

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
September 6, 1972

GAF CORPORATION)
)
) #72-237
 v.)
)
 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY)

OPINION AND ORDER OF THE BOARD (BY SAMUEL T. LAWTON, JR.)

GAF Corporation operates a building products plant in Lockport, Illinois, manufacturing asphalt roofing material, automobile insulation, asphalt cements and coatings, with annual sales in excess of \$30,000,000, and employs approximately 700 employees. Petitioner seeks a variance from our Asbestos Regulations effective June 30, 1972, with respect to its cements and coatings department. Chrysotile asbestos fibers are processed in the cements and coatings department, which is housed in a separate building.

A batch consisting of asbestos, asphalt and limestone is mixed and shipped in various-sized sealed containers. Visible emissions of particulate matter occur from the fluffing and pouring of asbestos into the mix. Petitioners propose to modify their present exhaust system with a new controlled exhaust system for the cements and coatings department, which petitioner believes will bring its operations into compliance with the relevant regulations. The system is described as follows:

"A central cloth tube bag collector will be installed, with fan located on the clean air side. Exhaust ducts will be provided between the collector and each mixer, and between the collector and the fluffer - screw conveyor assembly. This arrangement will apply a negative pressure to all sources of dust generation, and prevent any asbestos fibers from dispersing therefrom. In addition, feed hoods will be constructed for the fluffer and #2 mixer, with exhausts to the collector, and which will include empty bag disposal stations, so that the dusty bags do not leave the hoods. The gravity vent in the corner of the Mixing Room will be removed and the opening sealed.

The installation and use of such equipment is expected to satisfy the requirements of Rule 501 both as to visible emission of particulate matter and emission of concentrations of asbestos fibers. Such installation will enable Petitioner to comply with Rules 502 and 504 of the Asbestos Regulations."

Delivery time is anticipated to be twelve weeks, with mechanical and sheet work installation requiring five weeks and two weeks for start-up. Petitioner anticipates that the installation will be completed by October 1, 1972. Equipment costs are expected to be \$10,200 and material and labor an additional \$14,200. The program appears to be a good one and the time requested short. We believe the hardship imposed on petitioner by insisting upon compliance greatly outweighs any possible detriment to the public by its continuing operation until October 1, 1972.

The Agency has recommended an allowance subject to the posting of a bond and the filing of progress reports. In view of the short time remaining for which the variance is granted, a bond or progress report are not necessary. However, in the event of an extension of variance being sought, these proposals will be reviewed at such time.

Accordingly, the petition for variance is granted to October 1, 1972.

This opinion constitutes the findings of fact and conclusions of law of the Board.

IT IS THE ORDER of the Pollution Control Board that GAF Corporation be granted a variance from Sections 501, 503 and 504 of the Asbestos Regulations (Chapter 2, Part VI) until October 1, 1972, to enable installation of abatement equipment as set forth in its petition filed herein.

I, Christan Moffett, Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, certify that the above Opinion and Order was adopted on the 6th day of September, A. D. 1972, by a vote of 4 to 2.

Christan Moffett
Clerk