

Board Seeks Comments Proposed Water Quality Standards in the Chicago Area Waterways System and Lower Des Plaines River Subdocket D

The Pollution Control Board is seeking comments on the proposed water quality standards and criteria to meet aquatic life uses for the Chicago Area Waterway System (CAWS) that were adopted by the Board. On March 6, 2014, the Board declined the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's request to open a subdocket in this rulemaking to address the water quality standards for chlorides in the CAWS. The IEPA indicated that it was prepared to proceed in Subdocket D except for the chloride standard, because IEPA needs more time to work on the chloride standards with several participants and the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

The Board declines to open a subdocket to deal with chloride water quality standards. The Board believes that there is sufficient information in this record to proceed with water quality standards including chlorides. The Board directs the hearing officer to establish a comment period to allow participants to provide final pre-first notice comments on IEPA's proposed water quality standards.

The rulemaking 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.

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].

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