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**MIKE QUIGLEY**  
Commissioner – 10th District  
Cook County Board of Commissioners

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CLERK'S OFFICE

JUN 19 2008

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
Pollution Control Board

PC 68

June 16, 2008

Mr. John Therriault  
Assistant Clerk  
Illinois Pollution Control Board  
100 West Randolph, Suite 11-500  
Chicago, Illinois 60601

Re: Rulemaking 2008-009

Dear Members of the Illinois Pollution Control Board,

I write in support of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's proposed water quality improvements for the Chicago Area Waterways (CAWS) and Lower Des Plaines River. Cleanup efforts have significantly improved the river's health and water quality in recent decades, and the additional measures proposed by IEPA will not only benefit the flora and fauna which inhabit the ecosystem, but also the residents of the region who enjoy the natural amenities and recreational opportunities the waterways provide. The proposed improvements are a vital step in protecting and improving the health of the waterways and ecosystems that we **hold in trust for future generations.**

In addition, as a Commissioner of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, I share responsibility for maintaining and restoring the preserves "in their natural state and condition, for the purpose of the education, pleasure, and recreation of the public," as our statutory mission requires. The IPCB should require that the effluent released into the Chicago Area Waterways and Lower Des Plaines River ecosystems (including the vast majority of the Forest Preserve District's 68,000 acres) is free of harmful microorganisms. In doing so, the IPCB will not only protect public health and a vital natural resource, but also assist the District in fulfilling its statutory mission.

**Committees of the County Board.** Chair: Environmental Control, Human Relations, Vice-Chair: Litigation  
**Committees of the Forest Preserve District.** Chair: Environmental Control, Finance. Vice-Chair: Audit, Litigation



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I also believe that all residents of Chicago should insist that clean effluent is released into the waterways because of the privilege the city enjoys in using Lake Michigan water and discharging it via the Chicago River—which, thanks to the engineering efforts of previous generations, drains to a different watershed. If we do not demonstrate to our Great Lakes neighbors that we do not take that historical exception to good environmental practice for granted, we may be challenged on our use of Lake Michigan water in the future.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Quigley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long, sweeping underline.

Mike Quigley  
Cook County Commissioner, 10<sup>th</sup> District  
Commissioner, Forest Preserve District of Cook County, 10<sup>th</sup> District

MQ/jl