

APPEALS COURT OVERTURNS EPA REVISION OF MICHIGAN PLAN

Federal Environmental Protection Agency disregarded rule-making requirements when it amended Michigan's air quality implementation plan last May to require utilities to certify that they could meet 1975 and 1978 sulfur oxide limits, obtain variance from those limits or submit compliance schedule, U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati has ruled.

Court vacated plan revision after Detroit Edison Co. said regulation would force closure of company's Monroe power plant. Portion of Michigan's plan revised by EPA had granted facility variance until 1980 from meeting sulfur oxide emission standards. State plan, including Detroit Edison variance, was approved by EPA with minor changes in October 1972. Changes included when original plan was approved were not challenged by utility.

Company contended EPA's action last May constituted major revision of state plan which should have been preceded by formal proposal and public hearings. EPA, which published the plan changes without prior notice, said that its action was only a clarification and formal regulatory proceedings were not necessary. Court disagreed, concluding "the amendment amounted to a revision" of state plan and agency "has not complied with the informal rule-making requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act."

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GROUP REPORTS AIRBORNE VINYL CHLORIDE THREAT IN INDUSTRIAL AREAS

There is a "fearful possibility" that residents of industrial areas including Houston, southern Louisiana and western Kentucky are being exposed to hazardous levels of vinyl chloride, and Environmental Protection Agency should require all state air pollution control agencies to monitor chemical plant emissions to determine the extent of the hazard, Center for Science in the Public Interest urged April 25 in a report to EPA.

Three areas singled out appear to have most serious problem, group said, but Painesville, Ohio, and Long Beach, Calif., also should receive special attention. Vinyl chloride is being emitted from smokestacks at larger plants and EPA documents indicate concentrations of 0.37 parts per million have been found in some areas of Texas, center reported.

Group estimated that about 9,000 grams of vinyl chloride are emitted for every batch of the chemical produced in a 10,000-gallon reactor. Concentrations 100 meters downwind from plants will approach 200 ppm and "certain towns and cities may be seriously affected by vinyl chloride pollution."

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AROUND THE STATES -- AIR

NEW JERSEY -- Air pollution penalties totaling \$73,900 were levied during the first quarter of 1974, and abatement orders for violations of emission standards more than doubled over the same period in 1973, state Department of Environmental Protection reported April 23. DEP air pollution control officer Thomas Leonard said enforcement activities were increased to offset relaxation of fuel sulfur content regulations to insure "that there would be no major air degradation taking place."

WISCONSIN -- Commercial and industrial development will be inhibited if state Department of Natural Resources designates the Milwaukee region as an air quality maintenance area, city development department spokesman warned in recent DNR hearings. While city supports "reasonable efforts" to achieve Clean Air Act standards, land use and transportation controls which may be imposed under AQMA designation would "unduly penalize" the region, spokesman said.

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TRANSPORTATION CONTROL PLANS FOR NEW YORK CITY AND HOUSTON will be reviewed May 1 and 2 in hearings before Sen. Edmund S. Muskie's (D.-Me.) Public Works Subcommittee on Environmental Pollution. Hearings will "evaluate planning process used by EPA, state and local officials to develop transportation control strategies," Muskie said.

RESEARCH REPORT SERIES ON GREAT LAKES WATER QUALITY STUDIES ANNOUNCED

Research report series on treatability studies and research designed to improve pollution control technology in Great Lakes Basin, funded under research program for abatement of municipal pollution within provisions of 1971 Canada-Ontario Agreement on Great Lakes Water Quality, is being published by sponsoring groups.

Under five-year program initiated by agreement, studies are conducted through in-house projects by both Environment Canada and Ontario Ministry of the Environment, and through contracts with municipalities, research institutions and industrial organizations. Requests for copies of the research reports should be directed to: Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Pollution Control Branch, 135 St. Clair Ave. West, Toronto, Ontario M4V 1P5.

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30 EPA-WQO GRANTS TOTAL \$14.3-MILLION FOR WASTE TREATMENT FACILITIES

EPA-Water Quality Office has awarded 30 construction grants totaling \$14,348,566 to help finance waste treatment facilities.

	Grant	Project
AL: New Brockton.....	\$ 6,525	Plant planning
AZ: Quechan Tribal Council.....	438,740	Interceptor
CA: Forestville.....	33,465	Chlorination, disposal facility
		Treatment plant
Kerman.....	1,029,000	Digester cleaning system
Los Angeles City.....	2,175,750	Grit chambers
do.....	607,500	Plant expansion
Susanville.....	640,600	Plant planning
ID: Payette Lakes.....	40,950	Plant expansion, upgrade
Priest River.....	214,275	Interceptor design
IA: Lone Tree.....	9,370	Plant planning
Solon.....	27,600	Interceptor
KS: Wichita.....	600,000	Plant additions
MA: Maynard.....	201,929	Secondary treatment plant
Orange.....	1,961,250	Interceptor
MO: Clinton.....	64,500	Interceptor
Lee's Summit.....	414,750	Interceptor
Pevely.....	173,250	Interceptor
Troy.....	517,500	Interceptor
OR: Coos Bay.....	814,553	Plant expansion, upgrade
PA: Berks-Montgomery.....	213,830	Plant expansion
Danville.....	74,580	Plant additions
Millcreek Twnsp....	61,275	Interceptor
Montgomery Twnsp.....	401,250	Interceptor
SD: Keystone.....	736,575	Aeration lagoon
TN: Davidson City and Nashville.....	479,250	Interceptor
Jonesboro.....	11,250	Plant planning
Lewisburg.....	63,750	Plant planning
TX: Ector.....	7,425	Plant planning
WA: Seattle.....	598,604	Pump station
WV: Buffalo Creek.....	1,729,270	Treatment plant

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MISCELLANEOUS GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command has awarded Southwest Research Institute, San Antonio, Tex., \$60,000 for R&D related to environmental pollution in utilization of Army material.

Environmental Protection Agency has awarded Department of Public Health, Lansing, Mich., \$255,470 to provide data on effects of pesticides on public health; Department of Health, Austin, Tex., \$178,634 for community studies of pesticide project.

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PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Pollution Control Technology, prepared by Research and Education Association, reviews state-of-the-art, analyzes technical and economic feasibility of processes, equipment and plants, and is organized into three sections covering air pollution control, water pollution control and solid

wastes disposal; 608 pgs. Available @ \$17.75 from R&EA, 342 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10017.

The Buyer's Guide to Environmental Media, Special Energy Edition, prepared by Environment Information Center, Inc., is directory listing 800 new environmental books in print and 250 environmental films released in 1973 covering topics of air, water and noise pollution, energy, environmental education, land use and resources; 50 pgs. Available @ \$2.60 from EIC, Media Services Dept., 124 E. 39 St., New York, N.Y. 10016.

Trace Elements in the Atmosphere, by Hans Israel and Gerhard Israel, discusses nature, generation, distribution and microchemical reactions of gaseous secondary components, aerosols and radioactive materials of natural and artificial origin in the atmosphere; 160 pgs. Available @ \$15 from Ann Arbor Science, P.O. Box 1425, Ann Arbor, Mich. 48106.

Available from NTIS

Following documents are available from National Technical Information Service, P.O. Box 1553, Springfield, Va. 22151:

Bibliography of Environmental Reports, compiled by Environmental Protection Agency, contains citations, abstracts, author, corporate source, subject, contract and title indexes for all reports available from NTIS as of April 1, 1973. Supplement of balance of 1973 will also be issued, followed by quarterly supplements. Available as PB223. 693 @ \$10.30.

Pollution of Subsurface Water by Sanitary Landfills: Volume II, prepared by Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pa., provides quantitative information as to behavior of sanitary landfills under natural and simulated environmental conditions. Available as PB-209-001/R @ \$3.

Research Prospectus for Marine Pollution Control in the Great Lakes, prepared by A.T. Kearney and Co., Inc., Chicago, Ill., defines problems, law, status, future prospects, required standards and additional development work needed to solve commercial vessel waste control problem. Available as COM-73-10677/R @ \$6.75.

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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Ben A. Brodovicz, Jr., has been elected chairman of Mid-Atlantic States Section of Air Pollution Control Association. Brodovicz, previously vice chairman of MASS-APCA, is also chief of Pennsylvania's Division of Technical Services and Monitoring in Bureau of Air Quality and Noise Control.

Robert J. Cunningham has been appointed vice president of marketing for Zimmite Corp., Cleveland, Ohio.

Robert M. St. Pierre has been appointed division vice president and general manager for Applied Technology Division, Sciences & Systems Group, of Tracor, Inc.

Clarence Ohlke has been named director of Center for Urban Research and Environmental Studies at Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pa.

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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE on industrial wastewater treatment and disposal within EEC, sponsored by Society of Chemical Industry, will be held May 6-8 in Amsterdam. For information contact W.J. Cook, Organizing Secty., "Three tops," Stavedown Rd., S. Wonston, Winchester, Hampshire SO21 3HA, United Kingdom.

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ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY Symposium, sponsored by Midwestern Universities Consortium for Environmental Education and Research, will be held May 10 in Chicago, Ill. For information contact Ed W. Yates, Symposium Coordinator, Illinois Institute of Technology, 3000 S. Federal St., Chicago, Ill. 60616.

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