BEFORE THE ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS,)	
by LISA MADIGAN, Attorney)	
General of the State of Illinois,)	
)	
Complainant,)	
)	
v.)	PCB No. 2015-200
)	(Enforcement – Land)
EQUITY LIFESTYLE PROPERTIES, INC.,)	
a Maryland Corporation doing business as)	
WILLOW LAKE ESTATES,)	
)	
Respondent.)	

NOTICE OF ELECTRONIC FILING

To: Via Email

Walter B. Jaccard Vice President - Legal

Equity Lifestyle Properties, Inc.

Two North Riverside Plaza, suite 800

Chicago, Illinois 60606

Via Email

Bradley P. Halloran Hearing Officer

Illinois Pollution Control Board

James R. Thompson Center, Suite 11-500

100 W. Randolph Street Chicago, Illinois 60601

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on the 27th day of July, 2015, the Complainant, PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, filed the attached Motion for Relief from Hearing Requirement and Stipulation and Proposal for Settlement, a true and correct copy of which is attached hereto and is hereby served upon you.

Sammy David

Assistant Attorney General Environmental Bureau

69 W. Washington St., 18th Floor

Chicago, IL 60602 (312) 814-3816

DATE: July 27, 2014

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, SAMMY DAVID, an Assistant Attorney General, do certify that I caused to be served on this 27th day of May, 2014, the attached Notice of Electronic Filing, Motion for Relief from Hearing Requirement, and Stipulation and Proposal for Settlement upon Walter Jaccard *via email* and Bradley P. Halloran *via email*.

SAMMY DAVID

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MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM HEARING REQUIREMENT

NOW COMES Complainant, PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, by LISA MADIGAN, Attorney General of the State of Illinois, and pursuant to Section 31(c)(2) of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act ("Act"), 415 ILCS 5/31(c)(2) (2012), moves that the Illinois Pollution Control Board ("Board") grant the parties in the above-captioned matter relief from the hearing requirement imposed by Section 31(c)(1) of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/31(c)(1) (2014). In support of this motion, Complainant states as follows:

- 1. On May 19, 2015, a Complaint was filed on behalf of the People of the State of Illinois by Lisa Madigan, Attorney General of the State of Illinois, on her own motion and upon the request of the Illinois EPA, pursuant to Section 31 of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/31 (2014), against the Respondent ("Complaint").
 - 2. The parties have reached agreement on all outstanding issues in the Complaint.
- 3. This agreement is presented to the Board in a Stipulation and Proposal for Settlement filed this same date.

4. All parties agree that a hearing on the Stipulation and Proposal for Settlement is not necessary, and respectfully request relief from such a hearing as allowed by Section 31(c)(2) of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/31(c)(2) (2012).

WHEREFORE, Complainant, PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, hereby requests that the Board grant this motion for relief from the hearing requirement set forth in Section 31(c)(1) of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/31(c)(1) (2014), and such other relief as the Board deems proper.

Respectfully submitted,

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS LISA MADIGAN Attorney General, State of Illinois

BY:

Sammy David

Assistant Attorney General Environmental Bureau

Illinois Attorney General's Office

69 W. Washington Street, Suite 1800

Chicago, Illinois 60602

(312) 814-3816

DATE: July 27, 2015

BEFORE THE ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS,)	
by LISA MADIGAN, Attorney)	
General of the State of Illinois,)	
Complainant,)	
v.) PCB No. 2015-200	
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WILLOW LAKE ESTATES,)	
)	
Respondent.) .	

STIPULATION AND PROPOSAL FOR SETTLEMENT

Complainant, PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, by LISA MADIGAN, Attorney General of the State of Illinois, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency ("Illinois EPA"), and EQUITY LIFESTYLE PROPERTIES, INC., a Maryland Corporation doing business as WILLOW LAKE ESTATES, ("Respondent"), (collectively "Parties to the Stipulation"), have agreed to the making of this Stipulation and Proposal for Settlement ("Stipulation") and submit it to the Illinois Pollution Control Board ("Board") for approval. This stipulation of facts is made and agreed upon for purposes of settlement only and as a factual basis for the Board's approval of this Stipulation and issuance of relief. None of the facts stipulated herein shall be introduced into evidence in any other proceeding regarding the violations of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act ("Act"), 415 ILCS 5/1, et seq. (2014), and the Board's regulations, alleged in the Complaint except as otherwise provided herein. It is the intent of the Parties to the Stipulation that it be a final adjudication of this matter.

I. STATEMENT OF FACTS

A. Parties

- 1. On May 19, 2015, a Complaint was filed on behalf of the People of the State of Illinois by Lisa Madigan, Attorney General of the State of Illinois, on her own motion and upon the request of the Illinois EPA, pursuant to Section 31 of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/31 (2014), against the Respondent.
- 2. The Illinois EPA is an administrative agency of the State of Illinois, created pursuant to Section 4 of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/4 (2014).
- 3. At all times relevant to the Complaint, Respondent was and is a Maryland corporation that is authorized to transact business in the State of Illinois.
- 4. At all times relevant to the Complaint, Respondent owned and operated Willow Lake Estates ("Willow Lake"), a mobile home retirement community located at 161 West River Road, Elgin, Kane County, Illinois ("Site").
- 5. The sanitary sewage at Willow Lake is pumped through a lift station directly to a treatment plant operated by the Fox River Water Reclamation District.

B. Allegations of Non-Compliance

Complainant contends that the Respondent has violated the following provisions of the Act and Board regulations:

- Count I: Water Pollution, in violation of Section 12(a) of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/12(a) (2014).
- Count II: Creating a Water Pollution Hazard, in violation of Section 12(d) of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/12(d) (2014).
- Count III: Violations of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("NPDES") Permit Requirements, in violation of Section 12(f) of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/12(f) (2014), and Section 309.102 of the Illinois Pollution Control Board ("Board") Water Pollution Regulations, 35 Ill. Adm. Code

309.102.

Count IV:

Failure to Prevent Sanitary Sewer Overflows in violation of Section 12(a)

of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/12(a) (2014), and Section 306.304 of the Board

Water Pollution Regulations, 35 Ill. Adm. Code 306.304.

Count V: Failure to Take all Reasonable Measures to Prevent Discharge of Sewage

> Causing Water Pollution, in violation of Section 12(a) of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/12(a) (2014), and Section 306.102 of the Board Water Pollution

Regulations, 35 Ill. Adm. Code 306.102.

C. **Non-Admission of Violations**

The Respondent neither admits nor denies the violations alleged in the Complaint filed in this matter and referenced herein.

D. **Compliance Activities to Date**

- 1. Between January 21, 2015 and February 6, 2015, the Respondent removed approximately four inches of soil from the Site where sewage was discharged. The Respondent then installed soil and hay on the area.
- 2. On or about February 6, 2015, Respondent engaged Lifeline Plumbing, Inc. ("Lifeline Plumbing") to repair the lift station and install a new back-up pump and a new control panel that automatically starts the back-up pump if the main pump stops working for any reason. Lifeline Plumbing installed a new alarm system with both visual and audio alarms, so the property staff will be notified immediately in the event of any problem with the lift station.
- 3. Respondent created an operating manual for the lift station that contains specific instructions for operating and maintaining the lift station. The manual also contains the requirements and forms for notifying the appropriate Illinois EPA regional staff within 24 hours of a spill or wastewater discharge from any component of the sewer conveyance system, as well as notifying the County and City of Elgin Health Departments. Respondent contends it has also

trained property staff in the proper operation and maintenance of the lift station and the notification requirements in the event of an incident.

II. APPLICABILITY

This Stipulation shall apply to and be binding upon the Parties to the Stipulation. The Respondent shall not raise as a defense to any enforcement action taken pursuant to this Stipulation the failure of any of its officers, directors, agents, employees or successors or assigns to take such action as shall be required to comply with the provisions of this Stipulation. This Stipulation may be used against the Respondent in any subsequent enforcement action or permit proceeding as proof of a past adjudication of violation of the Act and the Board Regulations for all violations alleged in the Complaint in this matter, for purposes of Sections 39 and 42 of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/39 and 42 (2014).

III. IMPACT ON THE PUBLIC RESULTING FROM ALLEGED NON-COMPLIANCE

Section 33(c) of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/33(c) (2014), provides as follows:

In making its orders and determinations, the Board shall take into consideration all the facts and circumstances bearing upon the reasonableness of the emissions, discharges, or deposits involved including, but not limited to:

- 1. the character and degree of injury to, or interference with the protection of the health, general welfare and physical property of the people;
- 2. the social and economic value of the pollution source;
- 3. the suitability or unsuitability of the pollution source to the area in which it is located, including the question of priority of location in the area involved;
- 4. the technical practicability and economic reasonableness of reducing or eliminating the emissions, discharges or deposits resulting from such pollution source; and
- 5. any subsequent compliance.

In response to these factors, the Parties to the Stipulation state the following:

- 1. Human health and the environment were threatened by the Respondent's alleged violations.
 - 2. There is social and economic benefit to the facility.
 - 3. Operation of the lift station was and is suitable for the area in which it is located.
- 4. Properly operating a lift station at the Site to pump sanitary sewage from Willow Lake to a treatment plant operated by the Fox River Water Reclamation District is both technically practicable and economically reasonable.
 - 5. Respondent has subsequently complied with the Act and the Board regulations.

IV. CONSIDERATION OF SECTION 42(h) FACTORS

Section 42(h) of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/42(h) (2014), provides as follows:

In determining the appropriate civil penalty to be imposed under . . . this Section, the Board is authorized to consider any matters of record in mitigation or aggravation of penalty, including but not limited to the following factors:

- 1. the duration and gravity of the violation;
- 2. the presence or absence of due diligence on the part of the respondent in attempting to comply with requirements of this Act and regulations thereunder or to secure relief therefrom as provided by this Act;
- 3. any economic benefits accrued by the respondent because of delay in compliance with requirements, in which case the economic benefits shall be determined by the lowest cost alternative for achieving compliance;
- 4. the amount of monetary penalty which will serve to deter further violations by the respondent and to otherwise aid in enhancing voluntary compliance with this Act by the respondent and other persons similarly subject to the Act;
- 5. the number, proximity in time, and gravity of previously adjudicated violations of this Act by the respondent;
- 6. whether the respondent voluntarily self-disclosed, in accordance with subsection i of this Section, the non-compliance to the Agency;

- 7. whether the respondent has agreed to undertake a Asupplemental environmental project,@ which means an environmentally beneficial project that a respondent agrees to undertake in settlement of an enforcement action brought under this Act, but which the respondent is not otherwise legally required to perform; and
- 8. whether the respondent has successfully completed a Compliance Commitment Agreement under subsection (a) of Section 31 of this Act to remedy the violations that are the subject of the complaint.

In response to these factors, the Parties to the Stipulation state as follows:

- 1. The Respondent caused or allowed the sanitary sewer overflow ("SSO") at the Site, so as to cause or threaten water pollution. This occurred on or around January 17, 2014, and the problems with the lift station were resolved at various times during 2014.
- 2. Respondent was diligent in attempting to come back into compliance with the Act and Board regulations, once the Illinois EPA notified it of its noncompliance.
- 3. The civil penalty takes into account any economic benefit realized by the Respondent as a result of avoided or delayed compliance.
- 4. Complainant has determined, based upon the specific facts of this matter, that a penalty of Five Thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) will serve to deter further violations and aid in future voluntary compliance with the Act and Board regulations.
- 5. To Complainant's knowledge, Respondent has no previously adjudicated violations of the Act.
 - 6. Self-disclosure is not at issue in this matter.
- 7. The settlement of this matter does not include a supplemental environmental project.
 - 8. A Compliance Commitment Agreement was not at issue in this matter.

V. TERMS OF SETTLEMENT

A. Penalty Payment

1. The Respondent shall pay a civil penalty in the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) within thirty (30) days from the date the Board adopts and accepts this Stipulation.

B. Interest and Default

- 1. If the Respondent fails to make any payment required by this Stipulation on or before the date upon which the payment is due, the Respondent shall be in default and the remaining unpaid balance of the penalty, plus any accrued interest, shall be due and owing immediately. In the event of default, the Complainant shall be entitled to reasonable costs of collection, including reasonable attorney's fees.
- 2. Pursuant to Section 42(g) of the Act, interest shall accrue on any penalty amount owed by the Respondent not paid within the time prescribed herein. Interest on unpaid penalties shall begin to accrue from the date such are due and continue to accrue to the date full payment is received. Where partial payment is made on any penalty amount that is due, such partial payment shall be first applied to any interest on unpaid penalties then owing.

C. Payment Procedures

1. All payments required by this Stipulation shall be made by certified check or money order payable to the Illinois EPA for deposit into the Environmental Protection Trust Fund ("EPTF"). Payments shall be sent by first class mail and delivered to:

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Fiscal Services 1021 North Grand Avenue East P.O. Box 19276 Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276

- 2. The case name and case number shall appear on the face of the certified check or money order.
- 3. A copy of the certified check or money order and any transmittal letter shall be sent to:

Sammy David
Assistant Attorney General
Environmental Bureau
Illinois Attorney General's Office
69 W. Washington Street, Suite 1800
Chicago, Illinois 60602

D. Future Compliance

- 1. Respondent shall operate the lift station in compliance with the Act and Board Regulations, and shall operate and maintain the lift station in compliance with the procedures contained in the operating manual described in paragraph I.D.3, and any subsequent amendments thereto.
- 2. In addition to any other authorities, the Illinois EPA, its employees and representatives, and the Attorney General, her employees and representatives, shall have the right of entry into and upon the Respondent's facility which is the subject of this Stipulation, at all reasonable times for the purposes of conducting inspections and evaluating compliance status. In conducting such inspections, the Illinois EPA, its employees and representatives, and the Attorney General, her employees and representatives, may take photographs, samples, and collect information, as they deem necessary.
- 3. This Stipulation in no way affects the responsibilities of the Respondent to comply with any other federal, state or local laws or regulations, including but not limited to the Act and the Board Regulations.

4. The Respondent shall cease and desist from future violations of the Act and Board Regulations that were the subject matter of the Complaint.

E. Release from Liability

In consideration of the Respondent's payment of the \$5,000.00 penalty, its commitment to cease and desist as contained in Section V.D.4 above, and upon the Board's approval of this Stipulation, the Complainant releases, waives and discharges the Respondent from any further liability or penalties for the violations of the Act and Board regulations that were the subject matter of the Complaint herein. The release set forth above does not extend to any matters other than those expressly specified in Complainant's Complaint filed on May 19, 2015. The Complainant reserves, and this Stipulation is without prejudice to, all rights of the State of Illinois against the Respondent with respect to all other matters, including but not limited to, the following:

- a. criminal liability;
- b. liability for future violation of state, federal, local, and common laws and/or regulations;
- c. liability for natural resources damage arising out of the alleged violations; and
- d. liability or claims based on the Respondent's failure to satisfy the requirements of this Stipulation.

Nothing in this Stipulation is intended as a waiver, discharge, release, or covenant not to sue for any claim or cause of action, administrative or judicial, civil or criminal, past or future, in law or in equity, which the State of Illinois may have against any person, as defined by Section 3.315 of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/3.315, or entity other than the Respondent.

Enforcement of Stipulation F.

Upon the entry of the Board's Order approving and accepting this Stipulation, that Order is a binding and enforceable order of the Board and may be enforced as such through any and all available means.

G. **Execution of Stipulation**

The undersigned representatives for the Parties to the Stipulation certify that they are fully authorized by the party whom they represent to enter into the terms and conditions of this Stipulation and to legally bind them to it.

WHEREFORE, the Parties to the Stipulation request that the Board adopt and accept the foregoing Stipulation and Proposal for Settlement as written.

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS

ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

LISA MADIGAN Attorney General State of Illinois

MATTHEW J. DUNN, Chief Environmental Enforcement/ Asbestos Litigation Division

LISA BONNETT, Director Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

BY: Assistant Attorney General

Environmental Bureau

Chief Legal Counsel

DATE:

EQUITY LIFESTYLE PROPERTIES, INC.

RY.

Its: Vie President

DATE: 7-23-/