

The Village of



# Godfrey

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May 9, 2007

Pollution Control Board, Attention: Clerk  
100 West Randolph Street  
James R. Thompson Center, Suite 11-500  
Chicago, IL 60601-3218

**RECEIVED**  
CLERK'S OFFICE

MAY 14 2007

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
Pollution Control Board

DC#2 \*

**RE: AS 2007-2 (Petition for Adjusted Standard)**

To Whom It May Concern:

As Mayor of Godfrey, IL, I am asking you to support Illinois American Water's petition to extend the adjusted standard that allows the Company to continue discharging residuals from its Alton water treatment facility into the Mississippi River. The Village of Godfrey receives its water from the Illinois American Water plant in Alton.

Nine years ago, I was pleased that Illinois American met the area's need and built a new water plant to replace the old plant that had been flooded in 1993.

The partnership between Illinois American Water and Great Rivers Land Trust came about based largely on the feedback from local residents and elected officials in this area who welcomed a new water treatment plant but did not want lagoons at the treatment site, nor did they want increased truck traffic on the nearby road to haul residuals to a landfill.

This partnership between the water company and GRLT has benefited the Alton and Godfrey communities and our environment. It is an example of what can be achieved when industry and environmentalists work together in the best interests of a community. This type of partnership should be encouraged and not discouraged. The project has received numerous awards due to its overwhelming success over the past seven years.


There seems to be no good reasons to disallow the petition. Discharging residuals into the Mississippi River has been the practice here for more than 100 years. It is my understanding that this direct discharge practice does not negatively affect the river environment. The water company is discharging back into the river only what it originally removes.

Another concern I have is that if the petition to extend the adjusted standard is denied, it would mean higher water rates for Godfrey residents. Lagoons and the alternate residual-handling technologies at the treatment facility are more expensive than the direct discharge option. These additional costs ultimately would be passed on to local water ratepayers.

The success of the Piasa Creek Watershed Project would not have been possible without Illinois American Water, which has been the primary contributor. This money has helped GRLT attract state and national funds. Numerous sediment reduction projects have been implemented as a result of the Company's contributions. It is my understanding that eliminating the direct discharge allowance will eliminate the largest funding source for the maintenance/upkeep of these valuable projects.

I hope you will consider the Village of Godfrey's thoughts and approve Illinois American Water's petition for an adjusted standard. It makes sense for local residents in Aton and Godfrey. It makes no sense to disallow it, after seven successful years and the many benefits to local residents and the local environment.

Thank you

  
Michael Campion,  
Mayor, Village of Godfrey

C: Senator Bill Haine  
State Rep. Dan Beiser