

Cook County Board of Commissioners
118 N. Clark Street Suite 567
Chicago, IL 60602
P: (312) 603-4216 F: (312) 603-3693
E-Mail: jpmurphy@cookcounty.gov.com



District Offices
920 West 175th Street 5405 West 127th Street
Homewood, IL 60430 Crestwood, IL 60445
P: (708) 389-2125 P: (708) 389-2125
F: (708) 389-2240 F: (708) 389-2240

JOAN PATRICIA MURPHY
COMMISSIONER – 6TH DISTRICT

RECEIVED
CLERK'S OFFICE

JAN 21 2011

STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

PC# 513

**Committee and
Subcommittee
Memberships of
The County Board**

January 19, 2011

CHAIR
Labor

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

VICE CHAIR
Industrial Claims

MEMBER
Administration
Business &
Economic Development
Education
Finance
Health & Hospitals
Legislation &
Intergovernmental Relations
Litigation
Oak Forest Hospital
Provident Hospital
Roads & Bridges
Stroger & Cermak Hospitals
Tax Delinquency

RE: Rule Making R08-009

Dear Illinois Pollution Control Board:

**Committees of the
Forest Preserve
District**

On behalf of my constituents, 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.

VICE CHAIR
Industrial Claims
Zoological

I believe it is critical that:

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

MEMBER
Capital Development
Finance
Legislation &
Intergovernmental Relations
Litigation
Real Estate
Recreation

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.

**NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS
PLANNING COMMISSION**
Commissioner

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.

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
COUNTIES**
Transportation Steering
Committee

Thank you,


Joan Patricia Murphy
Cook County Commissioner, 6th District

January 21, 2008

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

Pct# 57.4

RECEIVED
CLERK'S OFFICE
JAN 20 2011
STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

RE: Rule Making R08-009

Dear Illinois Pollution Control Board:

On behalf of the Smulkstys 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, Illinois resident and citizen concerned with the overall health and safety of the city, 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,


Linas Smulkstys
505 N Lake Shore Dr, Apt 4406
Chicago, IL 60611
Tel: 312-467-4249