ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD February 21, 2013

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ORDER OF THE BOARD (T.A. Holbrook):

On February 11, 2013, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Agency) filed a recommendation that the Board certify certain facilities of Prime Pork, LLC (petitioner) as "pollution control facilities" for preferential tax treatment under the Property Tax Code. *See* 35 ILCS 200/11-5 *et seq.* (2010); 35 Ill. Adm. Code 125. Petitioner's livestock facility is located at 16737 Crego Road, DeKalb, DeKalb County. In this order, the Board describes the legal framework for tax certifications, discusses the Agency's recommendation, and certifies that petitioner's livestock waste management facility is a pollution control facility.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK

Under the Property Tax Code, "[i]t is the policy of this State that pollution control facilities should be valued, at 33 1/3% of the fair cash value of their economic productivity to their owners." 35 ILCS 200/11-5 (2010); *see also* 35 III. Adm. Code 125.200(a)(2). "For tax purposes, pollution control facilities shall be certified as such by the Pollution Control Board and shall be assessed by the Department [of Revenue]." 35 ILCS 200/11-20 (2010); *see also* 35 III. Adm. Code 125.200(a).

Under Section 125.202 of the Board's procedural rules, a person may submit an application for tax certification to the Agency. *See* 35 Ill. Adm. Code 125.202. If the Agency receives a tax certification application, the Agency must file with the Board a recommendation on the application, unless the applicant withdraws the application. *See* 35 Ill. Adm. Code 125.204(a). Among other things, the Agency's filing must recommend that the Board issue or deny tax certification. *See* 35 Ill. Adm. Code 125.204(a)(4). If the Board finds "that the claimed facility or relevant portion thereof is a pollution control facility . . ., the Pollution Control Board . . . shall enter a finding and issue a certificate to that effect." 35 ILCS 200/11-25 (2010); *see also* 35 Ill. Adm. Code 125.216(a).

AGENCY RECOMMENDATION

The Agency states that it received a tax certification application from petitioner on April 25, 2007. On February 11, 2013, the Agency filed a recommendation (Rec.) on the application, which included petitioner's application for certification and other documents. The Agency's recommendation identifies the facilities at issue as:

Livestock waste management facilities consisting of six concrete manure pits (each approximately 163 ft. x 44 ft. x 2 ft. deep) and the slotted concrete portion of the floor over the manure pits; one concrete manure pit (approximately 322 ft. x 37 ft. x 2 ft. deep) and the slotted plastic portion of the floor over the manure pit; one concrete manure pit (approximately 162 ft. x 71 ft. x 2 ft. deep) and the slotted plastic portion of the floor over the manure pit; one concrete manure pit (approximately 165 ft. x 56 ft. x 2 ft. deep) and the slotted concrete portion of the floor over the manure pit; one clay lined lagoon (approximately 330 ft. x 110 ft. x 15 ft. deep); one clay lined lagoon (approximately 210 ft. x 210 ft. x 15 ft. deep); approximately 900 ft. of 6-inch diameter aluminum manure transfer pipe and approximately 2,520 ft. of 8-inch diameter PVC manure transfer pipe. Rec. at 1-2.

The Agency's recommendation further describes the facility as having "the primary purpose of collecting, transporting, and storing livestock waste prior to cropland application". *Id.* at 2.

The Agency's recommendation further identifies the location of the facility at issue as NE 1/4 of Section 11, T39N, R4E of the 3rd PM in DeKalb County. *Id.* at 1.

The Agency recommends that the Board certify that the identified facilities are pollution control facilities as defined in Section 11-10 of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/11-10 (2010)) with the primary purpose of eliminating, preventing, or reducing water pollution. *Id.* at 2.

TAX CERTIFICATE

Based on the Agency's recommendation and petitioner's application, the Board finds and certifies that Prime Pork, LLC's facilities identified in this order are pollution control facilities under the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/11-10 (2010)). Under Section 11-25 of the Property Tax Code, the effective date of this certificate is "the date of application for the certificate or the date of the construction of the facility, which ever is later." 35 ILCS 200/11-25 (2010); *see also* 35 III. Adm. Code 125.216(a). Section 125.216(d) of the Board's procedural rules states that the Clerk "will provide the applicant and the Agency with a copy of the Board's order setting forth *the Board's findings and certificate, if any.*" 35 III. Adm. Code 125.216(d) (quoting in italics 35 ILCS 200/11-30 (2010)). The Clerk therefore will provide Prime Pork, LLC and the Agency with a copy of this order.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Section 11-60 of the Property Tax Code provides that any applicant or holder aggrieved by the issuance, refusal to issue, denial, revocation, modification or restriction of a pollution

control certificate or a low sulfur dioxide emission coal fueled device certificate may appeal the Board's finding and order to the Circuit Court under the Administrative Review Law (735 ILCS 5/3-101 *et seq.* (2010)). *See* 35 ILCS 200/11-60 (2010).

I, John T. Therriault, Assistant Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, certify that the Board adopted the above order on February 21, 2013, by a vote of 5-0.

John T. Therriault, Assistant Clerk

Illinois Pollution Control Board