

Monday, October 18, 2010

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

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STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

208-9 (A+B)
PCT# 506

Dear 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 the 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 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 the 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.

With my Support,

Julia DiBenedetto



Julia Dibenedetto
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