

BEFORE THE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS

AHMAD ZAHDAN,)	
Petitioner,)	
v.)	PCB _____
)	(LUST Permit Appeal)
ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL)	
PROTECTION AGENCY,)	
Respondent.)	

NOTICE OF FILING AND PROOF OF SERVICE

To:	John T. Therriault, Acting Clerk	Division of Legal Counsel
	Illinois Pollution Control Board	Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
	100 West Randolph Street	1021 North Grand Avenue East
	State of Illinois Building, Suite 11-500	P.O. Box 19276
	Chicago, IL 60601	Springfield, IL 62794-9276

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that I have today electronically filed with the Office of the Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, pursuant to Board Procedural Rule 101.302 (d), a PETITION FOR REVIEW OF THE AGENCY LUST DECISION, a copy of which is herewith served upon the attorneys of record in this cause.

The undersigned hereby certifies that a true and correct copy of this Notice of Filing, together with a copy of the document described above, were today served upon counsel of record of all parties to this cause by enclosing same in envelopes addressed to such attorneys with postage fully prepaid, and by depositing said envelopes in a U.S. Post Office Mailbox in Springfield, Illinois on the 10th day of April, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,
AHMAD ZAHDAN, Petitioner

BY: LAW OFFICE OF PATRICK D. SHAW

BY: /s/ Patrick D. Shaw

Patrick D. Shaw
LAW OFFICE OF PATRICK D. SHAW
80 Bellerive Road
Springfield, IL 62704
Telephone: 217/299-8484

BEFORE THE ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

AHMAD ZAHDAN,)	
Petitioner,)	
)	
v.)	PCB _____
)	(LUST Permit Appeal)
ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL)	
PROTECTION AGENCY,)	
Respondent.)	

PETITION FOR REVIEW OF AGENCY LUST DECISION

NOW COMES Petitioner, AHMAD ZAHDAN, pursuant to Section 57.8(i) of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act, 415 ILCS 5/57.8(i), and hereby appeals the Agency’s final decision, refusing to approve the application for payment, and in support thereof states as follows:

1. This appeal arises from underground storage tanks formerly at a service station in Lincoln, Logan County, Illinois, and assigned LPC #1070355121.
2. Petitioner filed an application for payment for work performed pursuant to plans and budgets approved by the Illinois EPA.
3. On March 5, 2015, the Illinois EPA rejected the application for payment on the grounds that the application was incomplete. Attached hereto is a true and correct copy of said decision.
4. The Illinois EPA’s decision should be reversed for the following reasons:
 - a. The application was complete, containing all of the information required of a complete application pursuant to Section 57.8 of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act (415 ILCS 5/57.8(a)(6));

- b. The application was complete, containing all of the information required of a complete application pursuant to 35 Ill. Adm. Code § 734.605;
 - c. The application was complete pursuant to forms that existed at the time application for payment was submitted to the Illinois EPA;
 - d. The Petitioner is relieved from the obligation to submit or file forms that are not in compliance with the Forms Notice Act (20 ILCS 435/1 *et seq.*);
 - e. The information sought is irrelevant under the LUST Program; and
 - f. The Agency improperly seeks to review documents that exceed its scope of review, including mandating the creation of new documents that were not created when the underlying transactions occurred, and were not relied upon in the completion of the application for payment.
5. The Agency's determination was received March 9, 2015, which is less than 35 days from the date this appeal is being filed, and therefore timely.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner, AHMAD ZAH DAN, prays that: (a) the Agency produce the Record; (b) a hearing be held; (c) the Board find the Agency erred in its decision, (d) the Board direct the Agency to approve the application for payment in full, (e) the Board award payment of attorney's fees; and (f) the Board grant Petitioner such other and further relief as it deems meet and just.

AHMAD ZAHDAN,
Petitioner

By its attorneys,
LAW OFFICE OF PATRICK D. SHAW

By: /s/ Patrick D. Shaw

Patrick D. Shaw
LAW OFFICE OF PATRICK D. SHAW
80 Bellerive Road
Springfield, IL 62704
Telephone: 217/299-8484

THIS FILING IS SUBMITTED ON RECYCLED PAPER



ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

1021 NORTH GRAND AVENUE EAST, P.O. BOX 19276, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62794-9276 • (217) 782-2829
BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR LISA BONNETT, DIRECTOR

217/524-3300

MAR 05 2015

CERTIFIED MAIL #

7012 0470 0001 2968 7013

Ahmad Zahdan
Attn: Environmental Management, Inc.
1154 North Bradfordton Road
Springfield, IL. 62711

Re: LPC #1070355121 -- Logan County
 Lincoln / Lincoln Citgo
 2005 North Kickapoo
 Incident-Claim No.: 20111361 -- 65179
 Queue Date: November 5, 2014
 Leaking UST Fiscal File

Dear Mr. Zahdan:

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) has completed the review of your application for payment from the Underground Storage Tank (UST) Fund for the above-referenced Leaking UST incident pursuant to Section 57.8(a) of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act (Act), as amended by Public Act 92-0554 on June 24, 2002, and 35 Illinois Administrative Code (35 Ill. Adm. Code) 734.Subpart F.

This information is dated November 3, 2014 and was received by the Illinois EPA on November 5, 2014. The application for payment covers the period from August 15, 2012 to October 30, 2014. The amount requested is \$17,345.54.

Pursuant to Section 22.18b and Section 57.8 of the Act if an owner or operator is eligible to access the Underground Storage Tank Fund pursuant to an Office of the State Fire Marshal eligibility/deductible final determination letter issued in accordance with Section 57.9 of the Act an application for payment may be submitted to the Illinois EPA. In addition, pursuant to 35 Ill. Adm. Code Section 734.605 (b)(3) a complete application for payment must contain a copy of the OSFM eligibility and deductibility determination. An eligibility and deductibility determination for incident number 20111361 was issued to 2007, Inc. not Ahmad Zahdan for which payment has been requested.

In addition, Ahmad Zahdan does not meet the definition of Owner or Operator in Section 57.2 or 22.18(e)(1)(B) of the Act therefore, all costs incurred regarding this incident are not eligible for reimbursement from the Fund to Ahmad Zahdan. The Illinois EPA has determined that the claim is denied and a voucher cannot be prepared for submission to the Comptroller's Office for

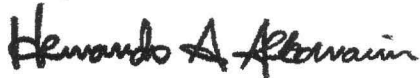
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payment. This constitutes the Illinois EPA's final action with regard to the above application for payment.

In addition, listed in Attachment A are additional reasons these costs are not being paid. An underground storage tank system owner or operator may appeal this decision to the Illinois Pollution Control Board. Appeal rights are attached.

If you have any questions or require further assistance, please contact Catherine S. Elston of my staff at 217-785-9351.

Sincerely,



Hernando A. Albarracin, Manager
Leaking Underground Storage Tank Section
Division of Remediation Management
Bureau of Land

HAA:CSE 

ATTACHMENT

c: Ahmad Zahdan
Leaking UST Claims Unit
Cathy Elston

Attachment A
Accounting Deductions

Re: LPC #1070355121 -- Logan County
Lincoln / Lincoln Citgo
2005 Kickapoo
Incident-Claim No.: 20111361 -- 65179
Queue Date: November 5, 2014
Leaking UST FISCAL FILE

Citations in this attachment are from the Environmental Protection Act (415 ILCS 5) (Act) and 35 Illinois Administrative Code (35 Ill. Adm. Code).

Description of Deductions

The application for payment in its entirety is denied because it contains costs which lack supporting documentation. Such costs are ineligible for payment from the Fund pursuant to Section 57.6(a) of the Act and 35 Ill. Adm. Code 734.630(cc). Without additional supporting documentation of costs, the Illinois EPA cannot determine that costs will not be used for activities in excess of those necessary to meet the minimum requirements of Title XVI of the Act. Therefore, such costs are not approved pursuant to Section 57.7(c)(3) of the Act because they may be used for site investigation or corrective action activities in excess of those required to meet the minimum requirements of Title XVI of the Act. The documentation listed below in items 1 through 6 is necessary to support this claim submitted to the Illinois EPA.

Further, pursuant to Section 57.6(a) of the Act and 35 Ill. Adm. Code 734.605(a), an owner or operator seeking payment from the Fund must submit to the Illinois EPA an application for payment on forms prescribed and provided by the Illinois EPA. The claim submitted did not include the forms listed below in items 1 and 6.

In addition, the application for payment requests handling charges for subcontractor costs when the contractor has not submitted proof of payment of the subcontractor costs. Such costs are ineligible for payment from the Fund pursuant to Section 57.6(a) of the Act and 35 Ill. Adm. Code 734.630(ii). In addition, such costs are not approved pursuant to Section 57.7(c)(3) of the Act because they are not reasonable. The application for payment failed to include sufficient documentation that the contractor paid the applicable subcontractor invoices. The Illinois EPA is requesting the affidavits referenced in item 6 below be completed and submitted.

Moreover, in accordance with 35 Ill. Adm. Code 734.665, an owner or operator that submits an application for payment must maintain all books, records, documents, and other evidence directly pertinent to the application for payment, including but not limited to all financial information and data used in the preparation or support of applications for payment. All books, records, documents, and other evidence must be maintained in accordance with accepted business practices and appropriate accounting procedures and practices. (Sections 57.6(a) and 57.15 of the Act)

Pursuant to 35 Ill. Adm. Code 734.605(b)(9) and (10), a complete application for payment must contain:

An accounting of all costs, including but not limited to, invoices, receipts, and supporting documentation showing the dates and descriptions of the work performed; and

Proof of payment of subcontractor costs for which handling charges are requested. Proof of payment may include cancelled checks, lien waivers, or affidavits from the subcontractor.

The following information is needed to complete the review of the claim:

1. A breakdown of consulting personnel time requested for payment. Specifically requested are the *Consulting Personnel Costs Form* for the above-referenced claim and the companion *Personnel Weekly Work Sheet* that includes the days and times of day worked for each employee. Both forms are accessible on the Illinois EPA's Leaking UST Program Web page at www.epa.state.il.us/land/lust/forms/budget-forms/forms-1/table-of-contents.html under the Application for Payment Forms.
2. A copy of all employees' time sheets for the period for which consulting personnel time was requested for payment.
3. A copy of all contracts signed by the UST owner or operator for the above-referenced claim.
4. A copy of all contracts and agreements between the consultant and all subcontractors.
5. Documentation that the UST owner or operator paid the applicable deductible. Documentation could include a copy of the canceled check (front and back).
6. Affidavit(s) (attached)—completed, signed, and sealed—for the following subcontractor for the work completed pursuant to the above-referenced claim:

Prairie Analytical Systems, Inc. (2)

The Illinois EPA has determined that a complete application for payment has not been submitted and the information listed above in items 1 through 6 is needed for a complete application for payment.

In addition, the costs lack supporting documentation. Such costs are ineligible for payment from the Fund pursuant to 35 Ill. Adm. Code 734.630(cc). Since there is no supporting documentation of costs, the Illinois EPA cannot determine that costs will not be used for activities in excess of those necessary to meet the minimum requirements of Title XVI of the Act. Therefore, such costs are not approved pursuant to Section 57.7(c)(3) of the Act because they may be used for site investigation or corrective action activities in excess of those required to meet the minimum requirements of Title XVI of the Act.

Pursuant to Section 22.18b and Section 57.8 of the Act if an owner or operator is eligible to access the Underground Storage Tank Fund pursuant to an Office of the State Fire Marshal eligibility and deductibility final determination letter issued in accordance with Section 57.9 of the Act, an application may be submitted to the Illinois EPA. An eligibility and deductibility determination for incident number 20111361 was issued to 2007 Inc. not Ahmad Zahdan for which payment has been requested.

An owner or operator seeking payment from the Fund must submit to the Agency an application for payment on forms prescribed by the Agency pursuant to 35 Ill. Adm. Code 734.605(a). The application for payment did not contain all the information required to be submitted on Illinois EPA forms specifically a W-9 from the owner or operator deemed eligible to access the Fund by the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

In addition, Ahmad Zahdan does not meet the definition of Owner or Operator in Section 57.2 or 22.18(e)(1)(B) of the Act therefore, all costs incurred regarding this incident are not eligible for reimbursement from the Fund to Ahmad Zahdan.

Attachment: Affidavit(s)

AFFIDAVIT

State of Illinois

County of Sangamon

I, the undersigned, _____, being first duly sworn upon my oath, do hereby depose and state as follows:

I am an authorized agent of Prairie Analytical Systems, Inc.

The following activity has been completed at Lincoln Citgo, 2005 North Kickapoo, Lincoln, Illinois:

Laboratory analysis of one sample each of bulk density, particle size organic content, specific gravity, four PNA samples and twelve BETX/ MTBE samples by persons directly employed by Prairie Analytical Systems, Inc.

I have personal knowledge of invoice #1203938 for the sum of \$2,200.43, and it has been paid in full. I further attest that no discounts, price reduction, give backs, or rebates of any kind were or will be issued to any party regarding the payment of this invoice.

I am aware there are significant penalties for submitted false statements or representations to the Illinois EPA, including but not limited to fines, imprisonment, or both as provided in Sections 44 and 57.17 of the Environmental Protection Act [415 ILCS 5/44 and 57.17].

Further affiant sayeth not.

Signature: _____

Subscribed and sworn to before me the _____ day of _____, _____.

Seal:

(Notary Public)

AFFIDAVIT

State of Illinois

County of Sangamon

I, the undersigned, _____, being first duly sworn upon my oath, do hereby depose and state as follows:

I am an authorized agent of Prairie Analytical Systems, Inc.

The following activity has been completed at Lincoln Citgo, 2005 North Kickapoo, Lincoln, Illinois:

Laboratory analysis of five PNA samples and five BETX/ MTBE samples by persons directly employed by Prairie Analytical Systems, Inc.

I have personal knowledge of invoice #1204116 for the sum of \$1,335.00, and it has been paid in full. I further attest that no discounts, price reduction, give backs, or rebates of any kind were or will be issued to any party regarding the payment of this invoice.

I am aware there are significant penalties for submitted false statements or representations to the Illinois EPA, including but not limited to fines, imprisonment, or both as provided in Sections 44 and 57.17 of the Environmental Protection Act [415 ILCS 5/44 and 57.17].

Further affiant sayeth not.

Signature: _____

Subscribed and sworn to before me the _____ day of _____, _____.

Seal:

(Notary Public)

Appeal Rights

An underground storage tank owner or operator may appeal this final decision to the Illinois Pollution Control Board pursuant to Sections 40 and 57.7(c)(4) of the Act by filing a petition for a hearing within 35 days after the date of issuance of the final decision. However, the 35-day period may be extended for a period of time not to exceed 90 days by written notice from the owner or operator and the Illinois EPA within the initial 35-day appeal period. If the owner or operator wishes to receive a 90-day extension, a written request that includes a statement of the date the final decision was received, along with a copy of this decision, must be sent to the Illinois EPA as soon as possible.

For information regarding the filing of an appeal, please contact:

Dorothy Gunn, Clerk
Illinois Pollution Control Board
State of Illinois Center
100 West Randolph, Suite 11-500
Chicago, IL 60601
312/814-3620

For information regarding the filing of an extension, please contact:

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Division of Legal Counsel
1021 North Grand Avenue East
Post Office Box 19276
Springfield, IL 62794-9276
217/782-5544