

Monday, October 18, 2010

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

**RE: Rule Making R08-009**

Dear Illinois Pollution Control Board:

As a contributing member of the Friends of the Chicago River, I am writing to express my support for the recommended water quality standard improvements proposed by the Illinois EPA for the Chicago Area Waterways (CAWS) and Lower Des Plaines River as rule making R08-009.

These changes are long overdue and recommended only after five years of study on the CAWS and seven on the Lower Des Plaines. We should all support the Illinois EPA's effort and approve the changes.

As a Chicago resident who seeks to expand the city's open-spaces recreational areas for the health of our citizens, I think it is critical that:

- The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District disinfect sewage treatment plant effluent to kill bacteria and protect public health and
- Temperature and dissolved oxygen standards be implemented to protect fish and help them flourish.

Over the years, the entire CAWS system has changed dramatically. The water, once full of raw sewage and industrial filth, has vastly improved through the leadership of agencies like the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District and its Tunnel and Reservoir Plan. Public access has increased considerably as local governments incorporated these rivers into their master planning. The City of Chicago, the Chicago Park District, and suburbs like Blue Island and Skokie have poured millions into river access for paddling, fishing, and crew. And so much work has been done to improve habitat and control pollution that in the Chicago River system, species of fish have climbed from under 10 to nearly 70, including game fish favorites like large-mouth bass and bluegill and yellow perch.

Because a review like this only comes along every 20 years, right now we have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to continue our momentum by supporting the Illinois EPA recommendations so we can make the next quantum leap forward in water quality.

There is no magic bullet and or all-in-one measure that can eliminate water pollution but we know that if we want the Chicago River to continue to improve and serve our communities as a recreational, natural and economic resource, disinfection and the rest of the Illinois EPA's recommendations are essential.

I believe that as a society it is our moral obligation to ensure that we work to achieve the highest potential for shared resources, including and especially water. And as stewards of these natural resources, we should not be seeking the minimum in improvement, but the maximum.

Thank you,



David Schmid  
5117 N. Kenmore Ave., #2W  
Chicago, IL 60640  
Phone 773-878-3127

PC# 507

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CLERK'S OFFICE

JUL 20 2010

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
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OCT 20 2010

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
Pollution Control Board

Oct 20, 2010

Illinois Pollution Control Board  
James R. Thompson Center 100 W. Randolph Suite 11-500  
Chicago, IL 60601

PCH 508

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CLERK'S OFFICE

OCT 21 2010

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
Pollution Control Board

Thank you for your First Notice which recognizes that the Chicago Area Waterways (CAWS) and Lower Des Plaines River are being used for recreational purposes. I support Illinois EPA's proposal to require disinfection at MWRD sewage plants, and to protect aquatic life in these waters from thermal pollution.

CLERK'S OFFICE

The Chicago River has been a pathway for pathogens for too long! Running through the heart of the Chicago Region the river has long been denied some of the basic goals of the Clean Water Act namely that all waters should be "drinkable, swimmable and fishable." Failure to disinfect sewage from all Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) treatment plants put both people and wildlife at risk of becoming ill.

The Chicago Area Waterways and Lower Des Plaines River are important Illinois resources. As you move forward with the rulemaking process, I urge you to require MWRD to disinfect the sewage it discharges to these waterways.

Sincerely,

Mr. Kenneth Lowell  
18223 Riegel Rd  
Homewood, IL 60430-2320  
(708) 799-8469

Oct 28, 2010

Illinois Pollution Control Board  
James R. Thompson Center 100 W. Randolph Suite 11-500  
Chicago, IL 60601

RECEIVED  
CLERK'S OFFICE  
OCT 28 2010  
STATE OF ILLINOIS  
Pollution Control Board

Thank you for your First Notice which recognizes that the Chicago Area Waterways (CAWS) and Lower Des Plaines River are being used for recreational purposes. I support Illinois EPA's proposal to require disinfection at MWRD sewage plants, and to protect aquatic life in these waters from thermal pollution.

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PCT 509

The Chicago Area Waterways and Lower Des Plaines River are important Illinois resources. As you move forward with the rulemaking process, I urge you to require MWRD to disinfect the sewage it discharges to these waterways.

Sincerely,

Ms. Pamela Staron  
5122 S Nashville Ave  
Chicago, IL 60638-1214  
(773) 788-1336

October 17, 2010

Illinois Pollution Control Board  
100 West Randolph Street  
Suite 11-500  
Chicago, IL 60601

Attention: John Therriault, Assistant Clerk

Regarding: Rule Making R08-009

Dear Mr. Therriault;

I am writing to express my support for the recommended water quality standard improvements proposed by the Illinois EPA for the Chicago Area Waterways (CAWS) and Lower Des Plaines River as rule making R08-009.

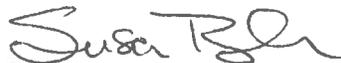
I feel that these changes are long overdue and recommended only after five years of study on the CAWS and seven on the Lower Des Plaines. We should all support the Illinois EPA's effort and approve the changes.

I think it is important that the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District disinfect sewage treatment plant effluent to kill bacteria and protect public health. Also that temperature and dissolved oxygen standards be implemented to protect fish and help them flourish.

Because a review like this only comes along every 20 years, right now we have a once in a generation opportunity to continue our momentum by supporting the Illinois EPA recommendations so we can make the next leap forward in water quality. There is no simple all in one measure that can eliminate water pollution but we know that if we want the Chicago River to continue to improve and serve our community as a recreational, natural and economic resource, disinfection and the rest of the Illinois EPA's recommendations are essential.

I believe that a society it is our moral obligation to ensure that we work to achieve the highest potential for shared resources, including and especially water. Thank you for taking the time to allow me to share my views.

Sincerely,



Susan Tyler  
3N418 Jill Court  
Elmhurst, Il 60126

RECEIVED  
CLERK'S OFFICE  
OCT 27 2010  
STATE OF ILLINOIS  
Pollution Control Board

PCA# 510