

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
March 29, 1973

SALT CREEK DRAINAGE BASIN)
SANITARY DISTRICT)
)
)
 v.) PCB 72-134
)
)
 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY)
)

OPINION AND ORDER OF THE BOARD (by Mr. Dumelle)

This is a petition requesting a variance from Rules 404(c), 921(d) and 1001 of the water Regulations. Hearings were held on October 20 and December 15, 1972.

The District operates its sewage treatment plant in Villa Park in DuPage County. The plant discharges into Salt Creek which affords a dilution ratio of between 1 to 1 and 2 to 1. The plant has a design average flow of 3.0 MGD and a design maximum flow of 6.0 MGD. The design loading is for 45,000 population equivalents. The trickling filter process of the plant was designed to produce an effluent containing no greater than 30 mg/l BOD and 35 mg/l suspended solids. The average flow at the plant has been 4.8 MGD with an organic loading of 31,000 P.E.

According to the District, the daily average for its effluent in 1971 and some of 1972 were 14.7 mg/l BOD and 18 mg/l suspended solids. According to Agency samples the plant effluent has been 36 mg/l BOD and 47 mg/l suspended solids.

The District proposes to expand and upgrade its treatment facilities in two phases. Phase I consists of providing a new raw sewage junction chamber to allow better control of future flows. It will increase the raw sewage pumping capacity to 12.5 MGD and will provide final settling capacity for a normal design flow of 5 MGD. It will also provide additional chlorination facilities to permit chlorination of excess wet weather flows. The Agency permit for this Phase I work has already been issued.

Phase II will convert the plant from the trickling filter process to an activated sludge process and will also increase the plant capacity to 5 MGD. Final plans for this phase were expected to be completed in February, 1973. They expect to award the construction contract in May, 1973. They expect construction to begin by June, 1973 and to be completed by December 31, 1974.

Rule 404(c) requires that by December 31, 1973 no effluent whose dilution ratio is less than 5 to 1 shall exceed 10 mg/l BOD and 12 mg/l suspended solids. The District is asking for a variance of one year until December 31, 1974. The main reason given by the District for needing the variance is to receive construction permits from the Agency. Under Rule 921(d), the District must have an approved Project Completion Schedule before any permit can be issued. In this case the Schedule cannot be approved by the Agency because it shows a completion date after the December 31, 1973 deadline under Rule 404.

The Agency recommendation suggests that we grant a variance from Rule 921(d) and 1002 but deny any variance from Rule 404(c). We agree. Since all that is necessary in this case is for the petitioner to receive its permits prior to approval of its Project Completion Schedule we need only grant variances from Rules 921(d) and 1002. A variance from Rule 404(c) is unnecessary at this point. This will allow the Agency to issue the permits and thus will allow the District to complete the project as quickly as possible.

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

IT IS SO ORDERED.

I, Christian L. Moffett, Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, hereby certify the above Opinion and Order were adopted on the _____ day of March, 1973 by a vote of _____.

Christian L. Moffett, Clerk
Illinois Pollution Control Board