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Pollution Control Board**BEFORE THE**
ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

GINA PATTERMANN,)

Complainant,)

PCB 99-187)

v.)

(Citizen Enforcement -
Noise, Air))BOUGHTON TRUCKING AND)
MATERIALS, INC.,)

Respondent.)

NOTICE OF FILING

TO: See Attached Certificate of Service

Please take notice that on January 27, 2005, I filed with the Illinois Pollution Control Board an original and nine copies of this Notice of Filing and the attached BOUGHTON'S RESPONSE AND OBJECTION TO COMPLAINANT'S MOTION FOR EXPEDITED REVIEW, copies of which are attached hereto and hereby served upon you.

Dated: January 27, 2005

BOUGHTON TRUCKING AND MATERIALS, INC.

By: 

One of its Attorneys

Patricia F. Sharkey
Mark R. Ter Molen
Kevin Desharnais
Michelle Gale
Mayer, Brown, Rowe & Maw LLP
190 South LaSalle Street
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)	Noise, Air)
BOUGHTON TRUCKING AND)	
MATERIALS, INC.,)	
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Respondent.)	

**BOUGHTON'S RESPONSE AND OBJECTION TO
COMPLAINANT'S MOTION FOR EXPEDITED REVIEW**

NOW COMES Respondent, Boughton Trucking and Materials, Inc. ("Boughton"), by its attorneys, Mayer, Brown, Rowe & Maw LLP pursuant to 35 Ill. Admin. Code 101.500(d), and responds to Complainant's January 25, 2005 Motion for Expedited Review.

INTRODUCTION

On January 20, 2005, eleven days before the hearing scheduled in this matter, Complainant filed a motion for voluntary dismissal under 735 ILCS 5/2-1009. As more fully set forth in Respondent's Response to Complainant's Motion for Voluntary Dismissal, that motion was not supported by an affidavit or other evidence of compliance with the prerequisites for a Section 5/2-1009 dismissal. At the time of filing of its Motion for Voluntary Dismissal, Complainant did not file a motion for expedited Board ruling or file a motion to cancel the hearing. Now, five days later, and only six days (and only 4 business days) before the scheduled hearing, Complainant seeks expedited review of its motion. Any hardship imposed on Complainant as a result of this delay is once again of Complainant's own making, and is not proper grounds for granting expedited review. Further, Complainant has not cured any of the

defects in the underlying motion for voluntary dismissal. The motion for voluntary dismissal still contains facts not of record unsupported by an affidavit, and Complainant still has not paid, or evidenced any willingness to pay, Respondent's costs, which costs Respondent has submitted to Complainant. Further, Complainant now, in this same motion, seeks leave to file a reply, which was not attached to the motion, as one would expect from a party seeking expedited Board review, and which as of the filing of this response, the Board and Respondent have not yet even received.

Allowing this substantively defective and procedurally incomplete motion to interfere with the scheduled hearing would materially prejudice Respondent, who has expended great resources in twice preparing for hearing. Given the lack of prejudice to Complainant from denying the motion, the material prejudice to Respondent which would result from granting the motion, and the substantive defects in and incomplete procedural posture of the underlying motion for voluntary dismissal, the motion for expedited review should be denied.

ARGUMENT

COMPLAINANT HAS FAILED TO ALLEGE FACTS THAT SUPPORT A FINDING OF MATERIAL PREJUDICE

35 Ill. Adm. Code 101.512 provides that, in ruling on a motion for expedited consideration, "the Board will, at a minimum consider all statutory requirements and whether material prejudice will result from the motion being granted or denied." 35 Ill. Adm. Code 101.512(b). In its motion, Complainant asserts that it will be materially prejudiced by being forced to hearing while awaiting a ruling by the Board. Complainant's Motion at ¶3. Complainant further asserts that it will be prejudiced by its decision to cease preparing for hearing while its motion is pending. *Id.* at ¶4.

Any prejudice to Complainant is entirely of Complainant's own making. It is Complainant who elected to file its motion at this late stage, days before hearing, after 5 1/2 years of litigation. It is Complainant who elected not to file a motion to cancel the hearing or seek expedited review at the time it filed its motion for voluntary dismissal. It is also Complainant who elected to cease preparing for hearing, based solely on the filing of a motion, without having received a ruling on that motion.¹ To the extent the Board cannot rule on the motion to dismiss prior to the scheduled hearing, that too is a situation of Complainant's own creation. Complainant has presumed to ask the board to expedite its review and requested leave to file a reply, without itself expediting that review by providing its reply with its motion. By this Motion for Expedited Review, Complainant is obviously seeking to tie the Board's hands and unilaterally cause the hearing to be cancelled. As set forth in the attached Response to Motion to Cancel Hearing, to which Respondent respectfully refers the Board and which is hereby incorporated by reference and attached hereto as Exhibit A, a self-imposed hardship does not constitute material prejudice.

**COMPLAINANTS MOTION FOR VOLUNTARY DISMISSAL REMAINS
SUBSTANTIVELY DEFECTIVE AND PROCEDURALLY UNRIPE**

As indicated in Respondent's response to the motion for voluntary dismissal, the motion for voluntary dismissal contains facts not of record and unsupported by an affidavit, in violation of the Board rules. Despite Complainant's many additional filings, this defect has not been remedied. This is more than just a mere technicality. Under Rule 1009, as further modified by Supreme Court Rule 219(e), Complainant is obligated to pay Respondent's costs prior to dismissal of the case without prejudice. Complainant nowhere has affirmed under oath its intent

¹ To the extent Complainant is seriously claiming prejudice from not having exchanged exhibit lists, Respondent has provided its exhibit list to Complainant without having received one from Complainant, despite the fact that the pre-trial order contemplated a simultaneous exchange.

to pay those costs. In fact, Complainant's attorney's email of January 23, 2005 indicates that Complainant will *not* pay the costs Respondent is entitled to under Rule 219. (See Attachment 2 to Respondent's Response to the Motion for Voluntary Dismissal.) Because this failing has been unaddressed, Complainant's motion remains substantively and procedurally defective on this point.

Further, Complainant has now moved for leave to file a reply on its motion. To the extent the Board would do anything other than deny the motion as a matter of law due to the unaddressed defects, the record on the motion remains incomplete and unripe for decision.

THE BOARD SHOULD ALLOW THE SCHEDULED HEARING TO GO FORWARD

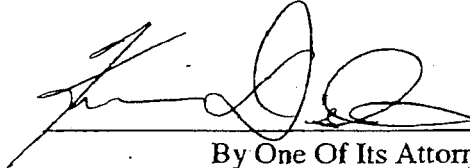
As a result of Complainant's egregiously late filings, time is running very short in this matter. The hearing is scheduled to begin Monday morning, less than two business days from the time of filing of this response. To the extent the Board sees in Complainant's request for expedited ruling an implicit plea for cancellation of the currently scheduled hearing, that request should be denied. As set forth more fully in Respondent's response to Complainant's Motion to Cancel Hearing, hereby incorporated by reference and attached hereto as Exhibit A, Plaintiff has failed to demonstrate the prejudice necessary to warrant cancellation of the hearing, and cancellation of the hearing at this late hour after 5 ½ years of litigation would be highly prejudicial to Respondent. Respondent respectfully refers the Board to its Response to the Motion to Cancel Hearing on this issue.

WHEREFORE, Respondent respectfully requests that the Board deny Complainants

Motion for Expedited Review.

BOUGHTON TRUCKING AND MATERIALS, INC.

January 27, 2005

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J. Q. Q.", is written over a horizontal line.

By One Of Its Attorneys

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Patricia F. Sharkey
Kevin Desharnais
Michelle A. Gale
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EXHIBIT A

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GINA PATTERMANN,

Complainant,

v.

BOUGHTON TRUCKING AND
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PCB 99-187

(Citizen Enforcement -
Noise, Air)**NOTICE OF FILING**

TO: See Attached Certificate of Service

Please take notice that on January 26, 2005, I filed with the Illinois Pollution Control Board an original and four copies of this Notice of Filing and the attached BOUGHTON'S RESPONSE AND OBJECTION TO COMPLAINANT'S MOTION TO CANCEL HEARING, copies of which are attached hereto and hereby served upon you.

Dated: January 26, 2005

BOUGHTON TRUCKING AND MATERIALS, INC.

By: 

One of its Attorneys

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**BOUGHTON'S RESPONSE AND OBJECTION TO
COMPLAINANT'S MOTION TO CANCEL HEARING**

NOW COMES Respondent, Boughton Trucking and Materials, Inc. ("Boughton"), by its attorneys, Mayer, Brown, Rowe & Maw LLP pursuant to 35 Ill. Admin. Code 101.500(d) and an oral agreement with the Hearing Officer made on January 25, 2005 to file an expedited response, and responds to Complainant's Motion To Cancel Hearing.

**COMPLAINANT FAILED TO FILE A TIMELY MOTION
TO CANCEL THE SCHEDULED HEARING**

After five and a half years of litigation and a multitude of discovery abuses, Complainant's filing of a Section 5/2-1009 motion to dismiss without prejudice eleven days before the rescheduled hearing date is an abuse of the Board's procedures and highly prejudicial to Respondent. As Complainant failed to file its Motion to Cancel Hearing until seven days before the scheduled hearing date, the motion is not timely. Board rules do not allow untimely cancellation of a hearing as of right. Board Rule 101.510 allows the Board or the Hearing Officer to exercise discretion to grant a motion after the prescribed time; however, that authority is limited to instances in which the movant "demonstrates that the movant will suffer material

prejudice if the hearing is not cancelled." The Complainant has not demonstrated material prejudice in this instance. Neither the Hearing Office nor the Board should exercise discretion to remedy a situation which is of the Complainant's own making and which Complainant has crafted to avoid the consequences of her lack of diligence and bad decisions, all to the material prejudice of the Respondent.

Complainant's filing of a Section 5/2-1009 voluntary motion for dismissal at the eleventh hour after five and a half years of litigation in this proceeding is precisely the type of abuse that the Supreme Court has recognized as one of "a myriad of abusive uses of the voluntary dismissal statute." Gibellina v. Handley, 127 Ill.2d 122, 136, 535 N.E. 2d 858, 865 (1989) (motion for voluntary dismissal on the eve of trial characterized as an abuse of Section 5/2-1009.). Since Gibellina, the Illinois Supreme Court has authorized the imposition of Supreme Court Rule 219(e) "reasonable expenses" specifically to deter this type of abuse. See Committee Comment accompanying Rule 219.

While the Board may, in its discretion, decide to hear Complainant's Section 5/2-1009 motion, it is not bound to do so. 35 Ill. Adm. Code 101.100(b) ("The provisions of the Code of Civil Procedure and Supreme Court Rules do not expressly apply to proceedings before the Board. However, the Board may look to the Code of Civil Procedure and Supreme Court Rules for guidance where the Board's procedural rules are silent."); see, e.g., People of the State of Illinois v. Community Landfill Company, Inc., PCB 97-193 (March 18, 2004), 2004 WL 604933, *3. Moreover, the Board is not bound to assist the Complainant in an abusive use of Section 5/2-1009 by bending its rules or exercising its discretion to cancel a scheduled hearing. The hour is very late and the alleged hardship is entirely self-imposed.

**COMPLAINANT HAS FAILED TO ALLEGE FACTS THAT SUPPORT A
FINDING OF MATERIAL PREJUDICE**

Complainant's basis for claiming that material prejudice will occur if the hearing is not cancelled is the following:

As a result of the decision to seek Voluntary Dismissal, no further hearing preparation was conducted by Pattermann and no exhibits were exchanged by either of the parties, as otherwise provided by the Joint Pre-Trial Memorandum filed in this matter.

Certification of Michael S. Blazer, January 25, 2005.

The Board should not attempt to remedy a timing dilemma created unilaterally by Complainant and designed to unilaterally benefit Complainant, at the expense of Respondent who has now diligently prepared for hearing twice in this case. Rather, the Board should follow its rules and precedent, and deny Complainant's motion to cancel the hearing. The hearing should be allowed to go forward and Complainant can either appear at that hearing or take an adverse judgment for failure to establish its case. This is the just consequence of Complainant's own actions, and does not constitute "material prejudice."

A SELF-IMPOSED HARDSHIP IS NOT MATERIAL PREJUDICE

The only hardship Complainant has alleged is that she can't be ready for the long scheduled and re-scheduled hearing because she apparently made an initial *decision not to prepare for the hearing* until the week before and then made another *decision to stop preparing for the hearing* before the hearing had been cancelled or her motion had been ruled upon. These two decisions may create a "hardship" for Complainant – *i.e.*, she and her counsel may have to work over the weekend and she may have a few days less to prepare for hearing than she had

earlier anticipated – but they are hardships of her own making and they clearly do not constitute “material prejudice” requiring the cancellation of the hearing.

In fact, Complainant’s statements serve only as an admission that Complainant has not acted in good faith over the last several weeks and months in representing her intent to go to hearing. Complainant has already decided she doesn’t want to go to hearing – that is why she filed her motion. She actually has no intention of preparing for hearing. Mr. Blazer stated in the status conference with the Hearing Officer on January 25, 2005 that if the hearing isn’t cancelled he would simply walk in and state on the record that he isn’t ready to proceed. Rather than go forward with the scheduled hearing date for which she admits not being ready and for which she is *not willing to get ready*, Complainant has made the decision to try to preserve all of her rights to refile at any time in the next year – perhaps when she has time to get ready for hearing – while leaving Respondent with five and a half years of attorneys fees and without a final judgment.

Again, while Complainant may have the right to file a Section 5/2-1009 motion at the last moment, the granting of that motion is subject to the Board’s discretion and procedures, and the requirements of Supreme Court Rule 219. The filing of that motion does not trump all other Board rules and orders. Complainant does not have a unilateral right to cancel the scheduled hearing. Complainant stopped working on her case prior to a decision on her motion *at her own risk*. As noted, Complainant was so confident in her ability to circumvent the Hearing Officer’s orders and the Board’s rules that she didn’t even file a motion to cancel the hearing or request expedited Board consideration until five days after filing her motion for dismissal. The Board should not now exercise its discretion to elevate what is plainly a nonchalant, risky set of assumptions made by Complainant into something akin to “material prejudice.”

The Board has long held that "absent a showing of unavoidable circumstances, the failure to request relief in a timely matter is a self-imposed hardship." Community Landfill Corporation v. IEPA, PCB 95-137 (Sept. 21, 1995); American National Can Co. v. IEPA, PCB 88-203, 102 PCB 215 (Aug. 31, 1989). All the way back to EPA v. Incinerator, Inc., PCB 71-69 (Sept. 30, 1971), the Board has held that "self-imposed hardship brought about by [a party's] own dilatoriness" is not a basis for avoiding the consequences of a Board order.

The fact that Complainant might have to spend some money to prepare for and attend the scheduled hearing, as she complains in her motion, is not a grounds for finding material prejudice. Johnson v. ADM, PCB 98-31 (July 8, 1998) (Board denied motion for leave to file because it was untimely and because party being required to bear the costs of defending itself at hearing did not amount to material prejudice).

**THE BOARD SHOULD NOT, AT RESPONDENT'S EXPENSE, EXERCISE ITS
DISCRETION TO EXTRICATE COMPLAINANT FROM THE RESULTS OF HER
OWN REPEATED LACK OF DILIGENCE**

Complainant's delay in the filing of her Section 5/2-1009 motion, in her preparation for hearing both before and after, and in filing this motion to cancel the hearing, all demonstrate a lack of diligence. As stated above, Complainant's counsel has admitted that his client made a decision to file for voluntary dismissal eleven days before hearing, after five and a half years of litigation and after rescheduling the hearing at the last minute in December. Complainant's counsel has also admitted that Complainant was unprepared for hearing and made a decision to stop preparing for hearing upon filing her motion to dismiss. These admissions demonstrate a lack of diligence on the part of a party who filed a lawsuit and bears a burden of proof.

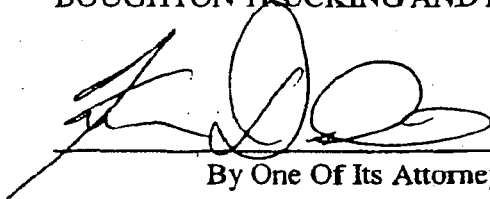
There also can be no question – after five and a half years of attorneys fees, expert witness fees, employee witness salaries, deposition and discovery costs, and preparation for trial

twice – that Respondent will be highly prejudiced by the cancellation of this hearing. After this protracted litigation, Respondent has a right to a final judgment by the Board.

WHEREFORE, Complainant's motion to cancel the scheduled hearing at this late date should be denied based on 35 Ill. Adm. Code 101.510, and Complainant's failure to demonstrate material prejudice.

Respectfully submitted,

BOUGHTON TRUCKING AND MATERIALS, INC.



By One Of Its Attorneys

January 26, 2005

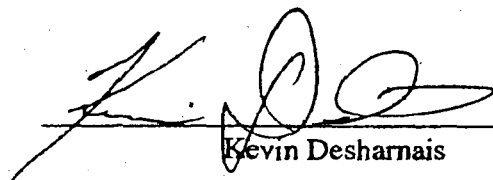
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Kevin Desharnais, an attorney, hereby certifies that a copy of the attached Notice of Filing and BOUGHTON'S RESPONSE AND OBJECTION TO COMPLAINANT'S MOTION TO CANCEL HEARING was served on the persons listed below by the means indicated, on January 26, 2005.

Bradley Halloran
Hearing Officer
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100 West Randolph Street
Chicago, IL 60601
(Via Facsimile)

Michael S. Blazer
Matthew E. Cohen
The Jeff Diver Group, LLC
1749 S. Naperville Road, Suite #102
Wheaton, IL 60187
(Via Electronic Mail)


Kevin Desharnais

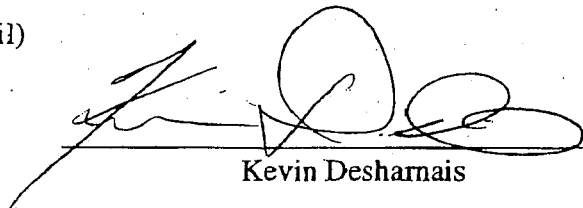
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CLERK'S OFFICE

JAN 27 2005

STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control BoardMAYER
BROWN
ROWE
& MAW

FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

FROM:	Patricia F. Sharkey	Date/time:	Thursday, January 27, 2005 10:59:34 AM
Direct Tel:	(312) 701-7952	Pages:	16
Direct Fax:	(312) 706-9113		ALL PAGES MUST BE NUMBERED

TO THE FOLLOWING:

Name	Company	Fax #	Telephone #
Bradley L. Halloran	IPCB	814-3669	814-8917

MESSAGE:

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IF YOU HAVE ANY TRANSMISSION DIFFICULTY,
PLEASE CONTACT THE FACSIMILE DEPARTMENT AT (312) 701-7981

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Independent Mexico City Correspondent: Jauregui, Navarrete, Nader y Rojas, S.C.

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