

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
November 8, 1973

THE CITY OF PERU,)
)
 Petitioner,)
)
 vs.) PCB 73-255
)
 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY,)
)
 Respondent.)

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

On August 16, 1973, Petitioner, the City of Peru, located in La Salle County, Illinois, filed its Amended Petition for Variance. Petitioner operates an electric power generating facility which utilizes the following power sources:

<u>Power Source</u>	<u>Date of Installation</u>	<u>Electrical Generating Capacity</u>
Boiler 3	1937	3,750 KW
Boiler 4	1951	4,000 KW
Boiler 5	1960	7,500 KW
Gas Turbine	1968	11,500 KW
		7,800 KW
Diesel	1973	6,250 KW

Boiler #3, the operation of which is the subject of this Petition, is described by Petitioner as a "small, obsolete, low pressure, inefficient boiler that is normally not operated but which has value for emergency stand-by purposes to be operated one or more days in the event two or more of the other primary generating machines breaks down during a high electrical demand period. Boiler #3 is coal powered but is not equipped with a dust collector. Because of the low steam pressure (185-PSIG) produced by this boiler, the generating cycle is highly inefficient

resulting in high operating costs. This precludes any operation of the boiler except in emergencies." (Petition, p.2).

Petitioner further alleges that Boiler #3 will probably never have to be used; however, in the event of a most unusual set of circumstances which would shut down two or more of the primary generating machines, Petitioner by this action seeks permission to operate Boiler #3 until the situation is corrected.

Petitioner states that the emission rates of Boiler #3 are as follows:

<u>Emission</u>	<u>State Regulation Limit</u>	<u>Boiler #3 Emission Rate</u>
Particulates	0.2 #/MM Btu input	1.03 #/MM But input
Sulfur Dioxide	6 #/MM But input	3.8 #/MM Btu input
Nitrogen Oxides	No regulation	---
Carbon Monoxide	200 ppM	0 ppM

As can be seen above, the particulate emission exceeds the state limitation. With a maximum heat input of 55 MM Btu per hour, the maximum particulate emission rate would be 56.6 lbs. per hour.

Petitioner estimates the cost of bringing Boiler #3 into compliance to be from \$150,000.00 to \$200,000.00. This approximation is based upon installation of a dust collector, an ash handling system and a new fan and duct work.

We are disposed to grant the variance as requested. The Agency, in its Recommendation, notes that Petitioner does not propose any compliance program for Boiler #3. Although the Agency recommends that a variance be granted herein, it recommends also that Petitioner be ordered to achieve compliance within the period of the variance. We cannot agree.

Exclusive of the 3,750 KW of Boiler #3, and using the low 7,800 KW capacity for the gas turbine, Petitioner's plant capacity is 25,550 KW. Petitioner's record maximum electrical output of 17,100 KW was set on July 9, 1973. Further, Boiler #3 has not been operated since April, 1972.

We feel, therefore, that it would constitute an unreasonable hardship to require Petitioner to invest from \$150,000.00 to \$200,000.00 in order to bring into compliance a boiler which would be used infrequently, and possibly never.

The Opinion constitutes the findings of fact and conclusions of law of the Board.

ORDER

IT IS THE ORDER of the Pollution Control Board that Petition, City of Peru, be granted a variance, for a period of one year from the date of this Order, to operate the subject Boiler #3 subject to the following conditions:

1. Boiler #3 shall be operated only when two or more of the primary generating machines are forced out of service and the power demand exceeds available capacity;
2. Petitioner shall file quarterly reports with the Agency. Said reports shall indicate all operations of Boiler No. 3, the date of said operation, kilowatts generated by each generator on each day of operation, generators forced out of service on each day of operation of Boiler No. 3 and the reason for the forced outage and the power demand to supply customers on each day of operation of Boiler No. 3.
3. Petitioner shall report to the Agency its progress in obtaining an interconnection with Illinois Power Company and, in particular, the disposition of its case currently pending before the Federal Power Commission (Docket No. E 7512).

I, Christan L. Moffett, Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, certify that the above Opinion and Order was adopted this 8th day of November, 1973 by a vote of 5 to 0.

Christan L. Moffett