BEFORE THE ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF:)	
)	
WATER QUALITY STANDARDS AND)	
EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS FOR THE)	R08-09
CHICAGO AREA WATERWAY SYSTEM)	(Rulemaking – Water)
AND THE LOWER DES PLAINES RIVER:)	Subdocket D
PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO 35 III.)	
Adm. Code Parts 301, 302, 303 and 304)	

NOTICE OF FILING

To: John Therriault, Clerk

Marie Tipsord, Hearing Officer James R. Thompson Center Illinois Pollution Control Board

100 West Randolph Street, Suite 11-500

Chicago, Illinois 60601

(VIA electronic mail and First Class Mail)

SEE ATTACHED SERVICE LIST

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that I have filed electronically today with the hearing officer <u>ILLINOIS EPA'S MOTION FOR CLARIFICATION AND STAY</u>, a copy of which is herewith served upon you.

ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

By:/s/Stefanie N. Diers
Stefanie N. Diers
Assistant Counsel

Dated: August 14, 2015 1021 North Grand Avenue East P.O. Box 19276 Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276 (217) 782-5544

THIS FILING IS SUMBITTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

BEFORE THE ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF:)	
WATER QUALITY STANDARDS AND EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS FOR THE CHICAGO AREA WATERWAY SYSTEM AND THE LOWER DES PLAINES RIVER: PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO 35 III. Adm. Code Parts 301, 302, 303 and 304)))))	R08-09 (Sub-Docket D) (Rulemaking – Water)

MOTION FOR CLARIFICATION AND STAY

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency ("Illinois EPA" or "Agency"), by and through its attorney, hereby submits its Motion For Clarification with respect to the effective date of the new temperature and chloride water quality standards adopted in R08-9 Subdocket D. In support thereof, the Illinois EPA states as follows:

- 1) On June 18, 2015, the Illinois Pollution Control Board ("Board") issued a final Opinion and Order in Subdocket D with respect to water quality standards in the Chicago Area Waterway and Lower Des Plaines River.
- 2) On July 10, 2015 the adopted rules were published in the Illinois Register with an effective date of July 1, 2015. (See, Ill. Reg., 39, Issue 28, P. 9388, 9423 and 9433).
- 3) After reviewing the adopted Notice, it is unclear what the Board intended with respect to the effective date of water quality standards for chloride and temperature.
- 4) The Notice of Adopted Rule states the effective date of the adopted rules is July 1, 2015. However, Sections 302.407(g)(2,3) and 302.408(b) of Title 35 of the

Illinois Administrative Code, state the new temperature and chloride standards are not effective until July 1, 2018. <u>See 35 III.</u> Adm. Code 302.407(g)(2,3) and 302.408(b).

- 5) Therefore, based on these two dates there is confusion amongst the parties involved in Subdocket D rulemaking. It would appear, and this is what the Agency assumed as the rules were adopted, that the effective date for the new temperature standards and the new chloride standards would not be July 1, 2015, but instead would be July 1, 2018.
- Because of this confusion several entities filed variance petitions with the Board on July 21, 2015, pursuant to the language found in Section 38(b) of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act ("Act") and seeking a stay of the effectiveness of the chloride and temperature water quality standards. See 415 ILCS 5/38(b). Section 38(b) of the Act provides that if a variance is sought within 20 days of the effective date of the rule or regulation, the operation of the rule or regulation is stayed to such person pending disposition of the petition. The variance petitions that have been filed with the Board were done in an effort to comply with the filing deadline of Section 38(b).
- 7) Due to this confusion and regulatory uncertainty and the numerous recent variance petitions filed with the Board, the Agency believes it would be helpful for the Board to clarify the effective date of the water quality standards for chloride and temperature found in Section 302.408(b) and 302. 407(g)(2) and (3) and erase any confusion that the two dates in question have caused those impacted by the new rules adopted in R08-9 (Subdocket D). Specifically, the Board should clarify when the tolling of the 20 day period described in Section 38(b) of the Act begins for purposes of timely

filing a variance petition seeking a stay of the effectiveness of Sections 302.407(g)(2,3)

and 302.408(b).

8) If the Board clarifies its final Opinion and Order and finds that the effective

date for the chloride and temperature water quality standards is July 1, 2018, and not

July 1, 2015, the Agency would ask the recent variance petitions be stayed since they

are premature. Such stay would include a stay of the deadline by which the Illinois EPA

must file a recommendation to each variance petition.

WHEREFORE, the Illinois EPA respectfully requests the Board provide

clarification as to the effective date of the water quality standards adopted for

temperature and chloride that were adopted in R08-9 (Subdocket D). The Illinois EPA

further requests that, if appropriate, a stay be issued by the Board in each recent filing

of a variance petition filed seeking a stay of Section 302.407(g)(2) and (3) and

302.408(b).

Respectfully submitted,

ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL

PROTECTION AGENCY

/s/ Stefanie Diers By:__

> Stefanie Diers **Assistant Counsel**

Division of Legal Counsel

DATED: August 14, 2015

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PROOF OF SERVICE

I, the undersigned, on oath state that I have served the attached <u>ILLINOIS EPA'S MOTION FOR CLARIFICATION AND STAY</u> upon the person to whom it is directed by electronic filing and placing it an envelope addressed to:

John Therriault, Clerk Marie Tipsord, Hearing Officer Illinois Pollution Control Board James R. Thompson Center 100 West Randolph Street, Suite 11-500 Chicago, Illinois 60601

and by mailing the document to those listed above and on the attached Service List by First Class Mail from Springfield, Illinois on August 14, 2015, with sufficient postage.

/s/Stefanie N. Diers Stefanie N. Diers Assistant Counsel

THIS FILING IS SUBMITTED ON RECYCLED PAPER