



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

100 East Erie Street
Chicago, IL 60611

Legislation Text

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TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR BOARD MEETING OF APRIL 15, 2010

COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRIAL WASTE & WATER POLLUTION

Mr. Richard Lanyon, Executive Director

Authority for the Board of Commissioners to Approve a Site Specific Variance from the Environmental Remediation Wastewater Ordinance for McCook Industrial Center II Site

Dear Sir:

CenterPoint Properties (CenterPoint) is planning remediation activities to support future construction and redevelopment of the McCook Industrial Center II site located at 4900 South First Avenue, McCook, Illinois. This site was formerly operated by Reynolds Aluminum and then by McCook Metals, LLC. Both companies manufactured aluminum products.

CenterPoint is seeking approval from the District to discharge environmental remediation wastewater in connection with the planned site work. Before discharging any water to the District, and as set forth in the documentation submitted to the District, CenterPoint intends to treat all water to remove contaminants such as residual oils and organic compounds and comply with all the provisions of the Environmental Remediation Wastewater (ERW) Ordinance.

Article III, Section 3 of the ERW Ordinance prohibits the proposed discharge of environmental remediation wastewater because the site is located in a separately-sewered area. However, the property is on the border of the combined sewer area and the use of the stormwater drainage infrastructure in the separate sewer area would not be environmentally desirable. A similar request for this site was addressed by the Board in January 2004.

The Special Discharge Authorization Request submitted to the District by Carlson Environmental, Inc., on behalf of CenterPoint, is in conformance with the ERW Ordinance with the exception of the proposed discharge being in a separate sewer area. The proposed wastewater will be pretreated and discharged at a controlled flow rate to an on-site sanitary sewer. The discharge of stormwater into the sanitary sewer will be prohibited and the discharger will be required to comply with all the provisions of the ERW Ordinance.

In order to facilitate the redevelopment of the site, CenterPoint has requested a site specific variance from the ERW Ordinance to allow the discharge of environmental remediation wastewater from the property to the District's sanitary sewer in a separately sewer area. It is our opinion that this request is reasonable.

Therefore, the Director of Monitoring and Research respectfully requests that the Board of Commissioners approves the request for a variance from the ERW Ordinance for CenterPoint Properties.

Requested, Louis Kollias, Director of Monitoring and Research, LK:TG:MJ:TMD:FWB:mjb/jg

Recommended, Frederick M. Feldman, General Counsel

Respectfully Submitted, Patricia Horton, Chairman Committee on Industrial Waste & Water Pollution

Disposition of this agenda item will be documented in the official Regular Board Meeting Minutes of the Board

of Commissioners for April 15, 2010