

BEFORE THE ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

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

NOTICE OF FILING

To: ALL COUNSEL OF RECORD
(Service List Attached)

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on the 14th day of July, 2009, I, on behalf of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, electronically filed with the Office of the Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, **correspondence from Louis Kollias to Samuel Dorevitch dated June 4, 2009, and correspondence from Samuel Dorevitch to Louis Kollias dated June 24, 2009, regarding Status of the Chicago Health, Environmental Exposure and Recreation Study.**

Dated: July 14, 2009.

**METROPOLITAN WATER RECLAMATION
DISTRICT OF GREATER CHICAGO**

By: /s/ David T. Ballard
One of Its Attorneys

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PROOF OF SERVICE

The undersigned, a non-attorney, certifies, under penalties of perjury pursuant to 735 ILCS 5/1-109, that I caused a copy of the forgoing, **correspondence from Louis Kollias to Samuel Dorevitch dated June 4, 2009, and correspondence from Samuel Dorevitch to Louis Kollias dated June 24, 2009, regarding Status of the Chicago Health, Environmental Exposure and Recreation Study**, to be served via First Class Mail, postage prepaid, from One North Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois, on the 14th day of July, 2009, upon the attorneys of record on the attached Service List.

/s/ Barbara E. Szynalik

Barbara E. Szynalik

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Louis Kollias, P.E., BCEE
Director of Monitoring and Research
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June 4, 2009

Dr. Samuel Dorevitch
University of Illinois Chicago
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2121 W. Taylor, M/C 922
Chicago, IL 60612

Dear Dr. Dorevitch:

Subject: Request for Update on Status of the Chicago Health, Environmental
Exposure and Recreation Study

With the onset of spring, the 2009 recreation season is underway in northeastern Illinois and the Chicago Health, Environmental Exposure and Recreation Study (CHEERS) has begun another recruiting season. Insofar as it has been eight months since you appeared before the Illinois Pollution Control Board (IPCB) to present testimony on the status of CHEERS, I would like to request that you provide me the following updated information so that we can convey the current status of the project to the IPCB to update the record in rulemaking R08-9:

1. Total number of participants recruited into the study as of May 31, 2009, including a breakdown by the three recreational groups (Chicago Area Waterway System recreators, General Use Water recreators, and Non-Water Contact recreators).
2. Projected completion date of recruiting and field work and ultimate number of subjects anticipated to be recruited into the study including a breakdown by the three recreational groups. For reference and comparison, please also include the participant sample size originally proposed for the project.

Please provide the requested information through return correspondence by June 18, 2009.

Very truly yours,

Louis Kollias

Louis Kollias
Director
Monitoring and Research

LK:TCG:dm

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June 24, 2009

Dear Mr. Kollias,

I am pleased to report that midway through the final season of data collection for the CHEERS project, participant recruitment is going well. UIC's interviewer-recruiters are hard at work at water recreation sites across the Chicago area. Our water sampling teams have collected the 10,000th sample since the start of the study, helping make our area waterways among the best-characterized inland waters in the nation. My responses to the questions you asked in a letter dated June 4, 2009 are provided below.

Question 1: Enrollment totals and by group, as of April 30, 2009.

Between April 13, 2009, the start of the current season of fieldwork, and May 31, 2009 our interviewer/recruiters have enrolled 1,884 participants who are eligible for telephone follow-up. As you know, all participants in the study belong to one of the three study groups, depending on whether or not they participated in water recreation activity, and if they did, whether the activity took place on the Chicago Area Waterways System (CAWS) or a general use water location (GUW). Participants who engaged in recreational activity that did not involve the water (joggers, cyclists, etc) are in the unexposed (UNX) group.

In 2007 and 2008 we recruited a total of 7,750 participants who were eligible for telephone follow-up. The 1,884 enrolled in April and May, 2009 brings the total to 9,634. Table 1 summarizes recruitment by group, by year.

	CAWS	GUW	UNX	Total
2007 season	347	129	334	810
2008 season	2,516	2,202	2,222	6,940
April-May 2009	263	644	977	1,884
Total	3,126	2,975	3,533	9,634

Table 1: Recruitment into CHEERS, August 2007-April, 2009

Question 2: Completion of the study, estimated final sample size, initial target sample size

We will continue recruiting study participants through August 2nd, 2009. Between now and then, I anticipate that we will recruit an additional 2,107 study participants in 2009. Of the 7,750 participants enrolled in 2007-2008, 7,411 (95.6%) completed a telephone interview. Assuming that in 2009 a similar percent of participants complete a telephone interview, the final sample size of participants will follow-up data will be approximately 10,547. These participants will be distributed among the three study groups as follows: 33% in the CAWS, 31% the GUW, and 36% in the UNX group.

As outlined in Table 2, UIC initially proposed enrolling 9,330 individuals (3,110 per group). With the expectation of a 15% rate of loss to follow-up, a final dataset would include health follow-up information from 7,932 participants. Because the actual rate of loss to follow-up in 2007-2008 was considerably lower than initially anticipated, and because we will enroll more study participants than initially anticipated, the final projected sample size available for analysis (10,547) will be 33% greater than initially anticipated. Thus, the statistical power of the study will be greater than originally planned. In other words, the likelihood of failing to detect a real difference in health risks among the study groups (a "false negative result") is less than initially projected.

	Initial plan	Projected	Increase over initial	Percent increase over initial
CAWS	3,110	3,676	566	18%
GUW	3,110	3,375	265	9%
UNX	3,110	4,033	923	30%
Total enrolled	9,330	11,084	1,754	19%
Loss to follow-up	1,398	537	-861	-62%
Total with follow-up data	7,932	10,547	2,615	33%

Table 2: Initial and current projections of the number of study participant in CHEERS.

Please contact me with any questions.

Best,



Samuel Dorevitch, MD, MPH
 Division of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences
 Division of Epidemiology and Biostatistics
 UIC School of Public Health