

For immediate release
March 7, 2002

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Illinois Pollution Control Board Grants Provisional Variance to Ensign Bickford Company

Chicago – On March 7, 2002, the Illinois Pollution Control Board granted a 45-day provisional variance from various open burning regulations to Ensign Bickford Company for the 45-day period beginning with the issuance of the Board's order. The provisional variance will allow Ensign Bickford Company to burn explosive and potentially explosive contaminated wastes at its explosive products manufacturing facility near the town of Wolf Lake in Union County.

On March 5, 2002, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) recommended that the Board grant the provisional variance. This request was docketed as PCB 02-118. The Board granted the provisional variance based on the IEPA's notification that compliance with certain open burning regulations would impose an arbitrary or unreasonable hardship on Ensign Bickford Company. The applicable standards are contained in 35 Illinois Administrative Code 237.103.

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