

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
January 6, 1994

STATE OIL COMPANY,)
)
 Petitioner,)
)
 v.) PCB 94-6
) (Provisional Variance)
 ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL)
 PROTECTION AGENCY,)
)
 Respondent.)

ORDER OF THE BOARD (by C. A. Manning):

Pursuant to Section 35(b) of the Environmental Protection Act (Act) (415 ILCS 5/35(b)), State Oil Company has requested that the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Agency) recommend that the Board grant a provisional variance to allow several of State Oil Company's gasoline dispensing operations (service stations) to continue operating even though they did not install operational vapor recovery equipment by November 1, 1993. Such request for a provisional variance and the Notification of Recommendation was filed with the Board by the Agency on Tuesday, January 4, 1994. Pursuant to Section 35(b) of the Act, the Board must issue the variance within two (2) days of this filing.

Specifically, the Agency recommends that we grant State Oil Company a forty-five (45)-day provisional variance for sixteen of its facilities located in six (6) Counties in the Chicago metropolitan statistical area from the Stage II vapor recovery requirements, as set forth in 35 Ill. Adm. Code 218.586, for the period beginning December 16, 1993, and continuing for forty-five (45) days or until the required vapor recovery equipment is installed, whichever comes first.

This recommendation is essentially that the Board extend a previously-granted provisional variance that expired December 15, 1993. The docket number of the previous provisional variance was PCB 93-198, granted on October 27, 1993.

The Agency's provisional variance recommendation states that State Oil Company has requested a provisional variance on behalf of numerous of its service stations in the Chicago area, located as follows:

<u>County</u>	<u>Number of Stations</u>
Lake	7
Cook	4
McHenry	3
DuPage	1
Kendall	1

The addresses of those stations are listed as follows:

<u>County</u>	<u>City or Village</u>	<u>Street Address</u>
Cook	Palatine	800 S. Plum Grove Road
Cook	Schiller Park	9340 Irving Park Road
Cook	Spring Grove	2551 North Route 12
Cook	Streamwood	1001 W. Irving Park Road
DuPage	Addison	246 W. Lake Street
Kendall	Montgomery	426 N. Route 25
Lake	Antioch	485 North Avenue
Lake	Antioch	24480 W. Grass Lake Road
Lake	Fox Lake	20 N. Route 12
Lake	Lincolnshire	435 S. Milwaukee Ave.
Lake	Round Lake	1175 W. Route 134
Lake	Volo	31727 N. Highway 12
Lake	Wauconda	1200 North Rand Road
McHenry	Crystal Lake	5604 S. Route 31
McHenry	McHenry	3514 South Route 31
McHenry	McHenry	4713 W. Elm Street

Upon receipt of the request, the Agency issued its recommendation, notifying the Board that the failure to grant the requested forty-five (45)-day provisional variance would impose an arbitrary or unreasonable hardship on Petitioner. The Agency recommendation states that installation of Stage II vapor recovery equipment at the State Oil Company facilities is not possible by the November 1, 1993 deadline for compliance because State Oil Company has had difficulty in obtaining vapor recovery equipment and the crews necessary to install it.

Provisional variances are by their very nature temporary. The responsibilities of the Agency and the Board in these short-term provisional variances are different from the responsibilities in standard variances. (See 415 ILCS 5/35(b) & (c)). In provisional variances it is the responsibility of the Agency to make the technical determinations and finding of arbitrary or unreasonable hardship. The Board's responsibility is to adopt a formal Order, to assure the formal maintenance of the record, to assure the enforceability of the variance, and to provide notification of the action by a press release.

Having received the Agency recommendation notifying the Board that a denial of the requested relief would impose an arbitrary or unreasonable hardship, the Board hereby grants Petitioner a provisional variance from 35 Ill. Adm. Code 218.586, subject to the following conditions:

1. The term of this provisional variance shall commence on December 16, 1993, and it shall expire on the date the Petitioner completes the required installation of vacuum assist Stage II vapor recovery equipment, or after forty-


five (45) days have elapsed, whichever comes first;

2. The Petitioner shall notify the Agency of the installation of the vapor recovery equipment, by sending notification addressed as follows:

Mr. Terry Sweitzer, P.E.
Manager, Air Monitoring Section
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Division of Air Pollution Control
P.O. Box 19276
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276

IT IS SO ORDERED.

I, Dorothy M. Gunn, Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, do hereby certify that the above order was adopted on the 6th day of January, 1994, by a vote of 7-0.



Dorothy M. Gunn, Clerk
Illinois Pollution Control Board