

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

March 7, 1974

AIRWAY PRODUCTS CORPORATION,)
)
 Petitioner,)
)
 v.) PCB 73-554
)
 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY,)
)
 Respondent.)

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

Petitioner operates a plant in Schiller Park, Illinois for the manufacture of grocery store shelves, tables and check-out counters. Painting equipment at the plant consists of two Rahnsberg electrostatic disc paint spray booths, a flowcoater and two bake ovens. Petitioner is seeking a one year variance from Rule 205(f) of the Rules and Regulations Governing the Control of Air Pollution, in order to continue its painting operations until photochemically nonreactive solvents become available.

Photochemically reactive hydrocarbon emissions from Petitioner's electrostatic disc spray booths and bake ovens are in excess of the eight pounds/hour allowed under Rule 205(f). The painting operations emit up to 67 lbs./hr. of nonexempt solvents.

Petitioner plans to come into compliance by changing over to photochemically nonreactive solvents but has not been able to obtain this type of solvent because of the shortage of raw materials used by Petitioner's suppliers. Petitioner has investigated incineration as a control technique but has found that the natural gas needed to fire the afterburner is unavailable. Therefore, Petitioner does not propose the installation of any control equipment.

The Company states that if it were required to comply with Rule 205(f) at this time it would be forced to a complete plant shutdown jeopardizing the employment of 200 people and resulting in a complete loss of the plant production. The Company states that if a variance is granted it will maintain close contact with suppliers and will immediately implement the compliance program as soon as the photochemically nonreactive paints and solvents become available.

The Agency has rejected Petitioner's application for an operating permit because of the lack of a suitable compliance plan. However, the Agency now recommends a grant of this variance subject to certain conditions.

One of the conditions suggested by the EPA is that Petitioner be required to use as much exempt solvent as can be furnished by its suppliers. This will undoubtedly cause problems of double inventory and storage problems. Petitioner stores its solvents in three underground storage tanks of 1000 gallon capacity. The underground tanks would have to be depleted of nonexempt solvents before the exempt solvents could be stored because the two types of solvent could not be mixed. If exempt solvents become available periodically the Company will apparently have to make provision for separate storage of these solvents. The Company states that it will work out these problems, if the exempt solvents become available, in order to satisfy the Rules.

According to the EPA, citizens living in the area of the plant were contacted and they had no complaints concerning the Airway Products facility.

We believe from the evidence that the variance should be granted but that Petitioner should modify its Compliance Plan to give more definite assurance that the plant operations will come within the provisions of the Rule. The Compliance Plan shall be filed within the term of this variance and shall contain a more definite program for meeting the Standard through one of the alternatives available to the Company.

ORDER

It is the Order of the Pollution Control Board that Petitioner be granted a variance from Rule 205(f) of the Illinois Air Pollution Control Regulations from December 31, 1973 to and including December 31, 1974, subject to the following conditions:

- a. Petitioner shall utilize as much exempt solvent formulations as can be furnished by its suppliers.
- b. Petitioner shall submit monthly progress reports to the Agency indicating its efforts to obtain exempt solvents and detailing progress made toward achieving a compliance program pursuant to paragraph c of this Order. The progress report

shall be submitted to: Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Division of Air Pollution Control, Control Program Coordinator, 2200 Churchill Road, Springfield, Illinois 62706.

- c. Within 9 months after this Board Order Petitioner shall submit to the Environmental Protection Agency a modified Compliance Plan detailing the manner in which Petitioner will come into compliance at the conclusion of the variance or under the provisions of Rule 205(f) (1) (D).

I, Christan L. Moffett, Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, hereby certify the above Opinion and Order was adopted this 5th day of March, 1974 by a vote of 5 to 0.

Christan L. Moffett
Christan L. Moffett, Clerk
Illinois Pollution Control Board