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STATE OF ILLINOIS  
Pollution Control Board

PC#1

**LISA M. DUGAN**

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 79TH DISTRICT

February 6, 2004

Illinois Pollution Control Board  
Chairman J. Philip Novak  
100 W. Randolph St. Ste. 11-500  
Chicago, IL 60601

Dear Chairman Novak:

I am writing this letter on behalf of my constituents Ms. Leona Childress and her son William McCoy. I ask that this letter be an attachment to her case file No. PCB-04-106.

The complaint filed against Ms. Childress and her son William McCoy is for cost recovery to remove used and waste tires on a site owned by them. Ms. Childress lives in Pembroke Township, a very poor, rural area of Kankakee County. The property where the dumping was going on is not where she lives. The owner of the adjoining lot was illegally dumping the tires and eventually the tire heap sprawled onto Ms. Childress' lot.

Chairman Novak, I am enclosing information for your review on "Team Illinois" because I believe this is important information. In late July 2004, the IEPA provided assistance to Pembroke to help remove more than 60,000 waste tires. At this kick-off event 1,800 tires were collected.

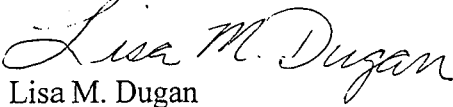
I understand that this particular situation with used tires started back in 1997 with Ms. Childress property. But, as you can see the State of Illinois recognized this was not an isolated problem in Pembroke but a community wide one. Unfortunately, for Ms. Childress "Team Illinois" and their efforts came after the clean up of Ms. Childerss property by the IEPA. The amount billed to Ms. Childress and her son William McCoy is \$27,000. It is important for you to know that Ms. Childress is 78 years old and her income is about \$700 a month.

KANKAKEE DISTRICT OFFICE:  
135 S. SCHUYLER AVENUE  
KANKAKEE, ILLINOIS 60901  
815/939-1983  
815/939-0081 FAX

In closing, as the PCB board case proceeds, I ask that all the above information be taken into account for my constituents. For the goal of "Team Illinois" is to help our poverty-stricken communities and improve the quality of life for those living in Pembroke Township.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of my request.

Very cordially yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lisa M. Dugan".

Lisa M. Dugan  
State Representative  
79<sup>th</sup> District

enclosures



www.epa.il.us

Rod R. Blagojevich

Environmental Progress - Summer 2003

## IEPA Joins "Team Illinois" Kickoff Efforts

*New approach targets poverty-stricken small communities*



Director Renee Cipriano, Gov. Rod R. Blagojevich, and Rev. Jesse Jackson were among those kicking off "Team Illinois" at Hopkins Park in Kankakee County late in July.

Larger image  
(JPG 84K file)

Guides for safe tire storage, disposal

The IEPA suggests:

- Don't leave tires outside; keep them in a building. If tires must be stored outdoors, cover them with a tarp, plywood or other covering to keep out rainwater.
- Dispose of used tires at an Illinois EPA registered used tire processing facility.
- Report discarded tires to the Illinois EPA Used Tire Unit by calling 1-888-372-1996.
- If mosquito eggs or larvae are found in tires at any location, report to Illinois EPA's Used Tire Unit.
- If your business accepts or stores used tires, protect your employees and customers from exposure - properly manage the tires.

In late July, Gov. Rod R. Blagojevich's "Team Illinois" kicked off its new initiative to provide assistance for poverty-stricken small communities with a festival in Hopkins Park, in Kankakee County.

As part of the Team, the IEPA has been working with other state agencies to provide assistance to depressed areas of Illinois.

Part of the Agency's role at Hopkins Park, a small community in Pembroke Township, was to remove more than 60,000 waste tires from three large and numerous smaller dumps in Pembroke Township. A mobile tire shredder cut the discarded tires into large pieces for transportation to a processing facility. Ultimately, the shredded tires are burned for fuel.

In addition to the Pembroke Township area, Team Illinois has targeted the eastside of Aurora, the

community of Savanna in Carroll County, and three communities in Alexander County (Cairo, Tamms and Thebes) for assistance. The goal of Team Illinois is to link concerned local citizens with the experience of state agencies to generate a fresh perspective on what residents need in their communities.

## Tire dumping longtime Pembroke problem

The presence of illegal tire dumps has become a serious environmental health issue in Pembroke Township, one of the worst areas in the state for tire dumping. The dumps not only lead to unlawful disposal of other trash, but are a recognized breeding ground for mosquitoes since they collect dead leaves and retain rainfall in stagnant pools that are ideal breeding sites for several species of mosquitoes. Some of these, in turn, are carriers of serious diseases that threaten both humans and animals.

The Illinois EPA is continuing the tire cleanup in the area and expects eventually to remove more than 650 tons of scrap tires. At the kickoff event, the agency hosted a public tire collection for area residents, and collected more than 1,800 tires.

The agency is working with the Illinois Rural Water Association to address problems with Hopkins Park's wastewater treatment facility.

The Agency participated in an informational display during the three day Hopkins Park event, providing dissecting scopes that allowed attendees to view mosquito larvae at 30 times their actual size. The Agency handed out information on the health hazards resulting when tires are improperly disposed of.

The Illinois EPA's Environmental Justice Officer will continue to work with community officials and other members of Team Illinois to improve the quality of life in communities such as Hopkins Park; the staff of the Used Tire Program will continue to monitor the area. It is expected that surveillance conducted after the leaves have fallen will reveal additional tire dumps requiring removal.

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**Infrastructure Improvements:**

State agencies combined to address some of the most pressing community needs:

- "the EPA shredded 60,000 abandoned tires and hauled them away;
- " installed new computers at the Technology Center and the Mayors Office;
- " refurbished Martin Luther King Park; and
- " spread gravel to enhance six miles of roads and added new road markers and signage.

The accomplishments of this three-day effort are only the beginning. Team Illinois is a long-term commitment to the citizens of Pembroke and there are multiple short- and long-term projects in the works for the months to come.

**Illinois Department of Human Services**  
**401 S. Clinton, 7th Floor**  
**Chicago, IL 60607**  
**Phone 312-793-1546**