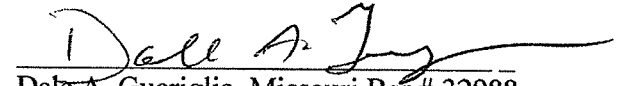




BRYAN CAVE LLP

By:



Dale A. Guariglia, Missouri Bar # 32988

Pamela A. Howlett #6281863

Dennis J. Gelner II #6298390

One Metropolitan Square

211 North Broadway Suite 3600

St. Louis, MO 63102

Telephone: (314) 259-2000

Telefax: (314) 259-2020

Attorneys for Springfield Coal Co., L.L.C.

**BEFORE THE ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

IN THE MATTER OF:

PRAIRIE RIVERS NETWORK,	)	
by and for its members,	)	
SIERRA CLUB, ILLINOIS	)	
CHAPTER, by and for its members	)	
	)	
Complainant,	)	
	)	
v.	)	PCB 2010-061
	)	(Enforcement-Water)
FREEMAN UNITED COAL	)	
MINING CO., L.L.C., and	)	
SPRINGFIELD COAL CO., L.L.C.	)	
	)	
Respondents.	)	

**SPRINGFIELD COAL CO., L.L.C.'s ANSWER TO THE COMPLAINT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND POLICY CENTER AND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES**

COMES NOW Respondent, Springfield Coal Co., L.L.C. ("Springfield Coal"), by and through its attorneys, and pursuant to 35 Ill. Admin. Code 103.204, hereby files its Answer to the Environmental Law and Policy Center's (the "ELPC") Complaint (dated February 25, 2010) and Affirmative Defenses. Pursuant to the Illinois Pollution Control Board's ("Board") July 15, 2010 Order in this case, Respondents were required to answer the State's Complaint by August 16, 2010. For its Answer, Springfield Coal states the following:

**PRELIMINARY STATEMENT**

1. This Complaint is brought by the Environmental Law & Policy Center, counsel for Prairie Rivers Network and its members and the Illinois Chapter of the Sierra Club and its members, pursuant to Section 31(d)(1) of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act (the "Act"), 415 ILCS § 5/31(d)(1) (2008), which authorizes any person to file a complaint with the Board

against any person allegedly violating the Act, any rule or regulation adopted under the Act, or any permit or term or condition thereof. This complaint alleges violations of a permit issued by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency on April 2, 1999 to Freeman United Coal Mining Co., LLC, under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (“NPDES”) program of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (“Clean Water Act”), 33 U.S.C. § 1251 *et seq.* (2006), as well as violations of water quality standards, discharges without a NPDES permit, and causation of water pollution in violation of Section 12 of the Act by Respondents.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal Co., L.L.C. (“Springfield Coal”) admits that ELPC’s complaint makes the allegations set forth above. However, Springfield Coal denies such allegations.

2. NPDES Permit No. IL0061247 authorizes limited discharges into waters of the United States from a strip mine located in McDonough and Schuyler Counties in Illinois, approximately 5 miles southwest of Industry, Illinois (the “Industry Mine”). The Industry Mine covers a total area of 5,651.3 acres – 4,886.6 acres in McDonough County and 1,064.7 acres in Schuyler County – and discharges into Grindstone Creek, Willow Creek, Camp Creek, and several of their unnamed tributaries. The NPDES permit for the Industry Mine also imposes monitoring and reporting requirements. This is an action for civil penalties and a Board order to enforce provisions of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act and the Clean Water Act, regulations adopted pursuant to said Acts, and/or permits adopted and/or issued pursuant to said Acts.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal admits that there is an NPDES permit No. IL0061247 and that the Industry Mine currently operates under such permit. Springfield Coal states that the permit speaks for itself and refers ELPC to the permit for a complete and accurate statement of

its contents. Springfield Coal denies the allegations to the extent that they are inconsistent with the permit, as cited. Additionally, Springfield Coal has insufficient information to either admit or deny the remaining allegations contained in paragraph 2 and therefore denies same.

**PARTIES**

3. Environmental Law and Policy Center is an Illinois-based not-for-profit organization and is counsel for Prairie Rivers Network and the Illinois Chapter of the Sierra Club. ELPC's mission includes advocating for the protection of water quality, and protection of public health related to water quality.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal has insufficient information to either admit or deny the allegations contained in paragraph 3 and therefore denies same.

4. Complainant, Prairie Rivers Network ("PRN") is an Illinois-based not-for-profit organization concerned with river conservation and water quality throughout Illinois. PRN works with concerned citizens throughout the state to address those issues which impact Illinois' streams. PRN members live in the watersheds of Camp Creek, Willow Creek, Grindstone Creek, and their affected tributaries and receiving waters, and are concerned about issues which would impact recreational activities and environmental health of these waters.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal has insufficient information to either admit or deny the allegations contained in paragraph 4 and therefore denies same.

5. Complainant, the Illinois Chapter of the Sierra Club is a California not-for-profit corporation, which has among its purposes to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human environment. The Sierra Club has over 25,000 members residing in the State of Illinois

and has members who are adversely affected by any degradation of Camp Creek, Willow Creek, Grindstone Creek, and tributaries thereto that could affect the uses of those waters. Sierra Club members live in the affected watershed and many Sierra Club members are concerned about pollution that would affect their ability to enjoy activities dependent on the ecological health of these waters, including swimming, wading, fishing, canoeing, kayaking, hiking, nature study, bird watching and other wildlife viewing.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal has insufficient information to either admit or deny the allegations contained in paragraph 5 and therefore denies same.

6. Respondent Freeman United Coal Mining Company, LLC (“Freeman United”) is a limited liability company incorporated in Delaware and authorized to do business in Illinois. Until September 1, 2007, Freeman United owned and operated the Industry Mine.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal has insufficient information to either admit or deny the allegations contained in paragraph 6 and therefore denies same.

7. Respondent Springfield Coal Company, LLC (“Springfield Coal”) is a limited liability company incorporated in Delaware and authorized to do business in Illinois. Springfield Coal has owned and operated the Industry Mine since September 1, 2007.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal admits the allegations contained in paragraph 7.

#### **NOTICE**

8. Pursuant to 33 U.S.C. § 1365(b)(1)(A) and 40 C.F.R. § 135.3, on December 8, 2009, ELPC, PRN and Sierra Club (“Complainants”) gave Respondent Freeman United notice of the violations of NPDES Permit No. IL0061247 alleged herein, of possible violations of Special

Condition No. 1, and of their intent to sue more than sixty (60) days prior to the filing of this complaint. Notice was mailed by certified mail to the registered Illinois agent for service of process for such corporate Respondent. At the same time, a copy of this notice was mailed to the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Regional Administrator of Region V of the EPA, the Director of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA), and the Illinois Attorney General. Service of notice on Respondent complied with the requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 135.3 (2009).

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal has insufficient information to either admit or deny the allegations contained in paragraph 8 and therefore denies same.

9. Shortly after such Complainants gave notice to Freeman United, a representative of Freeman United informed ELPC that it had sold the Industry Mine to Springfield Coal in 2007, and that it retained no interest in the Industry Mine, despite the fact that Freeman United remains the permittee for NPDES Permit No. IL0061247.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal denies that Freeman United remains the permittee for the permit cited above. To the extent an answer is required for the remaining allegations, Springfield Coal has insufficient information to either admit or deny the allegations contained in paragraph 9 and therefore denies same.

10. On December 15, 2009, Complainants sent a second letter giving notice of intent to sue under the Clean Water Act to Respondent Springfield Coal, the present owner and operator of the Industry mine. In addition to the violations listed in the letter to Freeman United, the December 15 letter notified Springfield of the possibility that it was discharging without a permit

due to its failure to comply with the regulations governing NPDES permit transfers. This letter also complied with the notice requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 135.3.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal admits receiving the December 15, 2009 letter and admits that the letter makes the allegations set forth above. However, Springfield Coal denies such allegations. Springfield Coal also states that the allegations contained in paragraph 10 call for a legal conclusion, for which no answer is required. To the extent that an answer is required, Springfield Coal denies the allegations contained in paragraph 10.

11. Since the Complainants gave notice, the violations complained of herein have not ceased. Illinois EPA has yet to issue a valid NPDES permit to Springfield Coal for their facility's discharges into waters of the State. Freeman United remains the permittee of NPDES Permit No. IL0061247.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal denies the allegations contained in paragraph 11.

### **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

#### **DISCHARGE WITHOUT A VALID NPDES PERMIT**

12. The Complainants hereby repeat, reallege, adopt, and incorporate by reference paragraphs 1 through 11 herein above as if fully set out in this Cause of Action.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal repleads and incorporates herein by reference its responses to paragraphs 1 through 11 of ELPC's Complaint as its responses to paragraphs 1 through 11 of this Cause of Action.



13. Section 12 of the Illinois Environmental Protect Act (“the Act”), 415 ILCS § 5/12 (2008), provides, in pertinent part, as follows:

No person shall:

(a) Cause or threaten or allow the discharge of any contaminants into the environment in any State so as to cause or tend to cause water pollution in Illinois, either alone or in combination with matter from other sources, or so as to violate regulations or standards adopted by the Pollution Control Board under this Act.

\* \* \*

(f) Cause or threaten or allow the discharge of any contaminants into the waters of the State . . . without an NPDES permit for point source discharges . . . or in violation of any term or condition imposed by such permit. . . .

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal admits that there is a statutory provision 415 ILCS § 5/12 (2008), and states that the statute speaks for itself. Springfield Coal refers ELPC to the statute for a complete and accurate statement of its contents. Springfield Coal denies the allegations to the extent that they are inconsistent with the statute, as cited.

14. Section 3.545 of the Act, 415 ILCS § 5/3.545 (2008), provides this definition:

“Water pollution” is such alteration of the physical, thermal, chemical, biological or radioactive properties of any waters of the State, or such discharge of any contaminant into any waters of the State, as will or is likely to create a nuisance or render such waters harmful or detrimental or injurious to public health, safety or welfare, or to domestic, commercial, industrial, agricultural, recreational, or other legitimate uses, or to livestock, wild animals, birds, fish, or other aquatic life.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal admits that there is a statutory provision 415 ILCS § 5/3.545 (2008), and states that the statute speaks for itself. Springfield Coal refers ELPC to the statute for a complete and accurate statement of its contents. Springfield Coal denies the allegations to the extent that they are inconsistent with the statute, as cited.

15. Section 3.165 of the Act, 415 ILCS § 5/3.165 (2008), provides this definition:

“Contaminant” is any solid, liquid, or gaseous matter, any odor, or any form of energy, from whatever source.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal admits that there is a statutory provision 415 ILCS § 5/3.165 (2008), and states that the statute speaks for itself. Springfield Coal refers ELPC to the statute for a complete and accurate statement of its contents. Springfield Coal denies the allegations to the extent that they are inconsistent with the statute, as cited.

16. Section 3.550 of the Act, 415 ILCS § 5/3.550 (2008), provides this definition:

“Waters” means all accumulations of water, surface and underground, natural, and artificial, public and private, or parts thereof, which are wholly or partially within, flow through, or border upon this State.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal admits that there is a statutory provision 415 ILCS § 5/3.550 (2008), and states that the statute speaks for itself. Springfield Coal refers ELPC to the statute for a complete and accurate statement of its contents. Springfield Coal denies the allegations to the extent that they are inconsistent with the statute, as cited.

17. These provisions of Illinois law closely follow the provisions of the Clean Water Act and are meant to provide a system of enforcement that complies with the requirements of the federal NPDES program. *See* 415 ILCS § 5/39(b) (2008).

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal admits that there is a statutory provision 415 ILCS § 5/39 (2008), and states that the statute speaks for itself. Springfield Coal refers ELPC to the statute for a complete and accurate statement of its contents. Springfield Coal denies the allegations to the extent that they are inconsistent with the statute, as cited.

18. Section 301 of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1311, provides, in pertinent part, as follows:

Except as in compliance with this section and sections 1312, 1316, 1317, 1328, 1342, and 1344 of this title, the discharge of any pollutant by any person shall be unlawful.

ANSWER: Springfield Coal admits that there is a statutory provision 33 U.S.C. § 1311, and states that the statute speaks for itself. Springfield Coal refers ELPC to the statute for a complete and accurate statement of its contents. Springfield Coal denies the allegations to the extent that they are inconsistent with the statute, as cited.

19. Section 502 of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1362, provides, in pertinent part, as follows:

(5) The term “person” means an individual, corporation, partnership, association, State, municipality, commission, or political subdivision of a State, or any interstate body.

(6) The term “pollutant” means dredged spoil, solid waste, incinerator residue, sewage, garbage, sewage sludge, munitions, chemical wastes, biological materials, radioactive materials, heat, wrecked or discarded equipment, rock, sand, cellar dirt and industrial, municipal, and agricultural waste discharged into water.

(7) The term “navigable waters” means the waters of the United States, including the territorial seas.

...

(12) The term “discharge of a pollutant” and the term “discharge of pollutants” each means (A) any addition of any pollutant to navigable waters from any point source . . . .

...

(14) The term “point source” means any discernible, confined and discrete conveyance, including but not limited to any pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit,

well, discrete fissure, container, rolling stock, concentrated animal feeding operation, or vessel or other floating craft, from which pollutants are or may be discharged. This term does not include agricultural stormwater discharges and return flows from irrigated agriculture.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal admits that there is a statutory provision 33 U.S.C. § 1362, and states that the statute speaks for itself. Springfield Coal refers ELPC to the statute for a complete and accurate statement of its contents. Springfield Coal denies the allegations to the extent that they are inconsistent with the statute, as cited.

20. As regulated by NPDES Permit No. IL0061247, iron, manganese, sulfates, pH, and TSS are each a “pollutant” as defined by Section 502(6) of the Clean Water Act.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal states that the allegations contained in paragraph 20 call for a legal conclusion, for which no answer is required. To the extent that an answer is required, Springfield Coal denies the allegations contained in paragraph 20.

21. As regulated by NPDES permit No. IL0061247, iron, manganese, sulfates, pH, and TSS are each a “contaminant” as defined by Section 3.165 of the Act.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal states that the allegations contained in paragraph 21 call for a legal conclusion, for which no answer is required. To the extent that an answer is required, Springfield Coal denies the allegations contained in paragraph 21.

22. Grindstone Creek, Willow Creek, Camp Creek, and their unnamed tributaries are each “waters of the United States” as defined by Section 502(7) of the Clean Water Act.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal states that the allegations contained in paragraph 22 call for a legal conclusion, for which no answer is required. To the extent that an answer is required, Springfield Coal denies the allegations contained in paragraph 22.

23. Grindstone Creek, Willow Creek, Camp Creek, and their unnamed tributaries are each “waters” of the State as defined by Section 3.550 of the Act.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal states that the allegations contained in paragraph 23 call for a legal conclusion, for which no answer is required. To the extent that an answer is required, Springfield Coal denies the allegations contained in paragraph 23.

24. Each outfall regulated by NPDES Permit No. IL0061247 is a “point source” as defined by section 502(14) of the Clean Water Act.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal states that the allegations contained in paragraph 24 call for a legal conclusion, for which no answer is required. To the extent that an answer is required, Springfield Coal denies the allegations contained in paragraph 24.

25. Section 402 of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1342, allows the federal EPA and states to whom the EPA has delegated such authority to issue permits for the discharge of pollutants under the NPDES program.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal admits that there is a statutory provision 33 U.S.C. § 1342, and states that the statute speaks for itself. Springfield Coal refers ELPC to the statute for a complete and accurate statement of its contents. Springfield Coal denies the allegations to the extent that they are inconsistent with the statute, as cited.

26. The EPA has approved delegation of the NPDES program to Illinois. 46 Fed. Red. 24295-96 (Apr. 30, 1981).

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal has insufficient information to either admit or deny the allegations contained in paragraph 26 and therefore denies same. In addition, the allegations contained in paragraph 26 call for a legal conclusion, for which no answer is required. To the extent that an answer is required, Springfield Coal denies the allegations contained in paragraph 26.

27. On April 2, 1999, the Illinois EPA issued a permit to Freeman United under the NPDES program of the Clean Water Act. This permit, No. IL0061247, authorized Freeman United to discharge from the Industry Mine into waters of the United States, including Grindstone Creek, Willow Creek, Camp Creek, and their unnamed tributaries.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal admits that there is an NPDES permit No. IL0061247, and states that the permit speaks for itself. Springfield Coal refers ELPC to the permit for a complete and accurate statement of its contents. Springfield Coal denies the allegations to the extent that they are inconsistent with the permit, as cited.

28. Standard Condition No. 1 of NPDES Permit No. IL0061247 provides, in relevant part, as follows:

The permittee must comply with all conditions of this permit. Any permit noncompliance constitutes a violation of the [Illinois Environmental Protection] Act and is grounds for enforcement action, permit termination, revocation and reissuance, modification, or for denial of a permit renewal application.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal admits that there is an NPDES permit No. IL0061247, and states that the permit speaks for itself. Springfield Coal refers ELPC to the permit for a complete and accurate statement of its contents. Springfield Coal denies the allegations to the extent that they are inconsistent with the permit, as cited.

29. Standard Condition No. 6 of NPDES Permit No. IL0061247 provides, in relevant part, as follows:

This permit may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause by the Agency pursuant to 40 C.F.R. 122.62. The filing of a request by the permittee for a permit modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance, does not stay any permit condition.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal admits that there is an NPDES permit No. IL0061247, and states that the permit speaks for itself. Springfield Coal refers ELPC to the permit for a complete and accurate statement of its contents. Springfield Coal denies the allegations to the extent that they are inconsistent with the permit, as cited.

30. Section 122.61 of the federal regulations governing the NPDES program, 40 C.F.R. § 122.61, provides that permits may be transferred as follows:

(a) *Transfers by modification.* Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, a permit may be transferred by the permittee to a new owner or operator only if the permit has been modified or revoked and reissued (under § 122.62(b)(2)), or a minor modification made (under § 122.63(d)), to identify the new permittee and incorporate such other requirements as may be necessary under CWA.

(b) *Automatic transfers.* As an alternative to transfers under paragraph (a) of this section, any NPDES permit may be automatically transferred to a new permittee if:

(1) The current permittee notifies the Director at least 30 days in advance of the proposed transfer date in paragraph (b)(2) of this section;

(2) The notice includes a written agreement between the existing and new permittees containing a specific date for transfer of permit responsibility, coverage, and liability between them; and

(3) The Director does not notify the existing permittee and the proposed new permittee of his or her intent to modify or revoke and reissue the permit. A modification under this subparagraph may also be a minor modification under § 122.63. If this notice is not received, the transfer is effective on the date specified in the agreement mentioned in paragraph (b)(2) of this section.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal admits that there are federal regulations 40 C.F.R.

§122.61, and states that the regulations speak for themselves. Springfield Coal refers ELPC to the regulations for a complete and accurate statement of their contents. Springfield Coal denies the allegations to the extent that they are inconsistent with the regulations, as cited.

31. Section 122.63 of the federal regulations governing the NPDES program provides that a permit transfer may take place as a minor modification, provided that “a written agreement containing a specific date for transfer of permit responsibility, coverage, and liability between the current and new permittees has been submitted to the Director.” 40 C.F.R. § 122.63 (2009).

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal admits that there are federal regulations 40 C.F.R. §122.63, and states that the regulations speak for themselves. Springfield Coal refers ELPC to the regulations for a complete and accurate statement of their contents. Springfield Coal denies the allegations to the extent that they are inconsistent with the regulations, as cited.

32. These regulations are applicable to Illinois’ NPDES program. 40 C.F.R. § 123.25 (2009).

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal has insufficient information to either admit or deny the allegations contained in paragraph 32 and therefore denies same. In addition the allegations contained in paragraph 32 call for a legal conclusion, for which no answer is required. To the



extent that an answer is required, Springfield Coal denies the allegations contained in paragraph 32.

33. The “automatic transfer” regulation, 40 C.F.R. § 122.61(b), is incorporated into NPDES Permit No. IL0061247 as Standard Condition No. 13.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal admits that there are federal regulations 40 C.F.R. §122.61(b) and a NPDES Permit No. IL0061247, and states that the regulations and permit speak for themselves. Springfield Coal refers ELPC to the regulations and permit for a complete and accurate statement of their contents. Springfield Coal denies the allegations to the extent that they are inconsistent with the regulations and permit, as cited.

34. On August 14, 2007, Freeman United and Springfield Coal sent a letter requesting transfer of NPDES Permit No. IL0061247 to the Marion office of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. This letter requested transfer of the permit “effective no sooner than September 1, 2007.”

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal admits the allegations contained in paragraph 34.

35. Because the August 14, 2007 letter did not specify a date for transfer of permit responsibility, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 122.61(b)(2) and 40 C.F.R. § 122.63, and was not sent at least thirty days in advance of the earliest transfer date, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 122.61(b)(1), the transfer request did not comply with the applicable regulations. The permit transfer request was therefore ineffective and did not stay any permit condition.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal denies the allegations contained in paragraph 35.

36. Because the permit transfer was ineffective, Freeman United remains the permittee for NPDES Permit No. IL0061247. Freeman United has not been relieved of its duty to comply with all conditions of NPDES Permit No. IL0061247, and remains liable for any and all violations of the conditions of the NPDES permit which have taken place at the Industry Mine, including those after Springfield Coal began operation of the Industry Mine.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal denies the allegations contained in paragraph 36.

37. Because the permit transfer was ineffective, Springfield Coal has been operating the Industry Mine without a permit since it took control of the facility. Since Springfield Coal has no NPDES permit, every discharge of pollutants into the receiving waters that has occurred during its control of the facility has been a discharge without a permit, in violation of 33 U.S.C. § 1311(a) and 415 ILCS § 5/12(f).

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal denies the allegations contained in paragraph 37.

38. In the alternative, if the transfer was effective, Freeman Coal remains liable for any and all violations of NPDES Permit No. IL0061247 that occurred prior to the permit transfer, and Springfield Coal is liable for any and all violations of NPDES Permit No. IL0061247 that have occurred since the transfer became effective.

**ANSWER:** The allegations contained in paragraph 38 call for a legal conclusion, for which no answer is required. To the extent that an answer is required, Springfield Coal denies the allegations contained in paragraph 38.

**SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**

**NPDES PERMIT VIOLATIONS**

39. The Complainants hereby repeat, reallege, adopt, and incorporate by reference paragraphs 1 through 38 herein above as if fully set out in this Cause of Action.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal repeats and incorporates herein by reference its responses to paragraphs 1 through 38 of ELPC's Complaint as its responses to paragraphs 1 through 38 of this Cause of Action.

40. NPDES Permit No. IL0061247, as modified July 21, 2003, imposes effluent limitations for iron, manganese, sulfates, pH, and total suspended solids ("TSS"), applicable to discharges from the Industry Mine. The pH of the effluent discharged from all outfalls may range (in standard units) only between 6.0 to 9.0. The following limitations (as expressed in milligrams per liter or "mg/L") are also applicable to all outfalls:

<b>Pollutant</b>	<b>30-Day Average</b>	<b>Daily Maximum</b>
Iron	3.5 mg/L	7.0 mg/L
Manganese	2.0 mg/L	4.0 mg/L
TSS	35.0 mg/L	70.0 mg/L

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal admits that there is an NPDES permit No. IL0061247, and states that the permit speaks for itself. Springfield Coal refers ELPC to the permit for a complete and accurate statement of its contents. Springfield Coal denies the allegations to the extent that they are inconsistent with the permit, as cited.

41. NPDES permit No. IL0061247, as modified July 21, 2003, contains the following daily maximum concentration level limits for sulfates in the effluent according to the specified outfalls:

Outfalls	Daily Maximum
002,003, 006, 009, 029,030, 031, 032, 033, 035	1100 mg/L
005, 007, 010, 011, 018, 019	1800 mg/L
004, 008, 020, 021, 022, 024W, 026, 027	500 mg/L

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal admits that there is an NPDES permit No. IL0061247, and states that the permit speaks for itself. Springfield Coal refers ELPC to the permit for a complete and accurate statement of its contents. Springfield Coal denies the allegations to the extent that they are inconsistent with the permit, as cited.

42. NPDES Permit No. IL0061247, as modified July 21, 2003, identifies the following outfalls from the Industry Mine:

Outfalls	Descriptions	Receiving Waters
002	Acid Mine Drainage from Preparation Plant	Tributary to Grindstone Creek
003	Surface Acid Mine Drainage	Grindstone Creek
018, 019, 020, 021	Surface Acid Mine Drainage	Tributary to Grindstone Creek
009 ,024W, 026	Surface Acid Mine Drainage	Willow Creek
022	Surface Acid Mine Drainage	Tributary to Camp Creek
029, 030	Alkaline Mine Drainage	Tributary to Willow Creek
031, 032, 033, 035	Alkaline Mine Drainage	Grindstone Creek
004, 005, 006, 007, 008, 010, 011	Reclamation Area Drainage	Grindstone Creek
027	Reclamation Area Drainage	Willow Creek
017	Stormwater Discharge	Grindstone Creek

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal admits that there is an NPDES permit No. IL0061247, and states that the permit speaks for itself. Springfield Coal refers ELPC to the permit for a complete

and accurate statement of its contents. Springfield Coal denies the allegations to the extent that they are inconsistent with the permit, as cited.

43. Respondents Freeman United or Springfield Coal or both are liable for the violations of the terms and conditions of NPDES Permit No. IL0061247.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal objects to this allegation because it is not pled with sufficient specificity. In addition the allegations contained in paragraph 43 call for a legal conclusion, for which no answer is required. To the extent that an answer is required, Springfield Coal denies the allegations contained in paragraph 43.

44. Respondents caused or allowed the discharge of iron in excess of the permitted monthly average effluent limitation as follows:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Outfall</b>	<b>Concentration Limit: Monthly Average</b>	<b>Actual Discharge</b>
Jan. 2005	018	3.5 mg/L	4.42 mg/L
Jan. 2005	24W	3.0 mg/L	4.65 mg/L
Jan. 2005	029	3.0 mg/L	4.98 mg/L
Feb. 2005	029	3.0 mg/L	3.08 mg/L

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal did not own, operate, or hold the NPDES permit for the Industry Mine during the time period in question. Since the allegations of paragraph 44 do not apply to Springfield Coal, Springfield Coal does not possess sufficient information to respond to such allegations and therefore denies same.

45. Respondents caused or allowed the discharge of iron in excess of the permitted daily maximum effluent limitation as follows:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Outfall</b>	<b>Concentration Limit: Daily Maximum</b>	<b>Actual Discharge</b>
Feb. 19, 2004	029	6.0 mg/L	7.05 mg/L
Feb. 20, 2004	029	6.0 mg/L	6.75 mg/L
Mar. 2, 2004	029	6.0 mg/L	8.65 mg/L
Mar. 26, 2004	026	6.0 mg/L	22.9 mg/L
May 26, 2004	029	6.0 mg/L	24.1 mg/L
June 2, 2004	026	6.0 mg/L	6.91 mg/L
June 2, 2004	029	6.0 mg/L	29.6 mg/L
June 16, 2004	029	6.0 mg/L	27.4 mg/L
June 23, 2004	029	6.0 mg/L	21.1 mg/L
July 14, 2004	026	6.0 mg/L	6.47 mg/L
July 14, 2004	029	6.0 mg/L	13.9 mg/L
Aug. 26, 2004	018	7.0 mg/L	12.3 mg/L
Aug. 26, 2004	026	6.0 mg/L	11.9 mg/L
Aug. 31, 2004	029	6.0 mg/L	7.23 mg/L
Sept. 16, 2004	018	7.0 mg/L	9.74 mg/L
Sept. 16, 2004	026	6.0 mg/L	13.9 mg/L
Oct. 29, 2004	029	6.0 mg/L	8.00 mg/L
Nov. 1, 2004	017	7.0 mg/L	46.4 mg/L
Dec. 8, 2004	017	7.0 mg/L	25.4 mg/L
Dec. 8, 2004	024W	6.0 mg/L	10.6 mg/L
Dec. 8, 2004	026	6.0 mg/L	11.5 mg/L
Jan. 17, 2005	018	7.0 mg/L	7.53 mg/L
Jan. 17, 2005	24W	6.0 mg/L	6.37 mg/L
Jan. 17, 2005	029	6.0 mg/L	6.20 mg/L
Feb. 14, 2005	018	7.0 mg/L	13.0 mg/L
Nov. 2006	018	7.0 mg/L	9.04 mg/L
Mar. 2007	003	7.0 mg/L	15.4 mg/L
Mar. 2007	018	7.0 mg/L	47.9 mg/L
Mar. 2007	026	6.0 mg/L	21.1 mg/L
June 2007	003	7.0 mg/L	11.8 mg/L

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal did not own, operate, or hold the NPDES permit for the Industry Mine during the time period in question. Since the allegations of paragraph 45 do not

apply to Springfield Coal, Springfield Coal does not possess sufficient information to respond to such allegations and therefore denies same.

46. Respondents caused or allowed the discharge of manganese in excess of the permitted monthly average effluent limitation as follows:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Outfall</b>	<b>Concentration Limit: Monthly Average</b>	<b>Actual Discharge</b>
Jan. 2005	019	2.0 mg/L	7.95 mg/L
Feb. 2005	018	2.0 mg/L	10.3 mg/L
Feb. 2005	019	2.0 mg/L	11.3 mg/L
Mar. 2005	019	2.0 mg/L	6.76 mg/L
Apr. 2005	018	2.0 mg/L	2.32 mg/L
Apr. 2005	019	2.0 mg/L	3.07 mg/L
Apr. 2005	026	2.0 mg/L	7.01 mg/L
June 2005	018	2.0 mg/L	6.66 mg/L
June 2005	019	2.0 mg/L	5.78 mg/L
May 2006	019	2.0 mg/L	4.93 mg/L
June 2006	019	2.0 mg/L	3.38 mg/L
Aug. 2006	018	2.0 mg/L	2.35 mg/L
Jan. 2007	019	2.0 mg/L	7.95 mg/L
Feb. 2007	019	2.0 mg/L	15.2 mg/L
Mar. 2007	018	2.0 mg/L	2.88 mg/L
Mar. 2007	026	2.0 mg/L	3.64 mg/L
May 2007	019	2.0 mg/L	5.66 mg/L
Jan. 2008	019	2.0 mg/L	12.9 mg/L
Feb. 2008	019	2.0 mg/L	7.617 mg/L
Oct. 2008	018	2.0 mg/L	6.957 mg/L
Nov. 2008	018	2.0 mg/L	2.877 mg/L
Nov. 2008	019	2.0 mg/L	34.2 mg/L
Dec. 2008	018	2.0 mg/L	2.2 mg/L
Dec. 2008	019	2.0 mg/L	10.7 mg/L
Jan. 2009	018	2.0 mg/L	2.165 mg/L
Jan. 2009	019	2.0 mg/L	18.5 mg/L
Feb. 2009	009	2.0 mg/L	2.69 mg/L

Feb. 2009	019	2.0 mg/L	18.5 mg/L
Mar. 2009	018	2.0 mg/L	5.493 mg/L
Mar. 2009	026	2.0 mg/L	2.725 mg/L
Mar. 2009	24W	2.0 mg/L	2.213 mg/L
Apr. 2009	009	2.0 mg/L	2.23 mg/L
Apr. 2009	018	2.0 mg/L	2.197 mg/L
Apr. 2009	026	2.0 mg/L	2.306 mg/L
May 2009	009	2.0 mg/L	2.31 mg/L
May 2009	018	2.0 mg/L	5.45 mg/L
May 2009	019	2.0 mg/L	15.48 mg/L
May 2009	026	2.0 mg/L	3.04 mg/L
June 2009	018	2.0 mg/L	7.29 mg/L
June 2009	019	2.0 mg/L	39.27 mg/L
July 2009	018	2.0 mg/L	3.24 mg/L
July 2009	019	2.0 mg/L	59 mg/L
July 2009	026	2.0 mg/L	4.71 mg/L
Aug. 2009	018	2.0 mg/L	2.74 mg/L
Aug. 2009	019	2.0 mg/L	25.8 mg/L
Aug. 2009	24W	2.0 mg/L	2.22 mg/L
Sept. 2009	019	2.0 mg/L	23.28 mg/L
Sept. 2009	24W	2.0 mg/L	3.18 mg/L
Oct. 2009	018	2.0 mg/L	3.817 mg/L
Oct. 2009	019	2.0 mg/L	20.87 mg/L
Oct. 2009	026	2.0 mg/L	2.41 mg/L
Oct. 2009	24W	2.0 mg/L	2.41 mg/L
Nov. 2009	018	2.0 mg/L	10.0 mg/L
Nov. 2009	019	2.0 mg/L	29 mg/L
Dec. 2009	018	2.0 mg/L	13.6 mg/L
Dec. 2009	009	2.0 mg/L	2.437 mg/L

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal did not own, operate, or hold the NPDES permit for the Industry Mine prior to September 1, 2007. Since the allegations of paragraph 46 do not apply to Springfield Coal as they relate to events occurring prior to September 1, 2007, Springfield Coal does not possess sufficient information to respond to such allegations and therefore denies same. With respect to the remaining allegations of paragraph 46, Springfield Coal continues to



investigate the accuracy of such allegations and at this time, Springfield Coal has insufficient information to either admit or deny such allegations and therefore denies same.

47. Respondents caused or allowed the discharge of manganese in excess of the permitted daily maximum effluent limitation as follows:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Outfall</b>	<b>Concentration Limit: Daily Maximum</b>	<b>Actual Discharge</b>
Jan. 5, 2005	019	4.0 mg/L	4.69 mg/L
Jan. 17, 2005	019	4.0 mg/L	11.2 mg/L
Jan. 26, 2005	019	4.0 mg/L	11.9 mg/L
Feb. 2, 2005	018	4.0 mg/L	10.3 mg/L
Feb. 2, 2005	019	4.0 mg/L	11.3 mg/L
Mar. 3, 2005	018	4.0 mg/L	11.8 mg/L
Mar. 3, 2005	019	4.0 mg/L	7.83 mg/L
Mar. 11, 2005	018	4.0 mg/L	7.53 mg/L
Mar. 11, 2005	019	4.0 mg/L	5.70 mg/L
Apr. 25, 2005	018	4.0 mg/L	6.08 mg/L
May 2, 2005	018	4.0 mg/L	7.60 mg/L
June 27, 2005	018	4.0 mg/L	7.14 mg/L
June 28, 2005	018	4.0 mg/L	6.18 mg/L
June 29, 2005	019	4.0 mg/L	9.26 mg/L
Mar. 20, 2006	026	4.0 mg/L	6.68 mg/L
Apr. 13, 2006	026	4.0 mg/L	4.63 mg/L
Apr. 19, 2006	019	4.0 mg/L	4.64 mg/L
Apr. 25, 2006	026	4.0 mg/L	7.99 mg/L
Apr. 26, 2006	026	4.0 mg/L	8.42 mg/L
May 22, 2006	019	4.0 mg/L	5.88 mg/L
May 23, 2006	019	4.0 mg/L	5.70 mg/L
July 2006	018	4.0 mg/L	5.65 mg/L
Jan. 2007	019	4.0 mg/L	7 mg/L
Jan. 2007	019	4.0 mg/L	8.89 mg/L
Feb. 2007	019	4.0 mg/L	16.9 mg/L
Feb. 2007	019	4.0 mg/L	13.5 mg/L
Mar. 2007	019	4.0 mg/L	4.35 mg/L
Mar. 2007	026	4.0 mg/L	5.8 mg/L
Apr. 2007	019	4.0 mg/L	4.26 mg/L

May 2007	019	4.0 mg/L	4.37 mg/L
May 2007	019	4.0 mg/L	6.94 mg/L
Jan. 2008	019	4.0 mg/L	12.9 mg/L
Feb. 2008	019	4.0 mg/L	14 mg/L
Oct. 2008	018	4.0 mg/L	9.45 mg/L
Nov. 2008	019	4.0 mg/L	30.6 mg/L
Nov. 2008	019	4.0 mg/L	40.4 mg/L
Dec. 2008	019	4.0 mg/L	18.8 mg/L
Jan. 2009	019	4.0 mg/L	13.5 mg/L
Jan. 2009	019	4.0 mg/L	23.8 mg/L
Feb. 2009	018	4.0 mg/L	5.68 mg/L
Feb. 2009	019	4.0 mg/L	13.5 mg/L
Feb. 2009	019	4.0 mg/L	23.8 mg/L
Mar. 2009	018	4.0 mg/L	8.05 mg/L
May 2009	018	4.0 mg/L	9.5 mg/L
May 2009	019	4.0 mg/L	8.04 mg/L
May 2009	019	4.0 mg/L	29.8 mg/L
June 2009	018	4.0 mg/L	6.89 mg/L
June 2009	018	4.0 mg/L	8.07 mg/L
June 2009	019	4.0 mg/L	14.4 mg/L
June 2009	019	4.0 mg/L	53.8 mg/L
July 2009	019	4.0 mg/L	57 mg/L
July 2009	019	4.0 mg/L	61 mg/L
July 2009	026	4.0 mg/L	8.6 mg/L
Aug. 2009	019	4.0 mg/L	18 mg/L
Aug. 2009	019	4.0 mg/L	40.2 mg/L
Sept. 2009	019	4.0 mg/L	29.8 mg/L
Sept. 2009	019	4.0 mg/L	23.27 mg/L
Sept. 2009	019	4.0 mg/L	15.2 mg/L
Oct. 2009	018	4.0 mg/L	5.19 mg/L
Oct. 2009	019	4.0 mg/L	35.4 mg/L
Nov. 2009	018	4.0 mg/L	12.3 mg/L
Nov. 2009	019	4.0 mg/L	32.7 mg/L
Dec. 2009	018	4.0 mg/L	14.1 mg/L

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal did not own, operate, or hold the NPDES permit for the Industry Mine prior to September 1, 2007. Since the allegations of paragraph 47 do not apply to Springfield Coal as they relate to events occurring prior to September 1, 2007, Springfield Coal

does not possess sufficient information to respond to such allegations and therefore denies same.

With respect to the remaining allegations of paragraph 47, Springfield Coal continues to investigate the accuracy of such allegations and at this time, Springfield Coal has insufficient information to either admit or deny such allegations and therefore denies same.

48. Respondents caused or allowed the discharge of sulfates in excess of the permitted daily maximum effluent limitations as follows:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Outfall</b>	<b>Concentration Limit: Daily Maximum</b>	<b>Actual Discharge</b>
Apr. 7, 2005	009	1100 mg/L	1170 mg/L
May 30, 2005	009	1100 mg/L	1270 mg/L
June 9, 2005	009	1100 mg/L	1230 mg/L
June 27, 2005	009	1100 mg/L	1330 mg/L
June 27, 2005	018	1800 mg/L	2020 mg/L
June 28, 2005	009	1100 mg/L	1240 mg/L
June 28, 2005	018	1800 mg/L	1900 mg/L
July 9, 2005	009	1100 mg/L	1440 mg/L
July 9, 2005	018	1800 mg/L	2020 mg/L
July 9, 2005	019	1800 mg/L	1840 mg/L
July 29, 2005	009	1100 mg/L	1440 mg/L
July 29, 2005	018	1800 mg/L	2050 mg/L
July 29, 2005	019	1800 mg/L	1810 mg/L
Aug. 8, 2005	009	1100 mg/L	1430 mg/L
Aug. 8, 2005	018	1800 mg/L	2030 mg/L
Aug. 8, 2005	019	1800 mg/L	1910 mg/L
Sept. 9, 2005	009	1100 mg/L	1380 mg/L
Sept. 29, 2005	009	1100 mg/L	1260 mg/L
Oct. 17, 2005	009	1100 mg/L	1550 mg/L
Oct. 26, 2005	009	1100 mg/L	1540 mg/L
Nov. 29, 2005	009	1100 mg/L	1270 mg/L
Dec. 13, 2005	009	1100 mg/L	1350 mg/L
Dec. 13, 2005	018	1800 mg/L	1920 mg/L
Dec. 20, 2005	009	1100 mg/L	1270 mg/L
Dec. 20, 2005	018	1800 mg/L	1930 mg/L
Jan. 16, 2006	009	1100 mg/L	1160 mg/L

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Jan. 25, 2006	009	1100 mg/L	1200 mg/L
Feb. 6, 2006	009	1100 mg/L	1220 mg/L
Feb. 6, 2006	027	500 mg/L	516 mg/L
Feb. 6, 2006	24W	500 mg/L	548 mg/L
Feb. 27, 2006	009	1100 mg/L	1150 mg/L
Feb. 27, 2006	24W	500 mg/L	600 mg/L
Mar. 13, 2006	009	1100 mg/L	1240 mg/L
Mar. 13, 2006	24W	500 mg/L	568 mg/L
Mar. 20, 2006	24W	500 mg/L	506 mg/L
Mar. 29, 2006	24W	500 mg/L	520 mg/L
Apr. 13, 2006	24W	500 mg/L	511 mg/L
Apr. 25, 2006	009	1100 mg/L	1190 mg/L
Apr. 25, 2006	24W	500 mg/L	628 mg/L
Apr. 26, 2006	24W	500 mg/L	558 mg/L
May 16, 2006	009	1100 mg/L	1120 mg/L
May 16, 2006	24W	500 mg/L	550 mg/L
May 17, 2006	009	1100 mg/L	1110 mg/L
May 17, 2006	24W	500 mg/L	552 mg/L
May 24, 2006	009	1100 mg/L	1150 mg/L
May 24, 2006	24W	500 mg/L	562 mg/L
June 14, 2006	009	1100 mg/L	1140 mg/L
June 14, 2006	24W	500 mg/L	592 mg/L
June 15, 2006	009	1100 mg/L	1150 mg/L
June 15, 2006	019	1800 mg/L	1890 mg/L
June 15, 2006	24W	500 mg/L	572 mg/L
June 22, 2006	009	1100 mg/L	1240 mg/L
June 22, 2006	24W	500 mg/L	635 mg/L
July 2006	009	1100 mg/L	1170 mg/L
July 2006	009	1100 mg/L	1180 mg/L
July 2006	009	1100 mg/L	1190 mg/L
July 2006	019	1800 mg/L	1830 mg/L
July 2006	24W	500 mg/L	578 mg/L
Aug. 2006	009	1100 mg/L	1300 mg/L
Aug. 2006	009	1100 mg/L	1273 mg/L
Aug. 2006	009	1100 mg/L	1250 mg/L
Aug. 2006	018	1800 mg/L	1840 mg/L
Aug. 2006	019	1800 mg/L	1840 mg/L
Sept. 2006	009	1100 mg/L	1260 mg/L
Sept. 2006	009	1100 mg/L	1250 mg/L

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Sept. 2006	009	1100 mg/L	1240 mg/L
Oct. 2006	009	1100 mg/L	1320 mg/L
Oct. 2006	009	1100 mg/L	1303 mg/L
Oct. 2006	009	1100 mg/L	1290 mg/L
Oct. 2006	018	1800 mg/L	1850 mg/L
Oct. 2006	019	1800 mg/L	1810 mg/L
Nov. 2006	009	1100 mg/L	1350 mg/L
Nov. 2006	009	1100 mg/L	1287 mg/L
Nov. 2006	009	1100 mg/L	1160 mg/L
Nov. 2006	018	1800 mg/L	1890 mg/L
Nov. 2006	019	1800 mg/L	1830 mg/L
Dec. 2006	009	1100 mg/L	1230 mg/L
Dec. 2006	009	1100 mg/L	1123 mg/L
Dec. 2006	24W	500 mg/L	1090 mg/L
Jan. 2007	026	500 mg/L	514 mg/L
Jan. 2007	026	500 mg/L	502 mg/L
Jan. 2007	027	500 mg/L	879 mg/L
Jan. 2007	24W	500 mg/L	610 mg/L
Feb. 2007	003	1100 mg/L	1810 mg/L
Feb. 2007	009	1100 mg/L	1310 mg/L
May 2007	018	1800 mg/L	1870 mg/L
May 2007	019	1800 mg/L	1830 mg/L
May 2007	24W	500 mg/L	1080 mg/L
June 2007	24W	500 mg/L	507 mg/L
June 2007	24W	500 mg/L	576 mg/L
July 2007	009	1100 mg/L	1400 mg/L
July 2007	009	1100 mg/L	1200 mg/L
July 2007	24W	500 mg/L	544 mg/L
Aug. 2007	009	1100 mg/L	1370 mg/L
Aug. 2007	009	1100 mg/L	1310 mg/L
Aug. 2007	009	1100 mg/L	1270 mg/L
Aug. 2007	019	1800 mg/L	2160 mg/L
Sept. 2007	009	1100 mg/L	1620 mg/L
Sept. 2007	009	1100 mg/L	1410 mg/L
Sept. 2007	009	1100 mg/L	1280 mg/L
Sept. 2007	018	1800 mg/L	2100 mg/L
Sept. 2007	018	1800 mg/L	1930 mg/L
Sept. 2007	019	1800 mg/L	2180 mg/L
Oct. 2007	009	1100 mg/L	2970 mg/L

Oct. 2007	009	1100 mg/L	2380 mg/L
Oct. 2007	009	1100 mg/L	2080 mg/L
Oct. 2007	018	1800 mg/L	2710 mg/L
Oct. 2007	018	1800 mg/L	2370 mg/L
Oct. 2007	018	1800 mg/L	1920 mg/L
Nov. 2007	009	1100 mg/L	2230 mg/L
Nov. 2007	009	1100 mg/L	1930 mg/L
Nov. 2007	009	1100 mg/L	1610 mg/L
Nov. 2007	018	1800 mg/L	3080 mg/L
Nov. 2007	018	1800 mg/L	2740 mg/L
Nov. 2007	018	1800 mg/L	2420 mg/L
Nov. 2007	019	1800 mg/L	2940 mg/L
Dec. 2007	009	1100 mg/L	2040 mg/L
Dec. 2007	009	1100 mg/L	1408 mg/L
Dec. 2007	018	1800 mg/L	2970 mg/L
Dec. 2007	018	1800 mg/L	2390 mg/L
Dec. 2007	018	1800 mg/L	2080 mg/L
Feb. 2008	009	1100 mg/L	1150 mg/L
July 2008	24W	500 mg/L	531 mg/L
Nov. 2008	019	1800 mg/L	2190 mg/L
Dec. 2008	009	1100 mg/L	1400 mg/L
Dec. 2008	018	1800 mg/L	2380 mg/L
Dec. 2008	018	1800 mg/L	2130 mg/L
Dec. 2008	019	1800 mg/L	2920 mg/L
Feb. 2009	009	1100 mg/L	1230 mg/L
Feb. 2009	018	1800 mg/L	2570 mg/L
Mar. 2009	24W	500 mg/L	544 mg/L
Apr. 2009	24W	500 mg/L	539 mg/L
May 2009	24W	500 mg/L	515 mg/L
June 2009	019	1800 mg/L	2690 mg/L
June 2009	026	500 mg/L	818 mg/L
June 2009	026	500 mg/L	656 mg/L
June 2009	026	500 mg/L	509 mg/L
July 2009	009	1100 mg/L	1310 mg/L
July 2009	009	1100 mg/L	1470 mg/L
July 2009	018	1800 mg/L	1940 mg/L
July 2009	018	1800 mg/L	2077 mg/L
July 2009	019	1800 mg/L	3290 mg/L
July 2009	026	500 mg/L	869 mg/L

July 2009	026	500 mg/L	927 mg/L
Aug. 2009	009	1100 mg/L	1360 mg/L
Aug. 2009	009	1100 mg/L	1430 mg/L
Aug. 2009	018	1800 mg/L	1820 mg/L
Aug. 2009	019	1800 mg/L	2490 mg/L
Sept. 2009	009	1100 mg/L	1350 mg/L
Sept. 2009	018	1800 mg/L	1920 mg/L
Sept. 2009	019	1800 mg/L	2020 mg/L
Sept. 2009	026	500 mg/L	853 mg/L
Oct. 2009	009	1100 mg/L	1260 mg/L
Oct. 2009	019	1800 mg/L	1900 mg/L
Oct. 2009	026	500 mg/L	694 mg/L
Oct. 2009	030	1100 mg/L	1150 mg/L

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal did not own, operate, or hold the NPDES permit for the Industry Mine prior to September 1, 2007. Since the allegations of paragraph 48 do not apply to Springfield Coal as they relate to events occurring prior to September 1, 2007, Springfield Coal does not possess sufficient information to respond to such allegations and therefore denies same. With respect to the remaining allegations of paragraph 48, Springfield Coal continues to investigate the accuracy of such allegations and at this time, Springfield Coal has insufficient information to either admit or deny such allegations and therefore denies same.

49. Respondents caused or allowed the discharge of TSS in excess of the permitted monthly average effluent limitation as follows:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Outfall</b>	<b>Concentration Limit: Monthly Average</b>	<b>Actual Discharge</b>
Jan. 2005	003	35.0 mg/L	48.5 mg/L
Jan. 2005	018	35.0 mg/L	38 mg/L
May 2007	002	35.0 mg/L	46 mg/L
May 2007	018	35.0 mg/L	46 mg/L
Feb. 2008	003	35.0 mg/L	49 mg/L
Feb. 2008	018	35.0 mg/L	47.7 mg/L

Feb. 2008	029	35.0 mg/L	64 mg/L
Jan. 2009	009	35.0 mg/L	44.3 mg/L

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal did not own, operate, or hold the NPDES permit for the Industry Mine prior to September 1, 2007. Since the allegations of paragraph 49 do not apply to Springfield Coal as they relate to events occurring prior to September 1, 2007, Springfield Coal does not possess sufficient information to respond to such allegations and therefore denies same. With respect to the remaining allegations of paragraph 49, Springfield Coal continues to investigate the accuracy of such allegations and at this time, Springfield Coal has insufficient information to either admit or deny such allegations and therefore denies same.

50. Respondents caused or allowed the discharge of TSS in excess of the permitted daily average effluent limitation as follows:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Outfall</b>	<b>Concentration Limit: Daily Maximum</b>	<b>Actual Discharge</b>
Jan. 17, 2005	003	70.0 mg/L	81 mg/L
Apr. 26, 2005	019	70.0 mg/L	84 mg/L
Dec. 13, 2005	009	70.0 mg/L	99 mg/L
Feb. 2007	009	70.0 mg/L	87 mg/L
May 2007	002	70.0 mg/L	96 mg/L
May 2007	018	70.0 mg/L	121 mg/L
July 2007	026	70.0 mg/L	86 mg/L
Feb. 2008	018	70.0 mg/L	116 mg/L
Jan. 2009	009	70.0 mg/L	80 mg/L

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal did not own, operate, or hold the NPDES permit for the Industry Mine prior to September 1, 2007. Since the allegations of paragraph 50 do not apply to Springfield Coal as they relate to events occurring prior to September 1, 2007, Springfield Coal does not possess sufficient information to respond to such allegations and therefore denies same.



With respect to the remaining allegations of paragraph 50, Springfield Coal continues to investigate the accuracy of such allegations and at this time, Springfield Coal has insufficient information to either admit or deny such allegations and therefore denies same.

51. Respondents caused or allowed the discharge of pH in excess of the permitted monthly average effluent limitation range of 6.0 to 9.0 standard units as follows:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Outfall</b>	<b>Concentration Limit</b>	<b>Actual Discharge</b>
July 2006	026	Between 6.0 and 9.0 at all times	10.4
May 2007	026	Between 6.0 and 9.0 at all times	9.74
June 2007	026	Between 6.0 and 9.0 at all times	9.43
May 2009	019	Between 6.0 and 9.0 at all times	5.29
June 2009	019	Between 6.0 and 9.0 at all times	4.25
July 2009	019	Between 6.0 and 9.0 at all times	3.62
July 2009	027	Between 6.0 and 9.0 at all times	9.4

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal did not own, operate, or hold the NPDES permit for the Industry Mine prior to September 1, 2007. Since the allegations of paragraph 51 do not apply to Springfield Coal as they relate to events occurring prior to September 1, 2007, Springfield Coal does not possess sufficient information to respond to such allegations and therefore denies same. With respect to the remaining allegations of paragraph 51, Springfield Coal continues to investigate the accuracy of such allegations and at this time, Springfield Coal has insufficient information to either admit or deny such allegations and therefore denies same.

52. Respondents repeatedly caused or allowed the discharge from the Industry Mine of iron, manganese, sulfates, pH, and TSS, in excess of the effluent limitations imposed by NPDES Permit No. IL0061247. Monitoring records in the possession of Respondents may show

additional discharges in excess of the effluent limitations imposed by NPDES Permit No. IL0061247.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal objects to this allegation because it is not pled with sufficient specificity. To the extent that an answer is required, Springfield Coal denies the allegations contained in paragraph 52.

53. By repeatedly discharging contaminants into waters of the State in violation of the terms or conditions of NPDES Permit No. IL0061247, Freeman United or Springfield Coal or both violated Section 12(f) of the Act, 415 ILCS § 5/12(f) (2008), and Section 301 of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1311 (2006).

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal denies the allegations contained in paragraph 53.

### **THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION**

#### **WATER POLLUTION VIOLATIONS**

54. The Complainants hereby repeat, reallege, adopt, and incorporate by reference paragraphs 1 through 53 herein above as if fully set out in this Court.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal replays and incorporates herein by reference its responses to paragraphs 1 through 53 of ELPC's Complaint as its responses to paragraphs 1 through 53 of this Cause of Action.

55. From at least January 2004 until September 2009, Respondents caused or allowed the discharge of iron, manganese, sulfates, pH, and TSS into waters of the State so as to cause or tend to cause water pollution in Illinois in combination with matter from other sources. These repeated discharges from the Industry Mine in excess of the permitted concentration levels have likely created a nuisance or rendered such waters harmful or detrimental or injurious to

agricultural, recreational, or other legitimate uses, or to livestock, wild animals, birds, fish, or other aquatic life.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal did not own, operate, or hold the NPDES permit for the Industry Mine prior to September 1, 2007. Since the allegations of paragraph 55 do not apply to Springfield Coal as they relate to events occurring prior to September 1, 2007, Springfield Coal does not possess sufficient information to respond to such allegations and therefore denies same. With respect to the remaining allegations of paragraph 55, Springfield Coal denies same.

56. By so causing or tending to cause water pollution, Respondents have violated Section 12(a) of the Act, 415 ILCS § 5/12(a) (2008).

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal denies the allegations contained in paragraph 56.

#### **FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

##### **WATER QUALITY STANDARD VIOLATIONS**

57. The Complainants hereby repeat, reallege, adopt, and incorporate by reference paragraphs 1 through 56 herein above as if fully set out in this Cause of Action.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal repleads and incorporates herein by reference its responses to paragraphs 1 through 57 of ELPC's Complaint as its responses to paragraphs 1 through 57 of this Cause of Action.

58. Section 406.202 of the Board's Mine Related Water Pollution Regulations, 35 Ill. Adm. Code § 406.202, provides as follows:

In addition to the other requirements of this Part, no mine discharge or non-point source mine discharge shall, alone or in combination with other sources, cause a violation of any water quality standards of 35 Ill. Adm. Code [Part] 302 or 303.

When the Agency finds that a discharge which would comply with effluent standards contained in this Part would cause or is causing a violation of water quality standards, the Agency shall take appropriate action under Section 31 or 39 of the Environmental Protection Act to require the discharge to meet whatever effluent limits are necessary to ensure compliance with the water quality standards. When such a violation is caused by the cumulative effect of more than one source, several sources may be joined in an enforcement or variance proceeding and measures for necessary effluent reductions will be determined on the basis of technical feasibility, economic reasonableness and fairness to all dischargers.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal admits that there are regulations 35 Ill. Adm. Code § 406.202, and states that the regulations speak for themselves. Springfield Coal refers ELPC to the regulations for a complete and accurate statement of their contents. Springfield Coal denies the allegations to the extent that they are inconsistent with the regulations, as cited.

59. Special Condition 1 of NPDES Permit No. IL0061247 prohibits the discharge of contaminants so as to degrade the water quality in the receiving streams:

“No effluent from any mine related facility area under this permit shall, alone or in combination with other sources, cause a violation of any applicable water quality standard . . . .”

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal admits that there is an NPDES permit No. IL0061247, and states that the permit speaks for itself. Springfield Coal refers ELPC to the permit for a complete and accurate statement of its contents. Springfield Coal denies the allegations to the extent that they are inconsistent with the permit, as cited.

60. Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. 1313(d), requires each State to identify waters whose uses are impaired by pollutants in the waters. The list of impaired waters is called the “Section 303(d) List.” In August 2008, Illinois EPA issued its most recent Section 303(d) List of impaired waters of the State. In that List, Grindstone Creek is designated as having

impaired water quality for aquatic life use in the Section 303(d) List due to excessive levels of sulfates.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal admits that there is a statutory provision 33 U.S.C. § 1313(d) and a Section 303(d) List, and states that the statute and list speak for themselves. Springfield Coal refers ELPC to the statute and list for a complete and accurate statement of their contents. Springfield Coal denies the allegations to the extent that they are inconsistent with the statute and list, as cited. With regard to any remaining allegations contained in paragraph 60, Springfield Coal denies same.

61. Grindstone Creek was also listed as impaired in the June 2006 Section 303(d) List due to excessive levels of sulfates.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal admits that there is a Section 303(d) List, and states that the list speaks for itself. Springfield Coal refers ELPC to the list for a complete and accurate statement of its contents. Springfield Coal denies the allegations to the extent that they are inconsistent with the list, as cited. With regard to any remaining allegations contained in paragraph 61, Springfield Coal denies same.

62. The currently applicable water quality standard for sulfates within Grindstone Creek is determined through Section 302.208(h) of Illinois' Water Quality Standards, 35 Ill. Adm. Code § 302.208(h). These regulatory provisions were adopted by the Pollution Control Board in the PCB R07-9 rulemaking proceeding and are effective September 8, 2008.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal admits that there are regulations at 35 Ill. Adm. Code § 302.208(h), and states that the regulations speak for themselves. Springfield Coal refers ELPC

to the regulations for a complete and accurate statement of their contents. Springfield Coal denies the allegations to the extent that they are inconsistent with the regulations, as cited.

63. Prior to the adoption of revised regulations in the PCB R07-9 rulemaking proceeding, Section 406.100(d) of the Board's Mine Related Water Pollution Regulations, 35 Ill. Adm. Code § 406.100(d), had provided that Part 302 (Water Quality Standards) was inapplicable to mine discharges; that exemption is repealed effective September 8, 2008.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal admits that there are regulations at 35 Ill. Adm. Code § 406.100(d), and states that the regulations speak for themselves. Springfield Coal refers ELPC to the regulations for a complete and accurate statement of their contents. Springfield Coal denies the allegations to the extent that they are inconsistent with the regulations, as cited.

64. Since September 8, 2008, Respondents caused or allowed the discharge of sulfates to Grindstone Creek and its tributaries from outfalls 002, 003, 018, and 019 of the Industry Mine so as to, in combination with effluent from other sources, cause or contribute to a violation of the water quality standard applicable pursuant to Section 302.208(h) of the Board's Water Quality Standards, 35 Ill. Adm. Code § 302.208(h).

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal denies the allegations contained in paragraph 64.

65. Respondents caused or allowed the discharge of sulfates to Grindstone Creek and its tributaries in violation of the effluent limits contained in NPDES Permit No. IL0061247, on at least the following occasions:

Nov. 30, 2008	019	1800 mg/L	2190 mg/L
Dec. 31, 2008	018	1800 mg/L	2380 mg/L

Dec. 31, 2008	018	1800 mg/L	2130 mg/L
Dec. 31, 2008	019	1800 mg/L	2920 mg/L
Feb. 28, 2009	018	1800 mg/L	2570 mg/L
June 30, 2009	019	1800 mg/L	2690 mg/L
July 31, 2009	018	1800 mg/L	1940 mg/L
July 31, 2009	018	1800 mg/L	2077 mg/L
July 31, 2009	019	1800 mg/L	3290 mg/L
Aug. 31, 2009	018	1800 mg/L	1820 mg/L
Aug. 31, 2009	019	1800 mg/L	2490 mg/L
Sept. 30, 2009	018	1800 mg/L	1920 mg/L
Sept. 30, 2009	019	1800 mg/L	2020 mg/L
Oct. 2009	019	1800 mg/L	1900 mg/L

These discharges caused or contributed to the ongoing violation of water quality standards for sulfate in Grindstone Creek.

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal denies the allegations contained in paragraph 65.

66. By violating the regulations or standards adopted by the Board under this Act, Respondents have violated Section 12(a) of the Act, 415 ILCS § 5/12(a) (2008).

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal denies the allegations contained in paragraph 66.

67. By violating Special Condition 1 of NPDES Permit No. IL0061247, Respondents have violated Section 12(f) of the Act, 415 ILCS § 5/12(f) (2008), and Section 301 of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1311 (2006).

**ANSWER:** Springfield Coal denies the allegations contained in paragraph 67.

### **AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES**

Springfield Coal raises the following affirmative defenses, which shall apply to and be incorporated into all answers by Springfield Coal. Springfield Coal reserves the right to supply

further affirmative defenses in a supplemental answer to any or all paragraphs of any count herein.

1. The ELPC's claim fails to state a cause of action upon which relief can be granted.
2. Freeman United submitted a renewal application for National Pollution Discharge Elimination System ("NPDES") Permit No. IL0061247 in August 2003. At present, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency ("IEPA") has not officially acted upon the renewal application. Had IEPA acted upon the renewal application in a timely manner, there would have been a revised permitted effluent limitation for sulfates, and Springfield Coal's water discharge would have been in conformance with its permit.
3. The sulfate discharge limitations in Springfield Coal's NPDES permit and which the ELPC now alleges Springfield Coal violated are based upon sulfate water quality standards which were officially rejected by the Board in September 2008, and which the State knew for years were not based in sound science, inappropriate for mining operations, and impossible to comply with insomuch as sulfate was not treatable by any practical means.
4. The State proposed in April 2010 that Grindstone Creek, which runs through the Industry Mine, be removed from Illinois Section 303(d) Impaired Water List based upon water quality data dating back to at least 2007.
5. Prior to any mining activity on the Industry Mine property, there were naturally occurring levels of a number of constituents, including sulfate and manganese, in the surface water runoff at the site at concentrations that would be considered exceedances of Springfield Coal's NPDES permit.



6. Complainant's claims are barred by the statute of limitations and/or statute of repose.

7. Pursuant to 415 ILCS 5/31(a), Springfield Coal entered into a compliance commitment agreement with IEPA on August 30, 2007, and such agreement addressed the issues Complainant now raises in its Complaint.

8. Complainant's claims are barred by the doctrines of laches, estoppel and/or waiver.

9. The ELPC has failed to plead their allegations with sufficient specificity. ELPC erroneously accuses Springfield Coal of many violations when it was impossible for Springfield Coal to have had any legal duty or means to control pollution on-site. No matter its allegations, ELPC has acknowledged that the facility was not in Springfield Coal's control until September 1, 2007. As such, ELPC had sufficient information to not levy allegations stemming from this period in time against Springfield Coal. However, ELPC's choice to include Springfield Coal in several instances where it charges "Respondents" with alleged violations of permit standards is wholly erroneous, and applicable portions of these counts must be dismissed as to Springfield Coal immediately.

10. Springfield Coal has been operating under NPDES Permit No. IL0061247 since Freeman United properly transferred the permit to Springfield Coal at the time of the sale of the Industry mine on September 1, 2007. Springfield Coal and Freeman United sent a letter to IEPA on August 14, 2007 notifying IEPA of the impending transfer of the Industry Mine. IEPA never responded in writing to the August 14, 2007 letter, nor did it notify the parties that the transfer was defective in any way. IEPA consistently operated and indicated that NPDES Permit No.

IL0061247 was properly transferred. After September 1, 2007, Springfield Coal owned the Industry Mine and operated the mine under NPDES Permit No. IL0061247.

11. ELPC's complaint should be dismissed because it is duplicative of the complaint of the People of the State of Illinois.

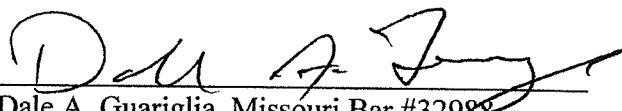
12. ELPC's complaint should be dismissed as frivolous because it requests relief the Board lacks the authority to grant and fails to state a cause of action upon which relief can be granted.

13. ELPC lacks standing to bring any and all claims against Springfield Coal because ELPC does not have an interest which is or may be adversely affected by the alleged violations.

WHEREFORE, Respondent Springfield Coal Co. L.L.C. respectfully requests that the Board deny the relief requested by the Complainant, that this matter be dismissed in its entirety, and that the Board award such other relief as is just and appropriate.

Respectfully Submitted,

BRYAN CAVE LLP

By:   
Dale A. Guariglia, Missouri Bar #32988  
Pamela A. Howlett #6281863  
Dennis J. Gelner II #6298390  
One Metropolitan Square  
211 North Broadway Suite 3600  
St. Louis, MO 63102  
Telephone: (314) 259-2000  
Telefax: (314) 259-2020

Attorneys for Respondent,  
Springfield Coal Co., L.L.C.

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certifies that a copy of the foregoing Answer and Affirmative Defenses was served upon the following parties electronically on the 13th day of August, 2010:

Thomas Davis  
Assistant Attorney General  
Environmental Bureau  
500 South Second Street  
Springfield, IL 62706

Bill S. Forcade  
E. Lynn Grayson  
James A. Vroman  
Jenner & Block LLP  
353 N. Clark Street  
Chicago, IL 60654-3456

Carol Webb  
Hearing Officer  
Illinois Pollution Control Board  
1021 North Grand Avenue East  
Springfield, IL 62794

Jessica Dexter  
Environmental Law and Policy Center  
35 East Wacker Drive, Suite 1300  
Chicago, IL 60601

John Therriault, Clerk  
Illinois Pollution Control Board  
James R. Thompson Center  
100 West Randolph St., Suite 11-500  
Chicago, IL 60601