

BEFORE THE ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF:)
)
WATER QUALITY STANDARDS AND) **R08-9**
EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS FOR THE) **(Rulemaking - Water)**
CHICAGO AREA WATERWAY SYSTEM)
AND THE LOWER DES PLAINES)
RIVER: PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO)
35 Ill. Adm. Code Parts 301, 302, 303 and)
304)

METROPOLITAN WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT OF GREATER CHICAGO'S PRE-FILED QUESTIONS TO ALAN L. JIRIK

1. On page 3 of your testimony, concerning reversing the flow of the Chicago River away from Lake Michigan, you state, "Indeed this function remains important even today as evidenced by advisories and beach closings that often result when the locks are opened to prevent urban flooding during extreme rain events."
 - A. You refer to a National Geographic Magazine article from 2002 in support of the link between opening the locks and beach closings. Are you aware of any instances when the locks were opened to Lake Michigan in the last five years (2003-2007)?
 - B. Are you aware of any factors that would result in advisories or beach closings other than opening the locks of the CAWS?
 - C. Could advisories or beach closings be caused by bacteria contained in stormwater runoff? Animal droppings?

2. On page 5, you mention that the quality of the physical habitat of the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal ranges from poor to very poor and thus restricts the diversity of aquatic life supportable by the Sanitary and Ship Canal. You describe much of the bank along the Sanitary and Ship Canal as consisting of vertical concrete or rock walls, or steep earth or rock slopes.
 - A. Do you know whether recreational fishing has been observed in the section of the Sanitary and Ship Canal near Corn Products?
 - B. Are you aware of any canoeing, kayaking, or jet skiing taking place in the section of the Sanitary and Ship Canal near Corn Products?
 - C. Are you aware of any recreational boating taking place in the section of the Sanitary and Ship Canal near Corn Products?

3. On page 6, you mention the fish barrier on the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal. Is Corn Products located upstream or downstream of the fish barrier?

Dated: August 25, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

**METROPOLITAN WATER RECLAMATION
DISTRICT OF GREATER CHICAGO**

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