

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
June 21, 1973

ARMOUR-DIAL, INC.

v.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

PCB 73-105

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

This is a petition for variance from Rules 205(f), 103(b) (6)(E), and 104(c)(1) of the Air Regulations. Hearing was held on May 17, 1973.

Petitioner's plant is located in Montgomery, Illinois. Petitioner's plant manufactures toilet soap from tallow, coconut oil, and sodium hydroxide. Tallow and coconut oil are pumped into the bottom of two eight-foot fat splitting towers and water is pumped in the top. As the fats rise, fatty acids are released and washed free. The crude fatty acids then flow to a dehydrator and into holding tanks prior to entering the distillation tower. In the distillation tower, the acids are boiled causing a vapor to be given off. These vapors contact cooling water in the barometric condensers and the resulting liquid flows to the skimming basin and then to the "oily" cooling tower, which is the subject of this Petition. Petitioner states that approximately 18 pounds per hour of organic materials are discharged from the cooling tower which is in excess of the allowable emissions of 8 pounds/hr in Rule 205(f) of the Pollution Control Board Rules.

Petitioner has been working on this odor problem since 1966. During that time period they have done odor surveys, installed an aeration system, put in new stainless steel sweet water storage tanks, experimented with neutralizing chemicals, converted coal boilers to gas, relocated certain pieces of process equipment, performed feasibility studies, installed a screen system, and installed a skimming tank. In February, 1973, their consulting engineer began the final design work on the project. The design is expected to be completed by August, 1973.

To date, Armour has spent \$1.6 million on pollution control and expects to spend another \$1.5 million to complete the project. They

will be replacing the present barometric type condensers with surface condensers thus eliminating any direct contact between the vapor stream and the cooling water.

At this point, without the benefit of the final engineering plans and schedules, we are uncertain as to exactly what will be involved in the project and what the interim and final dates will be. We will, however, grant a short term variance until September 30, 1973 so that the final design plans and schedules may be completed and submitted to the Agency. At that point the petitioner will have to re-petition the Board with a specific and definite schedule listing all interim and final dates. The Agency will then have 21 days within which to submit its recommendation and comments to us. There will probably be no need for any hearing at that point.

This opinion constitutes the Board's findings of fact and conclusions of law.

ORDER

Variance is granted from Rules 205(f); 103(b)(6)(E) and 104 (c)(1) until September 30, 1973.

I, Christan L. Moffett, Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, hereby certify the above Opinion and Order were adopted on the 21st day of June, 1973 by a vote of 4-0


Christan L. Moffett, Clerk
Illinois Pollution Control Board