

Chicago Recycling Coalition**RECEIVED**
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STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

December 10, 2004

Illinois Pollution Control Board
600 S. Second Street, Suite 402
Springfield, IL 62704
(Chicago office fax: 312-814-3669)PC#7

To the members of the Board,

On behalf of the Chicago Recycling Coalition, I am writing in support of the Illinois EPA proposal to limit the discharge of phosphorous into Illinois streams. The CRC is an organization of several hundred members based in Chicago and its suburbs, and our main focus of course is solid waste. But we also understand that pollution issues are interrelated, and the effects of multiple sources; cumulative. For this reason, we believe it is our responsibility to write in regards to the issue at hand.

Concerning phosphorus pollution, we agree with the Illinois EPA that it is not sufficient for discharges to only be regulated when they flow into lakes and lake tributaries. It would be like regulating landfills in the counties bordering Lake Michigan, while allowing the rest of the state to use unlined garbage dumps!

We therefore fully support the IEPA proposal for an interim monthly average phosphorous effluent limit of 1 mg/L for many new or increased discharges. We understand that these limits would be consistent with existing legislation, including the Clean Water Act and Illinois water quality standards. In addition, the proposal would only address new or increased pollutant discharges, and these are already covered by antideregulation regulations.

We also understand that this proposal is neither pie-in-the-sky wishful thinking nor an onerous burden to agriculture or industry, but can be readily achieved, as it has been for phosphorus entering tributaries to the Great Lakes since the 1970s. Of course, it is our hope that this proposal to limit phosphorus pollution is just the beginning of a continued direction to clean Illinois's land, air, and water. Therefore, we reiterate our strong support for the Illinois EPA's proposal before you.

Yours sincerely,

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