ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
August 15, 1972

CITY OF EVANSTON	)	
v.	)	PCB 72-106
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY	)	
VILLAGE OF KENILWORTH	)	
v.	)	PCB 72-82
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY	)	

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

These two petitions embrace a common topic and request variances from the Illinois Sanitary Water Board Water Quality Standards SWB-7 and more recently under the Water Pollution Control Regulations effective April 16, 1972. Under those regulations the petitioners were required to discontinue their discharges of water plant wastes into Lake Michigan by July, 1972.

CITY OF EVANSTON

The Evanston water treatment plant is located on the shore of Lake Michigan near the northeast corner of the City and processes lake water for the consumption of approximately 150,000 residents in Evanston and Skokie, Illinois. Total water treated by the plant is approximately 9.4 billion gallons per year with an average of about 25 million gallons per day being processed.

As a part of normal plant operation the rapid sand filters must periodically be back-washed to remove accumulated solids from the filter surfaces and this waste water historically has been discharged to the Lake. It is also necessary to wash accumulated sludge from the four water plant settling basins in the spring and fall of each year and this material has also been discharged to the Lake.

The City proposes that it plug the existing outfall pipes and divert the flow of filter back-wash water to a new concrete balancing tank. This water will then be pumped at a uniform rate back into the plant for re-processing along with

incoming raw water. Sludge washed from the settling basins will be pumped through a new connection to the Evanston sewer system and will then be processed by the Metropolitan Sanitary District of Greater Chicago (MSDGC) treatment facilities. The expected completion date for the new facilities is December 31, 1972.

VILLAGE OF KENILWORTH

The Kenilworth water plant also discharges its filter wash water and settling basin sludge into Lake Michigan. The Village proposes to divert those wastes to the Metropolitan Sanitary District system by December 31, 1972. The filter wash water amounts to about 5,000,000 gallons per year and the semi-annual cleaning of the sedimentation basin causes around 400,000 gallons of waste water per year. The total quantity of solids, on a dry basis, is about 20,000 pounds per year. The concentration of solids in the wash water is low and it is anticipated that this water can be recirculated to the sedimentation basins, leaving only the wastewater associated with basin cleaning of which to be disposed.

DISCUSSION

The Agency has recommended that both requests for variance be granted. The Agency notes that both projects could have been completed earlier but indicates that to deny relief at this point would not be a satisfactory solution to either problem since the delay in compliance was not intentional but rather was caused by the petitioners' good faith belief that further progress could not be accomplished without a reaction and response from MSDGC on the proposals.

We agree with the Agency recommendation and will grant the variances to December 31, 1972. According to the reported effluent levels, these two projects will eliminate a total of around 181 million gallons of wastewater and 923 tons of solids from the Lake annually. We encourage this progress.

This opinion constitutes the Board's findings of fact and conclusions of law.

ORDER

The variances are hereby granted until December 31, 1972, upon the following conditions:

1. The City of Evanston shall post an individual performance bond

in the amount of $10,000.

2. The Village of Kenilworth shall post an individual performance bond in the amount of $3,000.

3. Both petitioners shall submit monthly progress reports to the Agency setting forth the stages of completion of their respective projects.

I, Christan L. Moffett, Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, hereby certify the above Opinion and Order was adopted on the 15th day of August, 1972 by a vote of 5-0.

Christan L. Moffett, Clerk
Illinois Pollution Control Board