

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD  
January 23, 1975

KOPPERS COMPANY, INC. )  
 )  
 Petitioner, )  
 )  
 vs. ) PCB 74-411  
 )  
 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, )  
 )  
 Respondent. )

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

Koppers Company, Inc. operates a manufacturing facility in Stickney, Illinois for the production of phthalic anhydride and tar products. In February 1974 Koppers was granted variance from Rule 205(f) of the Air Pollution Control Regulations until February 14, 1975 pending installation and operation of air pollution control equipment. See: Koppers Company, Inc. vs. EPA, PCB 73-494.

During production of tarred felt products in the tar saturation plant, hydrocarbons are emitted in excess of the allowable rate of 8 lbs./hr. Stack tests conducted in March 1972 were not conclusive so Koppers retested in June 1973. The June 1973 test indicates that 21 lbs./hr. of hydrocarbons are being emitted.

Petitioner states that it was unaware the facility was not in compliance until the 1973 stack test results were received. At that time a consultant was hired to study possible control systems. The system finally chosen was a Johns-Manville High Energy Air Filter System (HEAF). The four stacks now venting hydrocarbon emissions from the tar saturation plant will be connected to the HEAF System.

The HEAF System consists of a high static pressure fan, a heavy fiberglass mat and a mist separator. Stack gasses containing fine particles of heavy hydrocarbons are passed over the fiberglass mat where the liquid particles are coalesced into larger droplets. These droplets are disengaged from the mat by a high velocity air stream and then removed from the air stream in a low velocity mist separator. The removed droplets are collected and drained off as a liquid.

Johns-Manville estimates that the control efficiency of its HEAF System ranges between 96% and 98%. The System has operated successfully in other facilities. An efficiency of about 62% is required to bring the Koppers plant into compliance. Both the Agency and Koppers believe the System, once installed, will bring the hydrocarbon emissions from the tar saturation plant into compliance.

Failure to achieve compliance during the one year variance which was previously granted is apparently not Kopper's fault. Delivery of the HEAF equipment has been delayed for three months by the supplier which will cause a corresponding delay in completion of installation.

Petitioner's plant is located in an industrial/commercial area some 2,000-3,000 ft. distant from a large residential area. The Agency has received complaints about the odors coming from the plant.

The Agency recommends granting the variance extension because the control equipment could substantially reduce the citizen discomfort now being experienced. The Agency believes the control system is particularly desirable because it requires a minimum of energy and doesn't use fuel directly.

Extension of the variance shall be granted until May 14, 1975 subject to certain conditions. We find that the three month delay in achieving compliance is beyond the control of Koppers. It would be unreasonable to deny this variance in light of the facts presented.

#### ORDER

It is the Order of the Pollution Control Board that Koppers Company, Inc. be granted variance from Rule 205(f) of the Air Pollution Control Regulations for its Stickney, Illinois plant until May 14, 1975 subject to the following conditions:

1. Petitioner shall continue to submit the quarterly progress reports required under Part 1 of the Order in PCB 73-494.
2. Petitioner shall make applications for all necessary construction and operating permits from the Agency.
3. Petitioner shall cause the \$50,000 bond which was required under Part 3 of the Order in PCB 73-494, to be extended to and including May 14, 1975. Said

bond shall be forfeited in the event Petitioner fails to install and operate the control system. It shall be mailed within 30 days to: Fiscal Services Division, Illinois EPA, 2200 Churchill Road, Springfield, Illinois 62706.

I, Christan L. Moffett, Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, hereby certify the above Opinion and Order was adopted this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of January, 1975 by a vote of 3 to 0.

Christan L. Moffett