



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Minnesota State Archives

POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

An Inventory of Its Ashland Petroleum Company Files

OVERVIEW OF THE RECORDS

Agency: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.
Series Title: Ashland Petroleum Company files,
Dates: 1991-1997.
Quantity: 0.5 cu. ft. (18 folders in 1 partial box).
Location: 118.H.9.9B

HISTORY OF THE ASHLAND PETROLEUM COMPANY CASE

In 1989, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency [PCA] issued a request for response action against the Ashland Petroleum Company to investigate an alleged oil spill, air quality violation, and soil and water contamination at its refinery site in St. Paul Park. Six meetings (October 14, 1993, January 18, June 16, and September 14, 1994, January 24 and September 27, 1995) were held to discuss and provide information regarding the pollution problems and clean-up. The meetings were facilitated by Senator Leonard K. Price and attended by city administrators, attorneys, concerned citizens, and PCA and Ashland representatives. This was an ad hoc group; it was not mandated by the Legislature or the PCA. The PCA reached a stipulation agreement with Ashland in August 1995. However, twenty-one residents of the nearby communities filed suit against the company in December 1995.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS OF THE RECORDS

The records, which include correspondence, fact sheets, legislation, meeting agendas and minutes, newspaper and magazine clippings, testimony and citizen comments, reports, and numerous legal documents, mainly cover the six meetings, with background research materials, and negotiations for and final content of the August stipulation. There are also materials about the subsequent private lawsuit.

INDEX TERMS

This collection is indexed under the following headings in the catalog of the Minnesota Historical Society. Researchers desiring materials about related topics, persons or places should search the catalog using these headings.

Topics:

Air pollution--Minnesota.
Citizen suits (Civil procedure)--Minnesota.
Liability for oil pollution damages--Minnesota.
Oil pollution of soil--Minnesota.
Oil pollution of water--Minnesota.
Oil spills--Claims--Minnesota.
Petroleum refineries--Minnesota--Saint Paul Park.

Persons:

Price, Leonard R.

Organizations:

Ashland Petroleum Company.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Preferred Citation:

[Indicate the cited volume and page or item and folder title here]. Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. Ashland Petroleum Company Files. Minnesota Historical Society. State Archives.

See the Chicago Manual of Style for additional examples.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

Note to Researchers: To request materials, please note both the location and box numbers shown below. Each file consists of one folder unless specified otherwise.

Location

118.H.9.9B Correspondence, fact sheets, legislative bills, 1991-1992.
Correspondence, newspaper and magazine articles relating to chemical sensitivities, 1991-1996.
Petroleum Cleanup Cost Containment, Report to the Legislature, January 1993.
Minnesota Pollution Control meeting minutes, June 22, 1993.
Draft Closure Permit for Ashland Petroleum Company, July 1993.
Correspondence, fact sheets, citizen lawsuit, meeting minutes, agenda, 1993.
Correspondence, 1994.
Air quality meeting minutes, January 18, 1994.
St. Paul Park Citizen Advisory Panel, participant list, citizen comments, March 3, 1994.
Meeting minutes, agenda, June 16, 1994.
Minnesota Pollution Control meeting minutes, June 28, 1994.
Inter-agency strategy meeting, September 9, 1994.
Meeting minutes, agenda, September 14, 1994.
Correspondence, testimony, news articles, 1995.
Ashland Petroleum lawsuit, news articles, 1995.
Meeting minutes, correspondence, fact sheets, news articles, January 24, 1995.
Meeting minutes, agenda, September 27, 1995.
Correspondence, 1997.