth in Section 1003(a) of the Illinois Income Tax Act (35 ILCS 5/1003(a) (2012)).

5. Respondent 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) (2012); *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 order on May 15, 2014, by a vote of 4-0.



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John T. Therriault, Clerk  
Illinois Pollution Control Board