

December 5, 2017

Dear Ms. Tipsord,

The Illinois Pollution Control Board needs to adopt regulations that make our waters as clean as possible as soon as possible. The Board should beware of adopting any rules that allow polluters to delay meeting standards that protect public health, aquatic life, wildlife or recreational opportunities.

I live in the country, about seven miles west of Petersburg, Illinois. We have beautiful rivers, lakes and ponds in our community. A few years ago a large CAFO was proposed (then built) in our county within a few miles of a world renown park, New Salem State Park. The entire process was so frustrating and citizens had very little input that made any difference. Illinois laws are so poor when it comes to protecting citizens from these large CAFOs which have literally ruined communities across our country. I enjoy canoeing on the Sangamon River. We fish in our own pond, swim in nearby lakes and walk in our New Salem State Park. I would enjoy these experiences more if the waters had less algae and invasive plants, floating debris, odors and other types of pollution. I am also worried about anyone who plays in these waters and the animals who use them for habitat

Illinois waters should be suitable for fishing, swimming and used for drinking water supply. The lack of rules and clean-up have made our local rivers, streams and public areas a mess. Please make sure that the final rules that come out of R18-18 cause our rivers, lakes and streams to be cleaned up as soon as possible.

Thank you,

Rebecca H. Rowe  
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