## ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

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| IN THE MATTER OF:               |   | STATE OF ILLINOIS<br>Pollution Control Board |  |
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|                                 | ) |  |  |
| WATER POLLUTION: PROPOSED       | ) | No. R15-24                                   |  |
| AMENDMENTS TO 35 ILL. ADM. CODE | ) | (Rulemaking-Water)                           |  |
| PART 309                        | ) |  |  |

REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS had in an open session at the hearing on a motion of the above-entitled cause before the HONORABLE JASON JAMES, Hearing Officer, Illinois Pollution Control Board, 100 West Randolph Street, Suite 11-500, Chicago, Illinois, on September 24, 2015, scheduled to begin at 11:00 a.m., commencing at 11:06 a.m.

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| 1  | APPEARANCES:  |      |   |
| 2  | ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD MR. JASON JAMES, Hearing Officer                     |      |   |
| 3  | MS. CARRIE ZALEWSKI, Board Member MS. JENNIFER BURKE, Board Member                    |      |   |
| 4  | MR. ANAND RAO, Board Member   |      |   |
| 5  |   |      |   |
| 6  | ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY BY: MS. SARA TERRANOVA (VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE) |      |   |
| 7  | BY: MR. DARRIN LeCRONE (VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE)  |      |   |
| 8  | ALSO PRESENT:   |      |   |
| 9  | MS. REBECCA A. BURLINGHAM   |      |   |
| 10 | Office of the Attorney General<br>State of Illinois                                   |      |   |
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| 14 |   |      |   |
| 15 | REPORTED BY: MARY T. MURPHY McGUIRK, CSR Certificate No. 84-4160.                     |      |   |
| 16 | Celtificate No. 04 4100.  |      |   |
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HEARING OFFICER JAMES: Good morning. Welcome to the Illinois Pollution Control Board hearing. I am Jason James, and I am the hearing officer for this rulemaking proceeding entitled Water Pollution: Proposed Amendments to 35 Ill. Adm. Code Part 309. The board docket for the rulemaking is R15-24.

Today's hearing is a videoconference between the Board's offices in Chicago and Springfield. Here in Chicago, we have two board members, Member Jennifer Burke to my left, and Member Carrie Zalewski to my right. Also present from the Board is Mr. Anand Rao of the technical staff and other board staff.

In Springfield, we have representatives from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. Could you introduce yourself for the record, please.

MS. TERRANOVA: I'm Sara Terranova, divisional legal counsel.

MR. LeCRONE: And Darrin LeCrone, divisional water pollution control permit section.

HEARING OFFICER JAMES: Okay. As background, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency filed

the rulemaking proposal with the Board on June 1st, 2015. The Board accepted the proposal for hearing on June 4th. The first hearing was conducted on August 25th, 2015, in Springfield, where the Agency responded to questions from the Board and other parties.

A hearing officer order dated June 29th scheduled this hearing, which is the second in this rulemaking. This order also set a deadline of September 10th to pre-file testimony for this hearing. The Board received no pre-filed testimony for today's hearing.

I entered another hearing officer order on September 17th, 2015, posing questions by the Board and staff for IEPA's witnesses, which will be discussed today.

I'd like to note for the record that there are sheets on which anyone can indicate they'd like to testify or offer comment today. Please note that the testimony and comment sheets are separate. We have nobody signed up on the sheets here in Chicago.

Is there anybody signed up on the sheets in Springfield?

1 MS. TERRANOVA: No.

HEARING OFFICER JAMES: Okay. This proceeding is governed by the Board's procedural rules. All information that's relevant and not repetitious or privileged will be admitted into the record. Please note that any questions posed today by the board members or staff are intended solely to assist in developing a clear and complete record for the Board's decision and do not reflect any prejudgment or bias on the proposal.

We'll begin by having the Agency's witness sworn in and allow him to give testimony if he wishes to. After that, we will turn to questions regarding the witness's testimony. Anyone may ask questions of IEPA's witness and any members of the public present will be given first opportunity to pose questions. The Board or staff or anyone else present will then ask follow-up questions, if they wish to.

After the testimony and questions for the Agency's witness, we will allow anyone else to testify or comment as time allows and the Board may receive public comments on the proposal. For the conclusion of today's hearing, there will be an

opportunity for anyone to offer testimony on the Board's request that the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, or DCEO, perform an economic impact study on this proposal.

For the court reporter transcribing today's proceeding, please speak clearly and avoid speaking at the same time as another person so we can help produce a clear transcript. Also, because today's hearing is a videoconference, we'll just ask especially that everybody speak clearly so that it comes out completely, easily for everyone to understand.

Are there any questions about the order of proceeding today?

MS. TERRANOVA: No.

HEARING OFFICER JAMES: Okay. Hearing no questions, we'll move ahead.

Does the Agency or any board member have an opening statement?

MS. TERRANOVA: The Agency has no opening statement.

HEARING OFFICER JAMES: Okay. Ms. Terranova, please introduce yourself and -- well, I guess you've already introduced yourself for the record.

Page 7 1 So we can go ahead and swear in the witness and 2 begin. 3 And with that, would the court reporter 4 please swear in the witness? 5 (The witness was duly sworn.) 6 HEARING OFFICER JAMES: Okay. First, we'll 7 begin with responses to the questions that the Board pre-filed on September 17th. 8 9 MS. TERRANOVA: How --10 HEARING OFFICER JAMES: Sorry. Go ahead. MS. TERRANOVA: How would you like 11 12 us to proceed? We have prepared a written 13 Should Darin just read them into the response. 14 record? 15 HEARING OFFICER JAMES: Yes. Yes. That 16 would be -- that would be easiest, I believe. 17 I can go ahead, if it makes most sense, and read 18 the questions for the record. And then --19 MS. TERRANOVA: Sure. 20 HEARING OFFICER JAMES: -- you can respond 21 with what you have. 22 MR. LeCRONE: Okay. 23 MS. TERRANOVA: Thank you. 24 HEARING OFFICER JAMES: All right.

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## DARIN LeCRONE,

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called as a witness herein, having been first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

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### EXAMINATION

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## BY HEARING OFFICER JAMES:

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Q. So on the 17th, we filed these questions.

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"The Agency in its August 25th, 2015, response to the

first question we filed is numbered 17. And it says,

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Board's pre-filed questions proposed a change to Section

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309.104(A)1(b). The proposed language says,

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'A permittee has submitted a timely application for a

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new permit when the permittee submits requests for a waiver in writing to the Agency and the Agency grants

This appears to say that an application is

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the written waiver. Exhibit 2 at page 1.'

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timely submitted when the Agency grants a waiver, but

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does not actually require a complete application.

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Should this provision require that to timely -- to

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submit a timely application under Section

frame listed in the waiver request?"

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309.104(A)1(b), the applicant must submit a waiver request, the Agency must grant a waiver, and the

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applicant must submit an application within the time

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A. And our response to that is yes,

in order to timely submit an application under Section 309.104(A)1(b), the Agency must grant a waiver and the applicant must submit an application within the time frame listed in the waiver request.

- Q. All right. We'll move on to question numbered 18 in the Board's pre-filed questions. That question reads, "The Agency stated that unforeseeable circumstances can cause a permittee to submit a renewal application after the standard 180-day deadline. Exhibit No. 2 at pages 1 and 2. Should the rule specify that the Agency will only grant waivers in unforeseeable circumstances?"
- A. The Agency's intent was to provide a process by which a permittee may submit a renewal application past the normal 180-day deadline if circumstances occur preventing the permittee from filing the application within 180 days of expiration. "Justifiable causes" may have been a better description of the Agency's intent than "unforeseeable circumstances."
- Q. All right. We'll move to question No. 19.

  "The Agency stated that the rule allows waiver requests at any time before the permit expires and that the permittee will be notified of a waiver denial within 21 days of the waiver request. Exhibit No. 2 at page 1.

How will the Agency treat a waiver request made less

than 21 days before the permit's expiration date?"

Page 10

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The question continues here, but does it make most sense to you to respond to that question and read the rest? Or should I go ahead and read the rest

A. My response is kind of written in the entirety of the question, so go ahead and read the rest of the question would probably be better.

## Q. Sure. Okay.

of the question?

The question continues. "For example, if a permittee requested a waiver on the permit's expiration date and the Agency denied it, would the permit then expire and not be administratively continued? Would the Agency consider the facility to be operating without a permit during this period after the permit's expiration date, but before the Agency denies the waiver request?

"Alternatively, is the 180 days prior to expiration the key date for when a waiver request must be filed with the Agency? With the possibility of obtaining a waiver within the 180 days prior to permit expiration, what, if any, consequences flow from the 180 days prior to expiration date passing without a

renewal application filed? Will waiver requests filed within the 180 days prior to permit expiration be held to a different standard than those filed more than 180 days prior to permit expiration?"

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Α. If the permittee requested a waiver within 180 days of permit expiration and the Agency denied it, then the permittee would be discharging without a permit after the expiration date. To obtain administrative continuance the permittee must file a timely application. This circumstance exists now and would not change with this proposed rulemaking. All waiver requests, regardless of when filed, would be required to provide justifiable causes for the requested delay in filing the application. The Agency does not wish to encourage the late filing for renewal applications and is only seeking to allow a process to address the limited number of instances where a permittee had justifiable causes for not meeting the otherwise applicable 180-day deadline.

In order to address the Board's concerns concerning waiver requests within 21 days of the expiration date, the Agency would propose requiring that a permittee file a waiver request at least 60 days prior to the expiration date of the permit. This time frame

would allow the Agency to process such a waiver request, and if denied, allow the permittee time to file an appeal with the Board. It should be noted that a permittee may file an application at any time regardless of the status of a waiver request.

And in order to address the concerns expressed in comments No. 17 and 19, the Agency proposes some revisions to the language of Section 309.104(A)1(b).

I don't know how the best way to read this in...

- Q. Yes. I guess if you would just read the rule as you suggest to revise it, that might be the most straightforward.
- A. Okay. There's no revision to Part (A)1(a). This is only -- the proposed revision is to (A)1(b), and that would begin with "The permittee submits a request for a waiver in writing to the Agency and the Agency grants a written waiver request -- or written waiver to submit the application less than 180 days prior to the expiration date of the existing permit and the applicant submits an application within the time frame listed in the waiver request. Such a waiver request must include the permittee's justifiable causes for not meeting the

180-day time frame. A waiver of the 180-day submittal requirement must be filed a minimum of 60 days prior to expiration of the permit and shall include the date by which the permittee will submit the application."

Then we're also proposing a (c) and (d). So (A)1(c) would be "The Agency shall not grant a waiver for applications to be submitted later than the expiration date of the existing permit."

(A)1(d) would read, "Any Agency decision to deny a waiver request must be made within 21 days of receipt of the waiver request." And that's it.

HEARING OFFICER JAMES: Okay. That takes care of the Agency's responses to the Board's pre-filed questions.

Could I also ask that you submit the written responses to the Board's clerk and in COOL so that can put that up in the docket?

MS. TERRANOVA: Yes. I'll take care of that.

HEARING OFFICER JAMES: Okay. Great. Then we will ask if there are questions for the Agency from any members of the public either in Springfield or in Chicago.

I don't see any here in Chicago. Are there any in Springfield?

1 MS. TERRANOVA: There are not.

HEARING OFFICER JAMES: Okay. Then if the Board has any follow-up questions or new questions, they can ask them now.

Okay. There aren't any.

And I guess just for the sake of completeness, I'll ask again if anybody else at all, Board, staff, anyone present has questions. And if there aren't any additional questions, we can ask if anyone wants to testify or comment.

I don't see anybody here in Chicago, and it appears there are none in Springfield either.

So if no one objects, that will be the end of the testimony portion for today, and we'll move to closing matters.

The first closing matter is the economic impact study. Since 1998, Section 27(B) of the Environmental Protection Act has required the Board to request that the department now known as the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity conduct an economic impact study of proposed rules before the Board adopts them. The Board then must make either the economic impact study or the department's explanation for not conducting one

available to the public at least 20 days before a public hearing.

In a letter dated June 30th, 2015, the Board's chairman, Dr. Deanna Glosser, requested that the department conduct an economic impact study of this proposal. The Board did specifically request a response no later than August 3rd, 2015. The Board did not receive any response from DCEO to this request.

Would anyone like to testify regarding the request from the Board to DCEO?

Seeing nobody, we can move on after a couple more quick announcements. The Board expects to receive a transcript of this hearing on or before October 1st. Very soon after the Board receives the transcript, it will be available on the Board's website at www.ipcb.state.il.us under this docket number, R15-24.

The Board will accept post-hearing comments until October 15th, two weeks after we expect to post the transcript. Anyone may file written public comments in this rulemaking with the clerk of the Board. Comments may be filed electronically through the Board's clerk office

online or COOL. Any questions about electronic filing or COOL should be directed to the clerk's office.

Filings with the Board, whether paper or electronic, must also be served on the hearing officer and those persons on the service list.

Before filing, please check with the Board's clerk to make sure that you have the most recent version of the service list.

If anyone has any questions about the procedural aspects of this rulemaking, my contact information is posted on the Board's web page.

Are there any other matters that need to be addressed at this time?

MS. TERRANOVA: No.

HEARING OFFICER JAMES: Okay. I'd like to thank everyone for participating today. And the hearing is adjourned.

(The proceedings adjourned at 11:24 a.m.)

|    | Page 17  |
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| 1  | STATE OF ILLINOIS )                                      |
| 2  | ) SS:  |
| 3  | COUNTY OF C O O K )                                      |
| 4  | I, Mary T. Murphy McGuirk, a Certified                   |
| 5  | Shorthand Reporter of the State of Illinois, do hereby   |
| 6  | certify that I reported in shorthand the proceedings had |
| 7  | at the hearing aforesaid, and that the foregoing is a    |
| 8  | true, complete, and correct transcript of the            |
| 9  | proceedings of said hearing as appears from my           |
| 10 | stenographic notes so taken and transcribed under my     |
| 11 | personal direction.                                      |
| 12 | IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I do hereunto set my hand            |
| 13 | at Chicago, Illinois, this 28th day of September 201     |
| 14 | m = m + m + m + m  |
| 15 | Mary 7. Murphy Mc guil                                   |
| 16 |  |
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| 19 | Mary T. Murphy McGuirk                                   |
| 20 | Certified Shorthand Reporter                             |
| 21 | CSR Certificate No. 84-4160                              |
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| 23 |  |
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