

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD  
March 13, 1975

AMOCO CHEMICALS CORPORATION, )  
WOOD RIVER REFINERY, )  
 )  
Petitioner, )  
 )  
vs. ) PCB 74-468  
 )  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, )  
 )  
Respondent. )

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

Amoco Chemicals Corporation filed its Amended Petition for Variance requesting further extension of a variance previously granted in PCB 73-399 and extended in PCB 74-121. Specifically, Amoco seeks relief from Rule 204(f) (sulfur dioxide) of the Air Pollution Control Regulations until June 30, 1975.

Petitioner operates a multi-purpose chemical additive manufacturing facility at its refinery in Wood River, Illinois. This facility produces 13 additives used in motor oil, diesel lubricating oil, fuel oil and specialty oil. During production of a sulfur scavenger product it is necessary to strip out one of the reactants and remove hydrogen sulfide formed in the process. The hydrogen sulfide is disposed of by flare causing emissions of 2,093 lbs. of SO<sub>2</sub> per hour. These emissions occur for two hours during each batch cycle. This particular batch operation occurs every four days.

More detailed information on this unit's operation, the environmental impact from such operation and control equipment to be installed may be found in the Board's prior Opinions on this matter (PCB 73-397-401, December 20, 1973 and PCB 74-121-123, June 20, 1974).

Compliance with Rule 204(f) is to be achieved by installing a device to scrub hydrogen sulfide from the gas stream for subsequent recovery of elemental sulfur. Recovered sulfur will be condensed and recycled to the process. Through this recovery process Petitioner should be able to completely eliminate its SO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

A key component of the SO<sub>2</sub> reduction project, a refrigeration unit, was to have been delivered by the Vilter Manufacturing

Corporation in mid-October, 1974. Amoco selected Vilter as supplier of the equipment on the basis of earliest delivery. In September 1974 Vilter informed Amoco that the unit could not be delivered until mid-January 1975 because of production slippage. Amoco personnel evaluated the effect of this three month delay in mid-November and concluded that the project could still be completed on time.

On November 27, 1974 Vilter informed Amoco that the refrigeration unit could not be delivered earlier than March 24, 1975. Amoco authorized overtime charges in an effort to expedite delivery but was informed by Vilter that their production facilities were already on an overtime work schedule.

Petitioner estimates that the project can be operational nine weeks after shipment. Based on unreliable past estimates of delivery, Amoco states that it can not accept the March 24, 1975 delivery date with any confidence. Therefore, an additional three weeks is requested in addition to the nine weeks to allow for further shipment delays.

The Agency states that delay in delivery of the refrigeration unit was beyond the control of Petitioner. The Agency recommends granting this variance subject to certain conditions. No objection to the grant of this variance has been received by the Agency.

The record shows that Petitioner has made every good faith effort possible to expedite delivery of the refrigeration unit. Delay in completing its compliance plan is obviously beyond the control of Petitioner and this variance will be granted.

#### ORDER

It is the Order of the Pollution Control Board that Amoco Chemicals Corporation be granted variance from Rule 204(f) of the Air Pollution Control Regulations for its Wood River multi-additive manufacturing facility until June 30, 1975 or such earlier date as the hydrogen sulfide scrubbing unit is installed and operational. This variance is subject to the following conditions:

1. Petitioner shall apply for all required construction and operating permits from the Agency.
2. Petitioner shall submit monthly progress reports to the Environmental Protection Agency. Such progress reports shall detail progress towards completion of Petitioner's compliance plan.

3. Upon delivery of the refrigeration unit  
Petitioner shall advise the Agency of said  
delivery date and the expected date of com-  
pletion of the hydrogen sulfide scrubber project.
4. Petitioner shall keep in effect the \$50,000  
bond ordered in the previous Opinion of the Board  
to guarantee installation of required air pollution  
control equipment.

I, Christan L. Moffett, Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control  
Board, hereby certify the above Opinion and Order was adopted  
this 13<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1975 by a vote of 4 to 0.

  
Christan L. Moffett