

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
January 5, 1989

IN THE MATTER OF:)
))
LIMITS TO VOLATILITY OF) R88-30
GASOLINE))

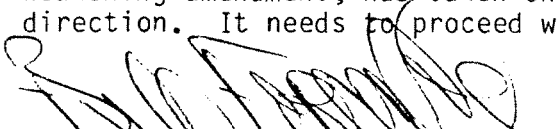
CONCURRING OPINION (by B. Forcade):

The original order proposed in this proceeding would have authorized inquiry hearings. By a 4-3 vote, an amendment to that order removed the authorization to go to inquiry hearings. That amendment to the original proposal has weakened the Board's ability to fashion the best record. Only written comments will now be received. Written comments are not prepared under oath and are not subject to cross-examination as testimony is at a hearing. No followup can be done to a written comment unless by cumbersome written questions which may or may not lead to more unsworn comments. In short, the process of developing meaningful and accurate information has been weakened and delayed.


Ozone reduction in the Chicago and Metro East metropolitan areas is a major public health need. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates that as many as 35% (one-out-of-three) persons are sensitive to high ozone levels. These two Illinois metropolitan areas contain some 7,700,000 Illinoisans. Thus, some 2,700,000 of these are at risk to their health from high ozone levels. This proceeding is equal in importance to any matter now before the Board.

My fervent hope is that this Board will fully realize the public health risks as enunciated by the Chicago Lung Association and the Citizens for a Better Environment, in their joint letter of December 28, 1988, and authorize public hearings after March 1, 1989.

If the Environmental Protection Act means anything it means first and foremost the protection of the public health. The Board here, by its weakening amendment, has taken only a hesitating half-step in that direction. It needs to proceed with a firm stride as quickly as possible.


Bill S. Forcade, Board Member

I, Dorothy M. Gunn, Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, hereby certify that the above Concurring Opinion was submitted on the 5th day of January, 1989.


Dorothy M. Gunn, Clerk
Illinois Pollution Control Board