

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD  
September 7, 1978

CITY OF CHICAGO, )  
 )  
 Petitioner, )  
 )  
 v. ) PCB 78-106  
 )  
 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, )  
 )  
 Respondent. )

OPINION AND ORDER OF THE BOARD (by Mr. Goodman):

This matter is before the Board on a Petition for Variance by the City of Chicago filed April 17, 1978, requesting a variance from Rule 203(g)(1)(A) of the Board's Air Pollution Regulations for its Roseland Pumping Station in the City of Chicago. No hearing was held in this matter, and the Board has received no public comment.

The Roseland Pumping Station (Roseland) supplies potable water and fire protection for certain areas of the City of Chicago, utilizing both gas-fired steam generators and coal-burning boilers. Roseland has a normal complement of forty-six operating personnel and is manned twenty-four hours per day for every day in the year. The station lifts water from the tunnel supplied by the South Water Filtration Plant to the pressures needed to provide a safe and continuous supply of water to all the users in the distribution system which it serves.

As a result of the extreme cold of the winter of 1976-1977 and a request from People's Gas Company that the city reduce its use of gas to conserve supplies, the Department of Water and Sewers of the City of Chicago decided to retain two of the coal-fired boilers. The Chicago Department of Environmental Control was asked to measure the amount of particulate matter which was produced by the remaining two coal-fired boilers. The results of these tests and examination of potential means of reducing the pollutant resulted in the department's selection of a baghouse installation to meet the standards. At the present time sufficient steam can be generated by the gas-fired boilers so that under normal operating conditions the use of the coal fired boilers will not be required during the period of the requested variance. Exceptions to the above will occur in the summer of 1978 if extremely hot weather occurs and during periods when the gas-fired boilers must be taken out of service for cleaning and repairs.

In response to a Board order requesting an assessment of the environmental impact of the requested variance on the air quality at the Roseland Station, the city produced a report containing data for the maximum particulate concentrations that occur during the normal pumping period of July and August. This report indicated a maximum increase in particulate matter of about 5% during the worst case condition. However, considering the fact that the report concerned only a worst case condition and the intermittent nature of the utilization of the coal-fired boilers prior to installation of the baghouse collectors, the Board finds the potential harm to the environment to be of little consequence notwithstanding the fact that the Roseland Station is in a nonattainment area of the State with respect to particulate matter.

The cost of the compliance program is about one million dollars and is scheduled for completion by October of 1979. The Agency is of the opinion that the installation will bring the facility into compliance and that the specified time schedule is reasonable. Considering the slight effect on the environment and the good faith reasons for the delay and determination of a compliance program, the Board finds it would be an arbitrary and unreasonable hardship on Petitioner for the Board to deny the variance requested. The Board will therefore grant a variance from Rule 203(g)(1)(A) of Chapter 2 until July 1, 1979 for the Roseland Pumping Station, subject to certain conditions.

This Opinion constitutes the finding of facts and conclusions of law of the Board in this matter.

ORDER

It is the Order of the Pollution Control Board that the City of Chicago be granted a variance from Rule 203(g)(1)(A) of Chapter 2 of the Board's Air Pollution Control Regulations for its Roseland Pumping Station until July 1, 1979, subject to the following conditions:

1. The coal fired units shall be operated only during periods of peak water usage or during periods when the gas fired units are shut down for maintenance.
2. Within 60 days of the date of this Order the City of Chicago shall apply to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency for all necessary construction permits for the baghouse installation and for all necessary operating permits.

3. Within 45 days of the date of this Order and every three months thereafter the City of Chicago shall submit written reports to the Agency with respect to the progress made toward compliance with the Board's regulations, said reports to be sent to:

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
Division of Air Pollution Control  
Control Program Coordinator  
2200 Churchill Road  
Springfield, IL 62706

4. Within 45 days of the adoption of this Order, the City of Chicago shall execute and forward to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Division of Air Pollution Control, Control Program Coordinator, 2200 Churchill Road, Springfield, Illinois 62706 a Certification of Acceptance and Agreement to be bound to all terms and conditions of this Order. The 45 day period shall be held in abeyance during any period this matter is being appealed. The form of said certification shall be as follows:

CERTIFICATION

I, (We), \_\_\_\_\_ having read and fully understanding the Order of the Illinois Pollution Control Board in PCB 78-106 hereby accept said Order and agree to be bound by all of the terms and conditions thereof.


SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Dumelle abstains.

I, Christan L. Moffett, Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, hereby certify the above Opinion and Order were adopted on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of September, 1978 by a vote of 3-0.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Christan L. Moffett, Clerk  
Illinois Pollution Control Board