

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
December 16, 1976

SPRINGFIELD METROPOLITAN EXPOSITION)
AND AUDITORIUM AUTHORITY,)
)
Petitioner,)
)
v.) PCB 76-267
)
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY,)
)
Respondent.)

OPINION AND ORDER OF THE BOARD (by Mr. Young):

This matter comes before the Board on the variance petition filed October 27, 1976, by the Springfield Metropolitan Exposition and Auditorium Authority seeking relief from Rule 602(a) of Chapter 3: Water Pollution Rules and Regulations. An Agency Recommendation favorable to the grant of the variance was filed on December 6, 1976.

Rule 602(a) prohibits the installation of any new combined sewers unless sufficient retention or treatment capacity is provided to ensure that no violation of the effluent standards occurs.

Petitioner is building a convention and exposition center in the central area of the City of Springfield and within an area presently served by combined sewers. In order to save an estimated \$25,000.00, Petitioner requests that it be permitted to construct four combined sewer taps into the existing combined sewer system which bounds the construction site instead of being required to construct four sanitary taps and four stormwater taps. Petitioner states this latter separation would be required in order to comply with the literal requirements of Rule 602(a), but alleges that in this instance, such a sewer separation would serve no meaningful purpose.

The combined sewer systems to which Petitioner's wastewater will be connected flow to the Spring Creek Plant of the Springfield Sanitary District. Although the Spring Creek Plant has sufficient dry weather capacity to handle the estimated sanitary flow from Petitioner's proposed facility, the collection system

presently overflows at six discharge points during periods of wet weather flow. In order to comply with the requirements for the treatment of combined sewer overflows, the Sanitary District is presently in the Step II phase of the construction grants program and the Agency anticipates that the District will be awarded Step III construction funds this year. Since no new drainage area is being added to the system, the Agency states that the grant of this variance will not materially affect the volume or frequency of combined sewer overflows during the period of the variance.

The Board is disposed to grant the relief requested. The fact which the Board finds decisive in this matter is that the stormwater which is generated from this area presently empties into the existing combined sewers of the District. The grant of this variance will not introduce any additional stormwater into the combined sewer system. While additional sanitary flow will enter the system, this flow will enter the system, with or without the grant of this variance, because the separate sanitary connections would be permitted. Therefore, because the stormwater which is generated from this area presently enters the system, and because no sanitary flow will enter the system other than that which would enter the system even if the sewer separation were required, the Board finds that Petitioner has met its burden and that it would be unreasonable to require a sewer separation in this instance.

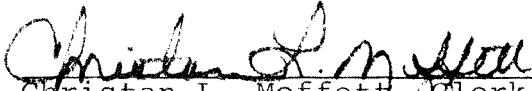
This Opinion constitutes the Board's findings of fact and conclusions of law in this matter.

ORDER

The Springfield Metropolitan Exposition and Auditorium Authority is granted variance from Rule 602(a) of the Water Pollution Regulations so that it can install four combined sewer connections in accordance with Plumbing Site Plan U-1.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

I, Christan L. Moffett, Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, hereby certify the above Opinion and Order were adopted on the 16th day of December, 1976 by a vote of 5-0.


Christan L. Moffett, Clerk
Illinois Pollution Control Board