

## **Board Proposes Water Quality Standards in the Chicago Area Waterways System and Lower Des Plaines River Subdocket D**

On September 18, 2014, the Board adopted a first notice opinion and order for proposed water quality standards for the Chicago Area Waterway System (CAWS) and Lower Des Plaines River (LDPR) that are necessary to meet the aquatic life uses for those waterways. The proposal is docketed as In the Matter of: Water Quality Standards and Effluent Limitations for the Chicago Area Waterway system and Lower Des Plaines River: Proposed Amendments to 35 Ill. Adm. Code 301, 302, 303, and 304, R08-9(D).

The Board is proceeding with the standards for many constituents as proposed by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA), with two notable exceptions. The Board finds that 500 mg/L chloride standards must be adapted for the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal (CCSS) from December 1 until April 30. Therefore, the Board proposed the CCSS a numeric standard of 620 mg/L as an acute water quality standards and 990 mg/L as a chronic water quality standard for chloride from December 1 until April 30.

Additionally, the Board found that the water quality standards for temperature proposed by IEPA as well as those suggested by other participants are not appropriate. Therefore, the Board proposed that the General Use temperature standards apply to the waterways.

The Board also declines to proceed with mixing zones for chlorides or with site-specific relief for dischargers at this time. The Board seeks additional input from participants on these issues.

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, **R08-9(D)**, 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](http://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 of the Freedom of Information Act.

For more information contact Marie Tipsord at 312-814-4925 or email at [marie.tipsord@illinois.gov](mailto:marie.tipsord@illinois.gov).