

Penalties weighed in Sun Co. leak

By Roger Colby

Officials of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources (DER) said yesterday that they were strongly considering seeking civil or criminal penalties against Sun Co. for an pollution violation Monday at the company's Morris Hook refinery.

The penalties would be for what officials said was an excessive discharge of industrial waste into a stream that flows from a creek at the refinery, emptying a white lake for several hours over a four-block area in Morris Hook. Some residents complained that the odor irritated their eyes and throats and made them nauseous.

The discharge occurred during a three-hour period when Sun workers were creating the silica atmosphere, a catalyst used in refining oil, through a unit that had been taken out of service last week because of mechanical problems. Sun officials refused to comply with DER requests that about 1.9 p.m. Monday that Sun stop creating the silica atmosphere until such time as being notified.

"We spent the company in the strongest terms possible to stop it from being done," said Richard J. Ruhl, a DER pollution control engineer. "Even though the material being emitted was not toxic as far as we know, we don't feel people should have to put up with that kind of odor."

Ruhl said DER had decided not to seek an immediate court order forcing the company to stop circulating the silica atmosphere because it is rather than an immediate public nuisance. DER would have to show that such a danger existed.

Greta Rowe, Sun's chief environmental engineer, said the plant's supervisor had decided to continue creating the silica atmosphere despite DER's request and even though the refinery unit was out of operation, because such steps were necessary to prevent the material already in the unit from solidifying. It had had occurred before, and the unit could have been further damaged and then been kept out of service for several more weeks.

Rowan was maintaining a road part in the unit. She knew and it was ready to resume operation on Friday morning. When opening the unit produced about 100 tons of silica per day, a company spokesman said.

"Above-normal amounts of silica atmosphere could be emitted again while the unit is being started up," Mr. Rowe warned, but not at the excessive level released Monday.

The Scene

In Philadelphia and its suburbs



YOU CAN SEE that this kid is going to have a great career as a star TV commercial for laundry detergent. That's 3-year-old Joey Ralph of South Philadelphia demonstrating the laws of physics as they apply to the amount of muddy water distributed onto clothes when struck point blank by a rock. Joey says it's all in the wrist.

Prentensions. Duhling, you must see our estate

Our neighborhood has gone highbait. We've seen a contest for a while, seven years ago bought a redbrick rowhouse in South Philadelphia. Most of the time, we live in the suburbs, were spotted several times in the city. Instead of a redbrick rowhouse in South Philadelphia, it found in the city. We had purchased a rowhouse in Queen Village. That made every thing all right.

Queen Village you probably read in the "real estate market." The other person they're looking for. Most of the empty shells have been inhabited by individuals and the signs of construction sites are waiting for new ways to describe redbrick rowhouses. Most of them have been for "luxury rowhouses," although there are also descriptions such as "restorative residential" and "restorative rowhouses." Next to describe the description will be "individualized urban environments abutting other individualized urban environments." The caption reads: "The Court of Old Swedes — Philadelphia's first residential community." It's a little more than that. The development in Queen Village — Overlooking Park St.

There's something that these places have in common. They are all made of redbrick. That they are all in the city.

Jobs. Will O'Neil hood aboard SEPTA?

The word hearing through the roundabouts is that former Police Commissioner Joseph O'Neil is one of the prime candidates to take over the newly created position of director of security for SEPTA. The board of directors has been looking for someone to fill the job of about a month, and a number of top police officials in Philadelphia, including O'Neil, reportedly have been interviewed for the job, which pays up to \$100,000 a year.

The director of security will be responsible for SEPTA's 44 security agents and the 44 Philadelphia police officers under contract. He would also coordinate SEPTA's dealings with the Police Department and work on improving SEPTA's internal security.

Trials. Why not throw in two guitars and a drum?

To never heard of it before, said U.S. Marshal Edward Schaefer, was a former band leader.

U.S. District Judge E. McTearman ordered U.S. marshals to provide a road guard to the jury responsible to hear the trial in Reading of former Hahnemann Hospital president Warren Stober on charges of bribery and mail fraud in the construction of the new wing of the hospital. Apparently there are three or four members of the jury who play the piano, and the judge complied with their request for a musical aid to the trial.

Offbeat. Nevertheless, admissions are up 12%

The up in the admission without increased dorm beds from Miami in a place for retirement without retiring. "Shows that education in large part was the wronging," said someone from the office.

The line of course should have been: "Add someone who lives here, but since we also added, 'College welcome,' and since the word applied to the retirement home at 2200 Belmont Ave. in Haverly, Va. did have some questions."

"I thought all the phone calls after the ad appeared would be about retirement planning," said House-Member administrator LaBelle, but it was only about members wanting to know what in the world was going on at the time.

Town defies state, will use spray

By Joyce Cooperstein

PHILADELPHIA, N.J. — At 5 a.m. tomorrow, with or without the blessing of the state Department of Transportation, an airplane carrying the contents of a town's trash will depart from the Philadelphia Township transfer station for a flight to a remote area.

The town, which has been fighting the state since it was created in 1974, is trying to persuade officials in Trenton that the spraying had to be done.

"It seemed that they were going to trouble and staying our wrists for putting out of the program last month," Lang said.

However, a spokeswoman for the department said it feared that ignoring the 21-day law would open the door to lawsuits.

Lang said Down Town (Art) Corp. had been using the spraying for slightly more than \$250 in spray equipment. The town's budget for the area just can't stand anything more than \$250.

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58 arrested in Whitman picketing

By Murray Dubois

PHILADELPHIA, N.J. — Fifty-eight people were arrested in Whitman picketing when about 200 persons prevented union truck drivers from entering part of the construction site in violation of a federal court order. Members of the Whitman Area Improvement Council have been fighting plans for the development for more than 20 years.

At about 8 a.m., three trucks from 11 Cappon & Sons, a general contractor from the Northwest, drove into the site of Second and Market Streets and 11th and Market Streets, and truck and Frank Cement, one of the contractors, drove into the site.

They did not appear for trial. Three persons arrested here previously and were transferred to the juvenile and

division of the Police Department and one person was sent to a hospital with head lacerations before being processed.

The morning disturbance at the site, located between 11th and 12th Streets, is a federal court order that limited picketing to one person at each entrance. Members of the Whitman Area Improvement Council have been fighting plans for the development for more than 20 years.

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Gsell trial hears of threat

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PHILADELPHIA, N.J. — A homicide trial heard testimony that James Gsell, a man who served 10 years in prison for a charge of crack driving, had threatened to kill the man who had been his lawyer.

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A legal battle over the Reintert will

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PHILADELPHIA, N.J. — A legal battle over the will of a man who was killed by a car while he was driving to work has been heard in court.

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New Jersey News in Brief

Judge rejects jeweler's plea to stop garage demolition

A judge yesterday rejected a plea by a Newark jeweler to stop the demolition of his garage. The judge said that the jeweler's claim was not supported by the evidence.

Third victim of plane crash in Cape May from Phila.

The third person who died in a Cape May County plane crash Monday was identified as a Philadelphia resident, officials said.

Camden college instructors vote 65-5 to join the NJEA

Faculty members of Camden County College have voted 65-5 to join the New Jersey Education Association (NJEA).

Atlantic City sued by man denied a peep show permit

A man who was denied a peep show permit in Atlantic City has sued the city.

Cap May County employees accept three-year contract

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