

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
April 25, 1972

GRIGGSVILLE COMMUNITY SCHOOL)
UNIT #4)
)
) PCB 72-166
)
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY)

OPINION OF THE BOARD (by Mr. Kissel):

The Griggsville Community School (Griggsville) filed a petition for a variance with the Board on April 22, 1972. Griggsville requests permission from the Board to burn paper wastes in an incinerator for one year. The material burnt would be loose paper and milk cartons from approximately 500 students in the first through twelfth grades.

Griggsville intends to burn the materials in an open incinerator covered by a screen. Within the year Griggsville plans to purchase a compressor which will compact the paper wastes into bales. Griggsville then hopes that the local scavenger will be able to haul these bales away.

The variance petition fails to indicate whether Griggsville has explored any alternatives to open burning as an interim measure before the purchase of the compressor. It may be possible to obtain scavenger services more frequently than once weekly as at present; or a larger storage space for the refuse could be obtained in the interim. Griggsville should explore such alternatives and the economic and practical difficulties thereof before it seeks to open burn. We would note that open burning has been prohibited by law in Illinois since 1965.

Since this case does concern a governmental unit which has apparently been acting in good faith, we will not dismiss this petition. (See City of Fairfield v. Environmental Protection Agency, PCB 72-58, February 22, 1972). Rather, Griggsville Community School will be given an additional twenty (20) days from the receipt of this order within which to file an amended variance petition detailing the alternative means of disposal available to it and the reasons for choosing open burning and rejecting any other alternatives.

I, Christan L. Moffett, Clerk of the Pollution Control Board, certify that the Board adopted the above Opinion and Order on this 25th day of April, 1972, by a vote of 5-0.

Christan L. Moffett