



"Eventually all things merge into
one and a river runs through it.....
I am haunted by waters"
Norman MacLean

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JUN 16 2003
STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

June 13, 2003

Ms. Marie E. Tipsord
Hearing Officer, Illinois Pollution Control Board
100 W. Randolph St., Suite 11-500
Chicago, Illinois 60601
Re: Public Comment on R03-19

Dear Ms. Tipsord:

I am writing to you as a member of the Board of the Illinois Paddling Council (IPC), and a paddler concerned with maintaining the health of our rivers and streams. IPC is the voice of paddlers around the state and has been extremely active in river and stream issues through its conservation and access projects.

Recently I received training in understanding NPDES permits, and am aware how difficult they are for lay people to understand. The Clean Water Act envisioned strong public participation in the permitting process, and I believe that it is extremely important that every effort be made to simplify it, open it up, and provide for citizen input at every level. I am pleased to learn that the Illinois Pollution Control Board is considering the adoption of regulatory changes to strengthen public participation in the permitting process, and would urge the Board to adopt these changes.

Sincerely,

Thomas M. Lindblade

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