

RECEIVED  
CLERK'S OFFICE

DEC 07 2004

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
Pollution Control Board  
25020 West Plainfield Drive  
Plainfield, Illinois 60544

**Howard J. Hamilton, PE - CFM**

December 6, 2004

PC #17

Ms. Dorothy M. Gunn, Clerk  
Illinois Pollution Control Board  
James R. Thompson Center  
100 W. Randolph Street, Suite 11-5000  
Chicago, IL 60601

Re: Docket No. R-04-021  
Revisions to Radium Water Quality Standards

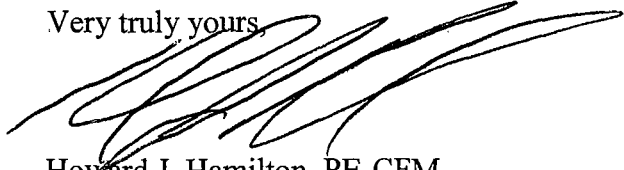
Dear Ms. Gunn:

I have spent my entire professional career, and most of my youth, studying the environment and ways to protect it. As an Environmental-Water Resources Engineer and licensed wastewater operator, it is my opinion that imposition of water quality radium standards which will indirectly lead to radioactive waste requiring storage at one of our nation's few, and already challenging radioactive waste facilities makes little sense. Radium in naturally occurring concentrations has not been shown to be a significant environmental or health risk. To place an arbitrary water quality limit upon it that requires production of a radioactive waste material which will be both an environmental and a health risk, causes a problem rather than solving one.

I urge the Board to consider water quality limits which are typical for the natural occurring radium concentration of the ground waters of our state.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Very truly yours,



Howard J. Hamilton, PE-CFM

HJH/rt