

PCA Asks Four-Year Delay On Air Pollution Controls

Pacific Cement and Aggregate Company has asked for a four-year delay before air pollution controls are applied against part of its Davenport cement plant.

PCA officials appeared Friday before the technical hearing board of the Monterey-Santa Cruz Air Pollution Control District (APCD).

They asked that controls on the plant's lime drying kilns not be applied until 1973.

APCD board members did not act immediately. The board usually takes 30 days to hand down a written decision to the company.

However, the APCD staff pointed out the maximum legal delay is one year at a time for air pollution controls.

The APCD staff and a Davenport resident, Elio Orlando, urged the hearing board to make the cement plant meet regulations sooner, if possible.

PCA attorney Stephen Wyckoff and plant manager Art Anderson said more than \$1 million in air pollution equipment has been installed or is being

They said the old-type drying kilns now are the major sources of dust emission. New Lepol kilns, which are highly efficient, will replace the old kilns. Some Lepol types already are in operation.

PCA already is controlled on its dust emissions by a Santa Cruz county use permit. County Planning Director Bert Muhly said his staff recommended having the new kilns installed to meet regulations by 1972, a year earlier than PCA wanted.

Wyckoff said the extra year is needed for a "shakedown" to see if all the dust controls work properly.

He said that meeting the regulations now would mean a lay-off in the company's work force because the kilns would have to go out of operation.

The drying kilns come close to the APCD regulations already. Wyckoff said they emit four-tenths of a gram of solid matter for each cubic foot of air, compared to the three-tenths required by regulations. The Le-

pol kilns emit one-tenth gram or less, Wyckoff said.

Orlando, a Davenport businessman and property owner, said residents there have been patiently fighting the cement dust for years. He charged the plant is putting "six to ten times as much dust on our heads" as it did years ago. A health department check showed 850 pounds of dust annually fall on each square mile in the area, he declared.

He also derided a statement by Anderson that the cement dust acted as a fertilizer for some plants. "There's only one kind of plant that will grow up there, and that's brussels sprouts. You can't enjoy a barbecue, raise flowers, or leave your car outside."

Nevertheless, Orlando added that "nobody wants to see the plant out of business."

He said he just wanted to see the controls put in sooner. "It's not like there's nothing they can do, like a dying cancer patient. It's like the doctor having the medicine and refusing to give it to you."

Orlando also complained the only notice he or anyone in Davenport had of the APCD meeting was a notice in the newspaper.

Edward Munson, APCD control officer, recommended PCA clean up and police the entire plant operation to prevent "leakage" of dust from many sources. He said PCA should perform its own tests of the smokestacks to check the dust levels and make the results available to the APCD. Munson also said a tight timetable for replacement of the old kilns should be set so controls could go into effect gradually.

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