## ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD September 6, 1973

CITY OF FREEBURG	) ) )	
V.	) ) )	PCB 73-312
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY	)	

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

Petition for variance was filed with the Board on July 31, 1973. Freeburg, a city in St. Clair County asks to exceed the water quality standard of 0.02 mg/l for copper contained in Rule 203(f) of the Water Pollution Control Regulations while dosing its 6,500,000 gallon water reservoir with copper sulfate to prevent algae blooms. Algae blooms cause taste and odor problems in the finished water.

The Agency's recommendation, filed September 5, 1973 is to grant the variance with certain conditions which we adopt in the order. The Board has issued similar variances in some 20 cases this year (City of Mount Olive, et al, PCB 73-124, August 9, 1973) and the reasoning remains the same. Copper sulfate usage may present a long term hazard and at least five alternative chemicals exist which may prove to be suitable substitutes under Illinois conditions. But we do not yet know the extent of the hazard nor the environmental suitability of the alternative algicides. We therefore await Dr. Charles B. Muchmore's final report on this subject and again urge that it be completed well before the 1974 algae growing season.

## ORDER

- 1. Variance is granted from Rule 203(f) of the Water Pollution Regulations to exceed the 0.02 water quality standard for copper when dosing with copper sulfate for algae control.
- 2. Treatments are limited to a maximum of 10 lbs. each on a monthly frequency for August, September and October of 1973.

- 3. Copper concentrations at the raw water intake to the water treatment plant shall not exceed 1.0 mg/1 at any time.
- Copper concentrations in the reservoir shall be measured 4. before and after each treatment with copper sulfate and the results reported to the Agency on a monthly basis.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Mr. Odell abstains.

I, Christan L. Moffett, Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, hereby certify the above Opinion and Order were adopted on the day of September, 1973 by a vote of 3-0

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