

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD  
July 19, 1990

CITY OF MONMOUTH, )  
 )  
 Petitioner, )  
 )  
 v. ) PCB 90-132  
 ) (Provisional Variance)  
 ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL )  
 PROTECTION AGENCY, )  
 )  
 Respondent. )

ORDER OF THE BOARD (R. Flemal):

This matter comes before the Board on receipt of an Agency Recommendation dated July 17, 1990. The recommendation refers to a request from Petitioner, City of Monmouth for a provisional variance from the biochemical oxygen demand (CBOD<sub>5</sub>), suspended solids (TSS), and ammonia nitrogen (NH<sub>3</sub>) effluent requirements, as set forth in 35 Ill. Adm. Code 304.120(c), 304.122(a), and 304.141, for the period from when the City begins repairs to its wastewater treatment plant, by bypassing its activated sludge unit, and continuing until the City returns that unit to service, but not for longer than 45 days.

The City of Monmouth operates two wastewater treatment plants. Normally, treatment at the plant of interest, the Monmouth Main plant, consists of screening, grit removal, four primary clarifiers, two-stage activated sludge aeration, clarification, and filtration. The plant discharges effluent to Markham Creek, a tributary of Cedar Creek, Henderson Creek, and the Mississippi River. NPDES permit IL0021253 requires the effluent to meet 10 mg/l BOD<sub>5</sub> (monthly average), 12 mg/l TSS (monthly average), and 1.5 mg/l NH<sub>3</sub> (daily maximum, April through October).

The City asserts that it must clean, inspect, and perform necessary preventative maintenance on the activated sludge treatment portion of its plant. During dewatering and repairs of this portion of the plant, the City intends to provide partial treatment of the plant flows: screening, grit removal, primary clarification, and secondary clarification. The City believes that it can thereby attain a partially treated effluent containing 15 mg/l BOD<sub>5</sub>, 20 mg/l TSS, and 4.0 mg/l NH<sub>3</sub> (monthly averages).

The Agency recommends that the Board grant the requested provisional variance with specified conditions. The Agency agrees that the repairs are necessary. The Agency anticipates that the requested provisional variance would have minimal environmental impact on Henderson Creek. The Agency is unaware

of any public water supplies that the requested provisional variance would adversely impact. The Agency maintains that a grant of a provisional variance would violate no federal laws. The Agency opines that a denial of the requested provisional variance would create an arbitrary and unreasonable hardship on the City.

In light of the Agency Recommendation, the Board hereby grants a provisional variance from 35 Ill. Adm. Code 304.120(c), 304.122(a), and 304.141 on the following conditions:

1. The term of this provisional variance shall commence when the City of Monmouth initiates bypassing its activated sludge unit, and it shall expire on the date the City of Monmouth returns its activated sludge unit to service or after 45 days have elapsed, whichever comes first;
2. During the term of this provisional variance, the effluent from the City of Monmouth's treatment plant shall not exceed concentrations of 15 mg/l BOD<sub>5</sub>, 20 mg/l TSS, or 4.0 mg/l NH<sub>3</sub> (each on a monthly average basis);
3. The City of Monmouth shall notify Ken Newman of the Agency's Peoria office by telephone, at 309-693-5463, when it removes its activated sludge unit from service and when it returns the unit to service, and the City shall confirm this notice in writing within five days, addressed as follows:

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
 Division of Water Pollution Control  
 Compliance Assurance Section  
 2200 Churchill Road  
 P.O. Box 19276  
 Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276

Attention: Erin Rednour

5. The City of Monmouth shall return its activated sludge unit to service as soon as possible and operate its plant during the term of this provisional variance in a manner that assures the best treatment practicable; and
6. The City shall execute a copy of a Certificate of Acceptance of this provisional variance and forward that copy to the Agency addressed as indicted in condition 4; the City shall forward that copy within 10 days of the date of this Order of the Board, i.e., on or before July 29, 1990; and the Certificate of Acceptance shall take the following form:

CERTIFICATION

I (We), \_\_\_\_\_,  
hereby accept and agree to be bound by all terms  
and conditions of the Order of the Pollution  
Control Board in PCB 90-132, July 19, 1990.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Petitioner

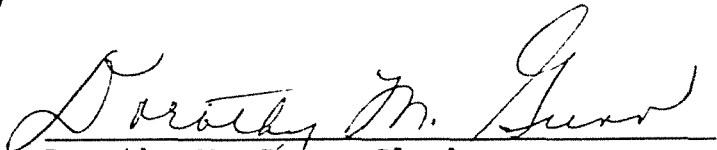
\_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized Agent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

IT IS SO ORDERED.

I, Dorothy M. Gunn, Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control  
Board, do hereby certify that the above Order was adopted on the  
19<sup>th</sup> day of July, 1990, by a vote of  
5-0.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dorothy M. Gunn, Clerk  
Illinois Pollution Control Board

