

increase the waste load on the Rockford overloaded sewers by any measurable degree. In addition, the Agency states because 95% of the church congregation resides in the immediate neighborhood, that the church's sewer would not constitute a significant increase to loads already served by the sewers in question. This is because on Sunday mornings there would merely be a shift in location of the source of the wastewater added to the sewers in question.

The Board has decided to grant the requested variance which will allow the church to connect to the Rockford sewer system because of the negligible increased load to overloaded sewers which were the subject of the Agency sewer ban. In addition, the Board relies upon the fact that Petitioner began construction of the church prior to the imposition of the sewer ban. Petitioner has previously sought to adapt the old septic system which had served the former church before it was destroyed by fire. However, the Winnebago County Health Department would not permit the use of this old septic system or its modification. Petitioner has investigated the cost of a new septic system which is reported to be between \$3,000 and \$3,500. Because of the small magnitude of the environmental effect of Petitioner's requested relief versus the expense to the Macedonia Baptist Church, the Board finds that Petitioner's variance request should be granted.

The Agency recommends a grant of Petitioner's requested variance subject to the condition that "no additional connections be made to the 350 foot sewer extension until overloaded conditions are relieved downstream". The Board finds from the facts presented in this case that such a condition is not warranted. Such a condition, if it were imposed by the Board would be tantamount to a Board imposed sewer ban under Section 33(c) of the Environmental Protection Act. The facts presented in this proceeding do not warrant the public notice and hearing required by Section 33 of the Act.

This Opinion constitutes the Board's findings of facts and conclusions of law.

ORDER

The Pollution Control Board hereby grants the Macedonia Baptist Church of Rockford, Illinois a variance from the Agency imposed sewer ban in order to construct and connect a sewer system to serve the Macedonia Baptist Church.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

I, Christan L. Moffett, Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board hereby certify the above Opinion and Order were adopted on the 5th day of September, 1974 by a vote of 4-0.



Christan L. Moffett, Clerk