

Board Adopts First Notice Opinion and Order Creating an Effluent Limit for Primary Contact Recreation Use Waters

The Illinois Pollution Control Board, on July 7, 2011, adopted a first-notice opinion and order in the rulemaking docketed as In the Matter of: Water Quality Standards and Effluent Limitations for the Chicago Area Waterway System (CAWS) and the Lower Des Plaines River: Proposed Amendments to 35 Ill. Adm. Code 301, 302, 303 and 304 (R08-09B).

The Board proposal would establish an effluent limit of 400 fecal coliforms per 100mL from March 1 through November 30 for effluent discharges to Primary Contact Recreation Use water segments of the CAWS. The Board declines to establish an effluent limit for other segments of the CAWS and Lower Des Plaines River that are designated as Incidental Contact Recreation Use, Non-contact Recreation Use, and Non-Recreation Use waters at this time.

The proposed rule would apply to the following segments of the CAWS: 1) Lower North Shore Channel from North Side Water Reclamation Plant to confluence with North Branch of the Chicago River; 2) North Branch of the Chicago River from its confluence with North Shore Channel to its confluence with South Branch of the Chicago River and Chicago River; 3) Chicago River; 4) South Branch of the Chicago River; 5) Little Calumet River from its confluence with Calumet River and Grand Calumet River to its confluence with Calumet-Sag Channel; and 6) Calumet-Sag Channel.

Publication of these proposed amendments in the *Illinois Register* will begin a 45-day public comment period, during which anyone may file a public comment with the Board. The Board encourages persons to file public comments on these proposed amendments. The docket number for this rulemaking, R08-09B, should be indicated on the public comment.

Public comments must be filed with the Clerk of the Board. Public comments may be filed at the following address:

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

In addition, public comments may be filed electronically through COOL at www.ipcb.state.il.us. Any questions about electronic filing through COOL should be directed to the Clerk's Office at (312) 814-3629.

Opinions and orders of the Board, hearing transcripts, and other documents in rulemaking records are posted on the Board's Web site and may be downloaded from the Web without charge. Hard copies may be obtained from the Clerk's office upon payment of reproduction fees as prescribed by Section 6 of the Freedom of Information Act [5 ILCS 140/6].

For more information contact Marie Tipsord at (312)-814-4925 or email at tipsorm@ipcb.state.il.us.