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CLERK'S OFFICE
OCT 30 2000

October 27, 2000

Ms. Dorothy Gunn
Clerk of the Board
Illinois Pollution Control Board
100 W. Randolph St., Suite 11-500
Chicago, Illinois 60601

STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

J.C. #1

Re: Public Comment re R01-13

Dear Ms. Gunn:

As an Illinois resident and frequent recreational user of Illinois' waterways, I hereby request and urge that The Illinois Pollution Control Board should adopt strong rules to prevent degradation of Illinois' rivers, lakes and streams. No new or increased pollution should be added to our waterways that could potentially harm aquatic life or contribute to additional pollutant loads within and beyond any particular watershed.

I also urge your organization to ensure that no new or additional pollutants be added to our waterways unless it can be shown that these are harmless to the environment or no viable technology to prevent pollution exists. Costs associated with preventing the release of pollutants to businesses affected, should not become the major determinant in permitting the release of pollutants to currently unpolluted waterways.

I also ask you to ensure that those few remaining and still unpolluted waters should be entirely protected from degradation and that the economic/profit interests of developers should not be the only factor in considering the value of a river, stream or other body of water. Furthermore, I request that you permit citizens and/or citizen groups to petition to place high quality waters off limits for increased pollution without the significant restrictions currently imposed on such efforts.

The value of clean water cannot be overestimated as is evidenced by the great efforts made to restore the nation's polluted waters. However, these efforts should not distract that equally, if not of greater importance, is to maintain the integrity of those waters not yet degraded by pollution.

On behalf of the Illinois Paddling constituency, as well as a resident of Illinois, I urge you to make every effort to protect the few unpolluted rivers in our state and to create strong antidegradation rules.

Sincerely



Sigrid Pilgrim

Vice President, ILLINOIS PADDLING COUNCIL

State Representative, AMERICAN CANOE ASSOCIATION, MW DIVISION