

Thomas G. Opferman
520 N. Kingsbury Street, Apt. 1705
Chicago, IL 60654

August 23, 2010

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

RECEIVED
CLERK'S OFFICE
AUG '2 5 2010
STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

pett 469

RE: Rule Making R08-009

Dear Illinois Pollution Control Board:

I am writing to express my support for the recommended water quality standard improvements proposed by the Illinois EPA for the Chicago Area Waterways (CAWS) and Lower Des Plaines River as rule making R08-009.

These changes are long overdue and recommended only after five years of study on the CAWS and seven on the Lower Des Plaines. We should all support the Illinois EPA's effort and approve the changes.

As a rower and kayaker, I think it is critical that:

- The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District disinfect sewage treatment plant effluent to kill bacteria and protect public health and
- Temperature and dissolved oxygen standards be implemented to protect fish and help them flourish.

Over the years, the entire CAWS system has changed dramatically. The water, once full of raw sewage and industrial filth, has vastly improved through the leadership of agencies like the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District and its Tunnel and Reservoir Plan. Public access has increased considerably as local governments incorporated these rivers into their master planning. The City of Chicago, the Chicago Park District, and suburbs like Blue Island and Skokie have poured millions into river access for paddling, fishing, and crew. And so much work has been done to improve habitat and control pollution that in the Chicago River system, species of fish have climbed from under 10 to nearly 70, including game fish favorites like large-mouth bass and bluegill and yellow perch.

Because a review like this only comes along every 20 years, right now we have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to continue our momentum by supporting the Illinois EPA recommendations so we can make the next quantum leap forward in water quality.

There is no magic bullet and or all-in-one measure that can eliminate water pollution but we know that if we want the Chicago River to continue to improve and serve our communities as a recreational, natural and economic resource, disinfection and the rest of the Illinois EPA's recommendations are essential.

I believe that as a society it is our moral obligation to ensure that we work to achieve the highest potential for shared resources, including and especially water. And as stewards of these natural resources, we should not be seeking the minimum in improvement, but the maximum.

Thank you,


Thomas G. Opferman
14872866 V-1

Aug 17, 2010

Illinois Pollution Control Board
James R. Thompson Center 100 W. Randolph Suite 11-500
Chicago, IL 60601

RECEIVED
CLERK'S OFFICE

AUG 25 2010

STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

pc# 470

Thank you for your First Notice which recognizes that the Chicago Area Waterways (CAWS) and Lower Des Plaines River are being used for recreational purposes. I support Illinois EPA's proposal to require disinfection at MWRD sewage plants, and to protect aquatic life in these waters from thermal pollution.

Let's make Illinois something to be admired for, not joked at all the time with governor's etc. It would be so nice to be a citizen here and do something sane. Thanks

The Chicago River has been a pathway for pathogens for too long! Running through the heart of the Chicago Region the river has long been denied some of the basic goals of the Clean Water Act namely that all waters should be "drinkable, swimmable and fishable." Failure to disinfect sewage from all Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) treatment plants put both people and wildlife at risk of becoming ill.

The Chicago Area Waterways and Lower Des Plaines River are important Illinois resources. As you move forward with the rulemaking process, I urge you to require MWRD to disinfect the sewage it discharges to these waterways.

Sincerely,


Craig Liddy
15 Woodland Ct
Belleville, IL 62226-6526
(618) 235-7966

August 20, 2010

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

RECEIVED
CLERK'S OFFICE

AUG 25 2010

STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

PC#471

RE: Rule Making R08-009

Dear Illinois Pollution Control Board:

On behalf of the Mitchell Family, I am writing to express my support for the recommended water quality standard improvements proposed by the Illinois EPA for the Chicago Area Waterways (CAWS) and Lower Des Plaines River as rule making R08-009.

These changes are long overdue and recommended only after five years of study on the CAWS and seven on the Lower Des Plaines. We should all support the Illinois EPA's effort and approve the changes.

As a Chicago resident and frequent visitor to the river, I think it is critical that:

- The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District disinfect sewage treatment plant effluent to kill bacteria and protect public health and
- Temperature and dissolved oxygen standards be implemented to protect fish and help them flourish.

Over the years, the entire CAWS system has changed dramatically. The water, once full of raw sewage and industrial filth, has vastly improved through the leadership of agencies like the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District and its Tunnel and Reservoir Plan. Public access has increased considerably as local governments incorporated these rivers into their master planning. The City of Chicago, the Chicago Park District, and suburbs like Blue Island and Skokie have poured millions into river access for paddling, fishing, and crew. And so much work has been done to improve habitat and control pollution that in the Chicago River system, species of fish have climbed from under 10 to nearly 70, including game fish favorites like large-mouth bass and bluegill and yellow perch.

Because a review like this only comes along every 20 years, right now we have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to continue our momentum by supporting the Illinois EPA recommendations so we can make the next quantum leap forward in water quality.

There is no magic bullet and or all-in-one measure that can eliminate water pollution but we know that if we want the Chicago River to continue to improve and serve our communities as a recreational, natural and economic resource, disinfection and the rest of the Illinois EPA's recommendations are essential.

I believe that as a society it is our moral obligation to ensure that we work to achieve the highest potential for shared resources, including and especially water. And as stewards of these natural resources, we should not be seeking the minimum in improvement, but the maximum.

Thank you,

Fidelia Mitchell
10059 South Perry
Chicago, IL 60628
773-821-9934

Aug 25, 2010

Illinois Pollution Control Board
James R. Thompson Center 100 W. Randolph Suite 11-500
Chicago, IL 60601

RECEIVED
CLERK'S OFFICE

AUG 25 2010

STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

Thank you for your First Notice which recognizes that the Chicago Area Waterways (CAWS) and Lower Des Plaines River are being used for recreational purposes. I support Illinois EPA's proposal to require disinfection at MWRD sewage plants, and to protect aquatic life in these waters from thermal pollution.

The Chicago River has been a pathway for pathogens for too long! Running through the heart of the Chicago Region the river has long been denied some of the basic goals of the Clean Water Act namely that all waters should be "drinkable, swimmable and fishable." Failure to disinfect sewage from all Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) treatment plants put both people and wildlife at risk of becoming ill.

The Chicago Area Waterways and Lower Des Plaines River are important Illinois resources. As you move forward with the rulemaking process, I urge you to require MWRD to disinfect the sewage it discharges to these waterways.

Sincerely,

Denise Dahl
4655 Lake Point Cir
Long Grove, IL 60047-5268

PC#472

Aug 24, 2010

Illinois Pollution Control Board
James R. Thompson Center 100 W. Randolph Suite 11-500
Chicago, IL 60601

RECEIVED
CLERK'S OFFICE
AUG 25 2010
STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

Thank you for your First Notice which recognizes that the Chicago Area Waterways (CAWS) and Lower Des Plaines River are being used for recreational purposes. I support Illinois EPA's proposal to require disinfection at MWRD sewage plants, and to protect aquatic life in these waters from thermal pollution.

PC#473

The Chicago River has been a pathway for pathogens for too long! Running through the heart of the Chicago Region the river has long been denied some of the basic goals of the Clean Water Act namely that all waters should be "drinkable, swimmable and fishable." Failure to disinfect sewage from all Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) treatment plants put both people and wildlife at risk of becoming ill.

The Chicago Area Waterways and Lower Des Plaines River are important Illinois resources. As you move forward with the rulemaking process, I urge you to require MWRD to disinfect the sewage it discharges to these waterways.

Sincerely,

Ms. Mary Duggan
14459 Lincoln Ave
Dolton, IL 60419-1818