

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
January 19, 2023

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS,)
)
Complainant,)
)
v.) PCB 23-27
) (Enforcement - Air)
MOHAMMED SIDDIQUI, individually and)
d/b/a BP,)
)
Respondent.)

ORDER OF THE BOARD (by C.M. Santos):

On August 12, 2022, the Office of the Attorney General, on behalf of the People of the State of Illinois (People), filed a one-count complaint against Mohammed Siddiqui, individually and d/b/a BP (Siddiqui). The complaint concerns Siddiqui's gasoline dispensing facility located at 4759 South Cicero Avenue, Chicago, Cook County. The parties now seek to settle without a hearing. For the reasons below, the Board directs the Clerk to provide public notice of the parties' stipulation, proposed settlement, and request for relief from the hearing requirement.

Under the Environmental Protection Act (Act) (415 ILCS 5 (2020)), the Attorney General and the State's Attorneys may bring actions before the Board to enforce Illinois' environmental requirements on behalf of the People. *See* 415 ILCS 5/31 (2020); 35 Ill. Adm. Code 103. In this case, the People allege that Siddiqui violated Section 9(a) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/9(a) (2020)) and Sections 218.586(i)(1)(B) and 218.586(i)(2)(C) of the Board Air Pollution Regulations (35 Ill. Adm. Code 218.586(i)(1)(B), 218.586(i)(2)(C)).

The People allege that Siddiqui committed these violations by failing to timely decommission its vapor collection and control system; by failing to submit a decommissioning checklist, certification, and test results to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA); and by causing, threatening, or allowing the discharge or emission of VOCs into the environment.

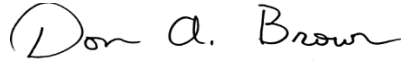
On January 13, 2023, the People and Siddiqui filed a stipulation and proposed settlement, accompanied by a request for relief from the hearing requirement of Section 31(c)(1) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/31(c)(1) (2020)). This filing is authorized by Section 31(c)(2) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/31(c)(2) (2020)), which requires that the public have an opportunity to request a hearing whenever the State and a respondent propose settling an enforcement action without a public hearing. *See* 35 Ill. Adm. Code 103.300(a). Under the proposed stipulation, Siddiqui does not affirmatively admit the alleged violations and agrees to pay a civil penalty of \$5,000.

Unless the Board determines that a hearing is needed, the Board must cause notice of the stipulation, proposed settlement, and request for relief from the hearing requirement. Any person

may file a written demand for hearing within 21 days after receiving the notice. If anyone timely files a written demand for hearing, the Board will deny the parties' request for relief and hold a hearing. *See* 415 ILCS 5/31(c)(2) (2020); 35 Ill. Adm. Code 103.300(b), (c). The Board directs the Clerk to provide the required notice.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

I, Don A. Brown, Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, certify that the Board adopted the above order on January 19, 2023, by a vote of 4-0.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Don A. Brown". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Don A. Brown, Clerk
Illinois Pollution Control Board