

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

November 22, 1974

ANDREW MCFARLAND ZONE CENTER,)
)
 Petitioner,)
)
 vs.) PCB 74-339
)
 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY,)
)
 Respondent.)

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

The Andrew McFarland Zone Center is a facility of the Illinois Department of Mental Health and is used for the care of patients at Springfield, Illinois. Petitioner seeks a variance from Rule 203(h) of Chapter 3, Water Pollution Regulations in order to apply copper sulfate to a man-made lake for the control of algae. The lake was constructed for aesthetic purposes and is a major part of the total environment provided for patient care at the Zone Center. According to the Environmental Protection Agency the lake is 50% covered with dense algae.

The Zone Center lake is a totally self-contained man-made lake and has no outfall unless a major rainfall occurs. Any overflow from the lake flows on to the immediate flat grounds. The lake is fed by land runoff and there is no defined tributary to it. The Agency states that the lake is 4 or more acres in size and the exact depth is unknown. The lake supports aquatic life but is not used for swimming and is not used as a water supply for man or livestock.

Eighty pounds of copper sulfate was applied to the lake in July 1972 and again in July 1973 without any fish kill or other undesirable effects.

The Agency recommends that the variance be granted, stating that algae can cause fish kills during extended periods of cloudy weather and in addition, the algae is very unsightly and distracts from the general appearance of the lake. Petitioner states that it would like to restore the beauty of the lake for the benefit of approximately 130 patients and also visitors and employees.

Since the amount of copper sulfate to be added will depend upon the size and depth of the lake, an accurate determination of the lake size will have to be made. However, we believe that there is sufficient information in the record for the allowance of this variance subject to determination of the size of the lake and observance by the Agency

of the application of the copper sulfate. A proper application of copper sulfate we believe will be beneficial and would pose no threat to aquatic life.

This Opinion constitutes the findings of fact and conclusions of law of the Illinois Pollution Control Board.

ORDER

It is the Order of the Pollution Control Board that Petitioner be granted variance from Rule 203(h) of Chapter 3, Water Pollution Regulations of Illinois for a period of one year for the purpose of making one application of copper sulfate to its man-made lake. The variance is subject to the following conditions:

- a. That an accurate determination of the size of the Andrew McFarland Zone Center lake be made and that such information be submitted to the Agency prior to application of the copper sulfate.
- b. That copper sulfate be applied at a rate not to exceed 2.7 lbs. per acre foot of water volume.
- c. That the Agency be notified before the application of the copper sulfate and be allowed to observe the application.

I, Christan L. Moffett, Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, hereby certify the above Opinion and Order was adopted this 22nd day of November 1974 by a vote of 4 to 0.

Christan L. Moffett