

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
February 8, 1990

VILLAGE OF MALTA,)	
)	
Petitioner,)	
)	
v.)	PCB 89-130
)	(Variance)
ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL)	
PROTECTION AGENCY)	
)	
Respondent.)	
)	

DISSENTING OPINION (by J.D. Dumelle, B. Forcade and M. Nardulli):

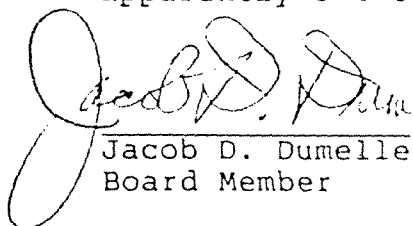
Radium in drinking water is a source of ionizing radiation to the tissue of persons who ingest it. If a single cell is affected and becomes cancerous and if the body's defenses do not eliminate the incipient tumor then cancer will occur.


On January 17, 1990 the Chicago Sun-Times carried an editorial titled "Radiation risks prove real". The first paragraph states:

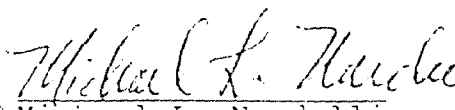
The latest findings on the health risks of being exposed to low levels of radiation are not encouraging. A National Academy of Sciences panel recently concluded that the health risks of being exposed to low-level radiation have been badly understated. The risk of cancer, for example, is three to four times higher than previously estimated a decade ago by the academy.

It seems quite possible that when the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency re-evaluates its drinking water standard for radium it may well tighten the standard instead of loosening it.

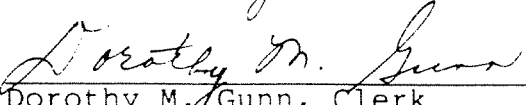
A denial of the lifting of restricted status would mean that additional persons would not be subjected to water containing radium in excess of the present Federal standard which is now apparently 3-4 times more dangerous than was thought.


Jacob D. Dumelle
Board Member


Bill S. Forcade
Board Member


Michael L. Nardulli
Board Member

I, Dorothy M. Gunn, Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, hereby certify that the above Dissenting Opinion was entered on the 14th day of February, 1990.



Dorothy M. Gunn, Clerk
Illinois Pollution Control Board