

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD  
October 9, 1975

VILLAGE OF POTOMAC, )  
Petitioner, )  
 )  
v. ) PCB 75-237  
 )  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, )  
Respondent. )

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

This matter comes before the Pollution Control Board (Board) upon the Village of Potomac's (Potomac) July 18, 1975, Amended Petition for Variance from Rule 408(b) of the Water Regulations. The Environmental Protection Agency (Agency) filed its recommendation on September 4, 1975.

Potomac is located in Vermilion County and has a population of 900. It seeks Variance for the discharge of total dissolved solids from common waste water backwash filter and holding tank which is part of an expansion to its treatment plant. The expansion includes the replacement of one iron removal filter with three units and the replacement of a softening unit. The discharge from the filter and softener would be combined in the common backwash filter and holding tank and then discharged at a rate of five gallons per minute into an existing storm sewer which discharges into Bluegrass Creek, a tributary to the middle fork of the Vermilion River. Bluegrass Creek, although it has a seven-day, ten-year low flow of zero, has never been observed to be dry. The middle fork of the Vermilion River has a seven-day, ten-year low flow of 0.5 cfm. The level of total dissolved solids in the discharge is in the range of 5,000 to 7,600 milligrams per liter, a reduction from the peak of 80,000 mg/l of the softener discharge. The level of dissolved solids in the final effluent will be in the range of 4,000 mg/l.

The Board Order of May 16, 1974, in PCB 74-15, granted Petitioner a Variance from Rule 408(b) for a one year period, due to the minimal environmental impact of the Potomac's discharge. This Order required Petitioner to file bimonthly reports and a project completion schedule. The Agency reports that Potomac has substantially complied with the Board's Order. Delay in completion of the treatment facility occurred due to delay in the delivery of electrical equipment. The Agency contends that Petitioner's present treatment operation is the best practical way of treating its brine discharge wastes outside of discharging them to a sewage treatment plant collection system.

The Board finds that there has been no change in circumstances since its PCB 74-15 Order relating to the hardship which would result from denial of Variance. The Board also finds that the granting of this Variance would have a minimal environmental impact which is greatly outweighed by the effects a denial would have. The Board will grant Petitioner a Variance from Rule 408(b) of the Water Regulations until October 1, 1976.

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


ORDER

It is the Order of the Pollution Control Board that:

The Village of Potomac is granted Variance from Rule 408(b) of the Water Regulations as it pertains to dissolved solids until October 1, 1976, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) That Petitioner's discharges from its holding tank not exceed 7,600 milligrams per liter of total dissolved solids.
- (b) That Petitioner sample the effluent from the holding tank of its pollutional control facility once a month during the term of their Variance and any additional samples as the Agency may require, and provide these samples to the Agency for analysis.

I, Christan L. Moffett, Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, hereby certify the above Opinion and Order were adopted on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of October, 1975 by a vote of 3-0.

  
Christan L. Moffett, Clerk  
Illinois Pollution Control Board