

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD  
December 4, 2025

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS,	)	
	)	
Complainant,	)	
	)	
v.	)	PCB 26-25
	)	(Enforcement - Land)
AURELIO ZAPATA, an individual d/b/a	)	
CHI-TOWN CUSTOMS INCORPORATED,	)	
	)	
Respondent.	)	

ORDER OF THE BOARD (by M. D. Mankowski):

On September 24, 2025, the Office of the Attorney General, on behalf of the People of the State of Illinois (People), filed a three-count complaint against Aurelio Zapata, an individual doing business as Chi-Town Customs Incorporated (Zapata). The complaint concerns Zapata's retail tire business located at 311 North Cicero Avenue in 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 (2024)), 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 (2024); 35 Ill. Adm. Code 103. In this case, the People allege that Zapata violated Sections 55(a)(3), 55(k)(1), 55(k)(2), 55(k)(3), 55.8(a)(1), 55.8(a)(1.5), 55.9, and 55.10 of the Act (415 ILCS 5/55(a)(3), 55(k)(1), 55(k)(2), 55(k)(3), 55.8(a)(1), 55.8(a)(1.5), 55.9, 55.10 (2024)) by causing or allowing the uncovered storage of used or waste tires at the site without altering, reprocessing, converting, or otherwise taking action to prevent the accumulation of water within the tires; causing or allowing water to accumulate in used or waste tires; failing to collect a Tire User Fee for each tire sold as a distinct item from the tire selling price; and failing to file quarterly returns with the Illinois Department of Revenue.

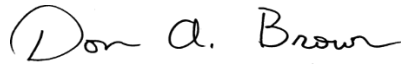
On November 19, 2025, the People and Zapata filed a stipulation and proposed settlement, accompanied by a request for relief from the hearing requirement of Section 31(c)(1) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/31(c)(1) (2024)). This filing is authorized by Section 31(c)(2) of the Act (415 ILCS 5/31(c)(2) (2024)), 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, Zapata does not admit or deny the alleged violations and agrees to pay a civil penalty of \$10,000.

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) (2024); 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 December 4, 2025, by a vote of 5-0.

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

Don A. Brown, Clerk  
Illinois Pollution Control Board