

December 15, 2008

Mr. John Therriault  
Assistant Clerk  
Illinois Pollution Control Board  
100 West Randolph Street, Suite 11-500  
Chicago, Illinois 60601

**RECEIVED  
CLERK'S OFFICE**

**DEC 18 2008**

**STATE OF ILLINOIS  
Pollution Control Board**

Re: Rule Making R08-009  
Water Quality Standard Improvement  
Lower Des Plaines River

*PCE 176*

Dear Mr. Therriault:

On behalf of the Lower Des Plaines Ecosystem Partnership (LDPEP), I am writing to express our support for the recommended water quality standard improvements proposed by the Illinois EPA for the Lower Des Plaines River and Chicago Area Waterways System in rulemaking R08-09.

LDPEP is an ecosystem partnership made up of a diverse group of non-profit organizations, businesses, agencies and governments within the Lower Des Plaines River Watershed. We work to promote, preserve, protect and enhance the natural, cultural, economic and recreational resources of the Lower Des Plaines River and its watershed. Our watershed extends from north central Cook County, down through eastern DuPage County and western Cook County into northern Will County and includes over 64 communities. The Basin has been the scene of nationally significant and recognized nature preservation projects including prairie and savanna restoration in Palos and the country's first National Heritage Corridor.

Improvement of water quality in the Lower Des Plaines River and Chicago Area Waterways would support greater protections for aquatic habitat and biodiversity of species within our watershed. An increase in water quality would also support the recreational, economic and social needs of our local communities. These are major goals of LDPEP.

We ask that you approve stronger water standards for the Lower Des Plaines River and Chicago Area Waterways.

Sincerely,



Marcia DeVivo  
Chair  
Lower Des Plaines Ecosystem Partnership  
630-674-5900