

BEFORE THE ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF:)	
)	
WATER QUALITY STANDARDS AND)	
EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS FOR THE)	R08-9
CHICAGO AREA WATERWAY SYSTEM)	(Rulemaking – Water)
AND THE LOWER DES PLAINES RIVER:)	
PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO 35 ILL.)	
Adm. Code Parts 301, 302, 303, and 304)	

NOTICE OF FILING

To:

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Persons on the attached service list

Please take notice that today I filed with the office of the Clerk of the Pollution Control Board **Prefiled Questions of the Natural Resources Defense Council to Chriso Petropoulou**, a copy of which is hereby served on you.



Ann Alexander

Dated: August 22, 2008

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Ann Alexander, the undersigned attorney, hereby certify that I have served the attached **Prefiled Questions of the Natural Resources Defense Council to Chriso Petropoulou** on all parties of record (Service List attached), by depositing said documents in the United States Mail, postage prepaid, from 227 W. Monroe, Chicago, IL 60606, before the hour of 5:00 p.m., on this 22nd Day of August, 2008.

Ann Alexander

Ann Alexander, Natural Resources Defense Council

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BEFORE THE ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF:)
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WATER QUALITY STANDARDS AND)
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**PREFILED QUESTIONS OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DEFENSE COUNCIL TO CHRISO PETROPOULOU**

The Natural Resources Defense Council hereby files questions to Chriso Petropoulou:

1. Please describe your role in the MWRD Microbial Risk Assessment study.
 - a. Were you responsible for any decisions concerning the scope of the study (including the pathogens studied and the types of illness studied)?
 - b. Were you responsible for developing the sampling methodology?
 - c. Were you responsible for testing the samples?
 - d. Who had final authority to make decisions concerning these matters?
 - e. Did you ever have any disagreements with those in authority concerning any of these matters? If so, how were they resolved?

2. Regarding the statement at p. 4 of your testimony in which you identify two bases for selecting the limited subset of pathogens studied: (i) the existence of past outbreaks caused by these viruses, and (ii) the existence of USEPA-approved SOPs –
 - a. Are outbreaks in your view an accurate indicator of the risk of a particular pathogen?
 - b. Regarding the availability of USEPA-approved laboratory standard operating procedures (“SOPs”) for measurement of these pathogens – does the availability of SOP’s for a particular pathogen have any relationship to the risk it poses?

3. Regarding the statement at p. 5 of your testimony that, although the microbial analytical results were evaluated within the framework of dry and wet weather conditions, “for the MRA [risk] estimates, the dry and wet weather microbial results were integrated in a comprehensive dataset representative of all weather conditions in the waterway” -- does this mean

that in assessing post-disinfection risk, did you combined data from wet and dry weather conditions? What was the basis for doing so?

4. Regarding the statement at p. 5 of your testimony that the Risk Assessment found that “Downstream concentrations are consistently greater than upstream” during dry weather --
 - a. For purposes of assessing risk, did you combine and average the upstream and downstream sampling numbers?
 - b. What was the basis for this averaging?
5. Did the Risk Assessment find that upstream concentrations of pathogens were generally lower than downstream concentrations during dry weather?
6. For purposes of assessing risk in the presence of disinfection, did you average the upstream and downstream sampling concentrations?
7. Regarding the statement at p. 6 of your testimony that dry weather fecal coliform concentrations upstream of the Northside and Stickney plants were greater than the effluent limit of 400 cfu/100 ml proposed by IEPA –
 - a. What is the significance of this comparison, to your knowledge?
 - b. What levels of fecal coliform indicator bacteria are generally found in the effluent from these facilities currently? Do those numbers generally exceed 400 cfu/100 ml currently?