

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
December 18, 1986

EMERGENCY TECHNICAL SERVICES, CORP.,)
)
Complainant,)
)
v.) PCB 86-217
)
ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION)
AGENCY,)
)
Respondent.)

OPINION AND ORDER OF THE BOARD (by J.D. Dumelle):

This matter comes before the Board upon a December 17, 1986 recommendation by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Agency) that Emergency Technical Services Corporation (ETSC) be granted a 45-day provisional variance from 35 Ill. Adm. Code 237.102, subject to conditions, to allow ETSC to detonate small quantities of explosive or shock sensitive chemicals found in Illinois schools, hospitals and small businesses. ETSC plans to detonate these materials at a 2,500 acre Illinois National General site near Marseilles, LaSalle County, Illinois.

The Agency has investigated the request by ETSC and has determined that there is no viable alternative to detonation disposal of these materials, that safety considerations demand that the materials be removed from storage near people and that there is no presently available disposal site to receive the materials. Therefore, the Agency has found that with the dangers and lack of alternatives present in ETSC's case, it would impose an arbitrary or unreasonable hardship on ETSC to wait for the usual variance process. The Agency has also found that the environmental impact in granting this variance is minimal in that conditions placed on the grant of provisional variance should insure that operations are optimal for destruction and disposal.

For the above reasons, the Agency recommends that ETSC be granted provisional variance, subject to conditions. The Board agrees and hereby grants ETSC provisional variance from 35 Ill. Adm. Code 237.102, subject to conditions, to allow the detonation of small quantities of explosive or shock sensitive chemicals found in Illinois schools, hospitals and small businesses at a 2,500 acre Illinois National General site near Marseilles, LaSalle County, Illinois.

This Opinion constitutes the Board's findings of fact and conclusion of law in this matter.

ORDER

The Board hereby grants the Emergency Technical Services Corporation provisional variance from 35 Ill. Adm. Code 237.102, subject to the following conditions:

1. Variance shall run from December 18, 1986 to February 1, 1987.
2. The open burning shall only be conducted between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.
3. The open burning shall only commence when the cloud cover over the burn site is no more than 50 percent.
4. Any visually contaminated soils and vegetation shall be excavated after each operational day and be containerized for disposal as a special waste.
5. Because completeness of reaction and explosive reaction products are so unpredictable, monitoring to verify the efficiency of the technique is warranted:
 - A. A visual record of each detonation by still camera or videotape is recommended to include:
 1. "waste" container alone
 2. material as prepared with initiator, co-explosive (if used) and blasting cap
 3. actual detonation or shortly after showing fire and smoke evolved
 4. close up of detonation site documenting residue or lack thereof
 - B. A soil sample of the detonation site where blasts disturbed soil. One composite sample per day of operation is acceptable. Analysis to be for parent materials detonated with at least 0.1 ppm detection limit unless evidence can be provided documenting a higher detection limit is the best commonly achievable.
 - C. A record of air temperature, wind speed, wind direction, cloud cover, humidity, precipitation for each day of operation and any significant changes that occurred during operations.
6. Materials to be detonated shall be limited to:
 - A. "common ethers"

1. diethyl ether (ethyl ether)
 2. isobutyl ether
 3. isopropyl ether
 4. tetrahydrofuran
- B. "aromatic trinitro compounds"
1. picric acid (trinitrophenol)
 2. trinitrotoluene (TNT)
 3. trinitrobenzene
 4. trinitroaniline
 5. trinitrosalicylic acid
 6. picramic acid
 7. picryl chloride
- C. "organic peroxides"
1. benzoyl peroxide
 2. acetyl peroxide
 3. tert-butyl hydroperoxide
 4. cumene hydroperoxide
- D. "miscellaneous explosives"
1. dinitrophenyl hydrazine
 2. vinylidene chloride (1,1-dichloroethylene)
 3. pentaerythritol tetranitrate (PETN)
 4. cyclo-1,3,5-trimethylene-2,4,6 trinitramine (RDX)
 5. nitroguanidine
7. Materials containing the following toxic metals are not acceptable: Antimony, Arsenic, Barium, Beryllium, Cadmium, Chromium, Cobalt, Gallium, Germanium, Hafnium, Indium, Iridium, Lead, Manganese, Mercury, Nickel, Osmium, Platinum, Rhenium, Rhodium, Ruthenium, Selenium, Silver, Tellurium, Thallium, Tungsten, and Vanadium.

- 8. Within 7 days of the Board's Order, Peitioner shall execute a Certificate of Acceptance and Agreement which shall execute a Certificate of Acceptance and Agreement which shall be sent to:

Mr. William D. Ingersol
 Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
 Enforcement Services
 2200 Churchill Road
 P.O. Box 19276
 Springfield, IL 62794

This certification shall have the following form:

I, (We) _____, having read the Order of the Illinois Pollution Control Board in PCB 86-217 dated December 18, 1986, understand and accept said Order, realizing that such acceptance renders all terms and conditions thereto binding and enforceable.

EMERGENCY TECHNICAL SERVICES

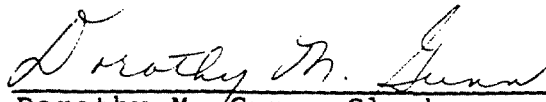
BY: _____
 (NAME)

 (TITLE)

 (DATE)

IT IS SO ORDERED.

I, Dorothy M. Gunn, Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, hereby certify that the above Opinion and Order was adopted on the 18th day of December, 1986 by a vote of 6-0.



 Dorothy M. Gunn, Clerk
 Illinois Pollution Control Board