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STATE OF ILLINOIS
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October 31, 2006

VIA U.S. MAIL

Mr. John Knittle
Illinois Pollution Control Board
1021 North Grand Avenue East
P.O. Box 19274
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9274

PC#3

Re: ^RPCB 06-024: Revisions to Water Quality Standards for Total Dissolved Solids
in the Lower Des Plaines River for ExxonMobil Oil Corporation: Proposed 35
Ill. Adm. Code 303.445

Dear Mr. Knittle:

We submit this letter on behalf of the Petitioner, Exxon-Mobil Corporation regarding the above-referenced matter. It is our understanding that the Board may be in a position to issue the second notice at its meeting on November 16, 2006. We certainly understand that the Board has been inundated with various time consuming matters and appreciate the Board's efforts to date to move this matter forward. We write to reiterate the importance to Exxon-Mobil of a timely decision by the Board in this matter and urge the Board to prioritize this decision.

The Board ordered an expedited review of this matter on March 2, 2006, finding that material prejudice would result in the absence of such a schedule. In order to meet the requirements of the Consent Decree Exxon-Mobil entered with the U.S. EPA, and Illinois, the refinery must begin construction on its wet gas scrubber project by July of 2007. To begin construction, Exxon-Mobil must have an NPDES permit in place. A timely decision in this matter is necessary to allow adequate time to proceed with the NPDES permitting process. The Illinois EPA has not contested Exxon-Mobil's request for this adjusted standard, and Exxon-Mobil is appreciative of the Agency's support.

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Exxon-Mobil respectfully requests that the Board continue to proceed with this matter on an expedited basis. We appreciate the Board's efforts to conclude this matter in a timely manner and welcome any opportunity to assist the Board in any way possible to facilitate resolution.

Very truly yours,

SONNENSCHN NATH & ROSENTHAL LLP

By:



Jeffrey C Fort

cc: Dorothy Gunn, Clerk ✓
Tom Andryk, Esq.
Stacey K. Ford
Jim Huff