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December 7, 2000
STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

Ms. Dorothy Gunn
Clerk of the Board
Illinois Pollution Control Board
100 West Randolph Street
Chicago, IL 60601

RC1-13
P.C. # 15

Dear Ms. Gunn,

I am a member of the Concerned Citizens for a Quality Environment. I understand the IPCB will be meeting to discuss closing the loopholes so as to better protect our rivers. I wish to use my voice to strongly urge you to adopt stronger anti degradation rules.

In doing research on Black Beauty Coal mine's request for NPDES permit, I discovered that the IEPA permit limit for manganese is 17 times more than what is currently in the Little Vermilion River. This means the coal company could discharge 17 times more of the pollutant before it exceeds the state's limit. This is but one of numerous examples.

The Illinois pollution standards are high and not protective of our rivers.

In closing, I again urge you to adopt stronger anti degradation rules.

Yours truly,
Karen Crum