

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
July 24, 1975

IN THE MATTER OF)
BEVERAGE CONTAINER REGULATIONS) R 71-24

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

On November 15, 1971 the Institute for Environmental Quality transmitted to the Board the recommendations of the Illinois Solid Waste Management Task Force on beverage containers, Document #TF-1 4EQ, together with a suggested form of regulation requiring a mandatory deposit on the sale of beverages in containers as defined in the proposed regulation. Eleven days of hearings were held to consider this proposal -- from December, 1972 to February, 1973. Two additional days of hearings were held in December, 1974 for the purpose of receiving testimony on Oregon's experience with a mandatory deposit law. The Board is of the opinion that much of the data elicited in these proceedings should be up-dated. Much has happened to the economy in the last few years especially in the area of employment, inflation and energy pricing -- which dictates in favor of such a course.

Accordingly, we remand this proceeding for an up-dating of the economic impact of the proposed regulation. The Institute shall prepare and publish within six months a study which evaluates the environmental costs and benefits of the proposed regulation. Such study should include information concerning the effects of the regulation on the people and on the agriculture, local government, commerce and industry of Illinois. The Board is particularly interested in the consequences with regard to employment, consumer prices, and energy costs. It is also interested in the latest data available with respect to the experience in Oregon and Vermont, and the results of relevant studies in other states considering similar legislation or regulation. An analysis of the current economic feasibility of resource recovery facilities is also desirable. Such up-dated information as is presented in this study, together with evidence elicited

at hearings held in response to the study, will better enable the Board to reach a final determination of the merits of the proposed regulation on the basis of the best and latest evidence available.

A Motion requesting oral argument in this proceeding, filed June 10, 1975 by the Glass Container Manufacturers Institute, Can Manufacturers Institute, United States Brewers Association and the Illinois Soft Drink Association, will be held in abeyance until after receipt of the Institute study and any hearings held thereafter. Any oral argument had before that time would be premature.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Mr. Zeitlin abstains.

I, Christan L. Moffett, Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, hereby certify the above Interim Opinion and Order were adopted on the 24th day of July, 1975 by a vote of 4-0.


Christan L. Moffett, Clerk
Illinois Pollution Control Board