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# Fox Valley Countryside

Pollution - CARGILL

1978

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## Agreement may snuff out C'ville industrial odor

By PETE NENNI

Residents of Old Carpentersville will soon be able to breathe a sigh of relief, as a settlement has been reached that will hopefully put an end to an odor problem that has plagued their lives for the better part of two years.

Assistant Attorney General Judith Goodie announced Monday that a public hearing is scheduled for 10 a.m. Friday Nov. 3 at the Kane County Courthouse in Geneva, for presentation of the agreement to the Illinois Pollution Control Board.

Goodie said a settlement was reached on Oct. 17 between the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) and Cargill, Inc., the company believed to be the source of the odor. Cargill is involved in the manufacture of paint.

At that time, the agreement will be placed into the record and will be considered for approval by the Pollution Control Board. Residents will also be heard at the hearing.

"We have every reason to believe it will be accepted," Goodie said.

Goodie declined to comment on the

specifics of the agreement. When asked if any payment of damages is involved, she said, "damages is not a correct term. The law provides for penalties to be paid and for the pollution control board to order the necessary steps be taken."

Goodie added, the settlement will provide for the company (Cargill) to institute certain pollution control measures.

Public hearings before the pollution control board were originally scheduled for July 11 to July 13 in Geneva. Between 10 and 25 Carpentersville residents had

planned to testify to their belief Cargill was the perpetrator of the odor.

The company was contacted on June 5 by the IEPA to begin serious negotiations for a settlement. The IEPA filed a suit on behalf of the area residents against Cargill in February.

Cargill Manager Tom Tolle, said the company would not comment on the agreement until after the Nov. 3 hearing and final approval is received.

"Until then, we have been so advised by our attorneys not to comment until a

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# Odor—

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decision has been rendered," he said, adding a press release on the affair will be issued.

As for the residents of the area, they are hopeful the settlement will put a permanent end to the smell.

Carpentersville Trustee Mary Srajer, a leader in the fight against the odor, said she was happy a settlement was reached and would notify a number of people who she is regularly in contact with about the problem.

"I am so happy to hear that some progress has been made — I just hope it helps and if it doesn't, I'll be yelling again," she said, adding she plans to attend the public hearing.

Srajer said after subsiding for a while some two weeks ago, the smell grew worse a short time later, promoting a number of residents to complain.

The original complaint filed against Cargill involved three counts, with each alleging a different violation of the Environmental Protection Act.

The first count is for violations causing air pollution through the emission of odors and organic vapors. A second count charges certain elements of equipment were constructed without the necessary construction permit from the IEPA.

A final count charges certain elements of equipment at the plant were operated without the appropriate operating permits from the IEPA.

Thursday, October 26, 1978

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