

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

March 6, 2025

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS,)	
)	
Complainant,)	
)	
v.)	PCB 25-51
)	(Enforcement - Water)
GOULD TRANSPORTATION SERVICES,)	
INC., an Illinois corporation, d/b/a GOULD)	
BUS SERVICES, and unincorporated entity,)	
)	
Respondent.)	

ORDER OF THE BOARD (by A. Tin):

On February 27, 2025, the Office of the Attorney General, on behalf of the People of the State of Illinois (People), filed a two-count complaint against Gould Transportation Services d/b/a Gould Bus Services, Inc. (Gould). The complaint concerns Gould's school bus transportation and storage businesses located at 400 South Washington Street in Tuscola, Douglas County, and at 216 Byron Street in Oakland, Coles County. Accompanying the complaint was a stipulation, proposal for settlement, and request for relief from the hearing requirement. The parties therefore seek to settle the complaint without a hearing. For the reasons below, the Board accepts the complaint and directs the Clerk to provide public notice of the stipulation, proposed settlement, and request for hearing relief.

Under the Environmental Protection Act (Act) (415 ILCS 5 (2022)), 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 (2022); 35 Ill. Adm. Code 103. In this case, the People allege that Gould violated Sections 12(a) and 12(f) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/12(a), 12(f) (2022)) and Section 309.102(a) of the Board's water pollution regulations (35 Ill. Adm. Code 309.102(a)).

The People allege that Gould violated these provisions by causing, threatening, or allowing the discharge of contaminants into the environment so as to cause or tend to cause water pollution in Illinois; causing, threatening, or allowing the discharge of stormwater associated with industrial activity so as to violate Board rules; causing, threatening or allowing the discharge of stormwater associated with industrial activity into waters of the State without a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit; discharging contaminants into waters of the State in violation of the Act; and causing, threatening, or allowing the discharge of stormwater associated with industrial activity into waters of the State in violation of the Board's NPDES rules.

The Board finds that the complaint meets the applicable content requirements of the Board's procedural rules and accepts the complaint. *See* 35 Ill. Adm. Code 103.204(c).

On February 27, 2025, simultaneously with the People's complaint, the People and Gould 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) (2022)). This filing is authorized by Section 31(c)(2) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/31(c)(2) (2022)), 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, Gould does not affirmatively admit the alleged violations and agrees to pay a civil penalty of \$13,600.

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 comment or demand for hearing within 30 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) (2022); 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 March 6, 2025, by a vote of 5-0.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Don A. Brown". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The first name "Don" is written with a large, looped capital "D". The middle initial "A." is written with a small capital "A" followed by a period. The last name "Brown" is written with a capital "B" and a trailing flourish.

Don A. Brown, Clerk
Illinois Pollution Control Board