

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
March 10, 1983

CITY OF WAVERLY,)
)
 Petitioner,)
)
 v.) PCB 83-33
)
 ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL)
 PROTECTION AGENCY,)
)
 Respondent.)

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

This provisional variance request comes before the Board upon a March 10, 1983 Recommendation of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Agency). The Agency recommends that a provisional variance be granted to the City of Waverly until March 24, 1983.

The City of Waverly (City) owns and operates a Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) in Morgan County which serves approximately 1500 persons. This WWTP consists of an influent structure, barminutors, aerated grit chamber, activated sludge package plant, and polishing pond with chlorination for treatment of flows up to 0.45 MGD. Excess flows can be diverted to an Imhoff tank to the polishing pond. A trickling filter also exists; however, it has not been used in several years. Discharge from the WWTP is to an unnamed tributary of Apple Creek, a tributary of the Illinois River.

The return activated sludge line became clogged on or about March 7, 1983 as evidenced by clear liquid being returned to the aeration tank from the clarifier. With the system unable to return the sludge, near cessation of biological activity has probably occurred resulting in very little, if any, treatment from this unit.

The City's WWTP operator has attempted to unclog the line by using a "jet cleaner," a hose with water under pressure, etc.; however, all attempts have failed. The only option appears to be to manually remove the clog. In order to do this, the clarifier and 6 of water inches from the aeration tank will be drained to the polishing pond in order to expose the return sludge line so that repairs can be made. While actual repairs are being made, all wastewater flows need to be bypassed around the activated sludge package plant; however, partial treatment can be provided if flows are diverted to the Imhoff tank and thus to the polishing pond and chlorination unit.

Draining the activated sludge package plant and bypassing according to the methods described above could result in a deteriorated effluent. However, a poor quality effluent will exist indefinitely if the clogged line is not repaired.

The Agency has concluded that compliance on a short-term basis with 35 Ill. Adm. Code 306.103(c) would impose an arbitrary or unreasonable hardship. It, therefore, recommends that the Board grant the City a variance from Section 306.103(c) until March 24, 1983, subject to certain conditions.

Pursuant to Section 35(b) of the Act, the Board hereby grants the provisional variance as recommended.

ORDER

The City of Waverly is hereby granted a provisional variance from 35 Ill. Adm. Code 306.103(c) subject to the following conditions:

1. The City shall inform Robert Broms, Manager, Compliance Assurance Section, Division of Water Pollution Control (217/782-9720) of the following:
 - a. The day the clarifier is drained; and
 - b. The day the system is returned to operation.
2. The City shall begin immediately to pump clarifier sludge to the aeration tanks in order to restore some biological treatment;
3. The City shall drain all clarifier wastewater only to the polishing pond;
4. The City shall drain no more than 6 inches of water from the aeration tanks with as much as possible to be drained to the digester with the remaining to be drained to the polishing pond;
5. During draining and repair work, all flows shall receive treatment from the Imhoff tank and polishing pond as well as chlorination;
6. The City shall complete repairs as quickly as possible;
7. The City shall sample its effluent up until the units are returned to service at least 2 times per week for BOD and TSS;
8. The City shall submit the results of these samples to Robert Broms, Manager, Compliance Assurance Section, no later than April 1, 1983.

9.

CERTIFICATION

I, (We) _____,
having read the Order of the Illinois Pollution Control Board
in PCB 83-13 dated March 12, 1983, understand and accept said
Order, realizing that such acceptance renders all terms and
conditions thereto binding and enforceable.

Petitioner

By: Authorized Agency

Title

Date

IT IS SO ORDERED.
Board Member Nega abstained.

I, Christan L. Moffett, Clerk of the Illinois Pollution
Control Board, hereby certify that the above Opinion and
Order was adopted on the 10th day of March,
1983 by a vote of 7-0.

Christan L. Moffett

Christan L. Moffett, Clerk
Illinois Pollution Control Board