STATE OF ILLINOIS
POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
189 WEST MADISON STREET SUITE 900
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602

DAVID P. CURRIE, CHAIRMAN
SAMUEL R. ALDRICH
JACOB D. DUMELLE
RICHARD J. KISSEL
SAMUEL T. LAWTON, JR.

TELEPHONE
312-793-3620

NEWSLETTER #37
December 5, 1971

BOARD GRANTS QUAD-CITIES A-PLANT PERMIT

The Illinois Pollution Control Board at a meeting November 15, granted a partial operating permit to Commonwealth Edison and Iowa-Illinois Gas & Electric Company to operate a nuclear power plant on the Mississippi River in the Quad-Cities area near Cordova. The permit was granted under extremely strict conditions.

The Board noted that Iowa-Illinois operates an old, smoky coal-fired power plant in Moline that cannot be retired until the two 809 m/w boiling-water reactors at the Quad-Cities plant are in operation.

The Board also reaffirmed the policy it had adopted with reference to the Dresden atomic power plant, that of requiring the best practicable technology for controlling radioactive emissions.

Again rejecting the argument that the federal government had pre-empted the field of radioactive emission control, the Board ordered the companies to add a recombiner and eight charcoal beds to the facility to reduce gaseous radioactive emission by thirty times the amounts the companies had requested to discharge. Installation of these controls will be completed by December, 1973, with acceptable emissions in the meantime, the Board said.

With regard to liquid radioactive wastes, the Board said that these would have a relatively insignificant effect on drinking water, but might adversely affect aquatic life, and that a "maximum recycle" system would therefore be required. This system, which will cost only 2-1/2 percent of the total plant cost and will take two years to install, will reduce liquid radioactive discharges by a factor of approximately 22.