

CITY OF BATAVIA

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STATE OF ILLINOIS
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Mayor

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City Clerk



2 November 2004

PC10

Ms. Dorothy M. Gunn, Clerk
Illinois Pollution Control Board
James R. Thompson Center
100 West Randolph Street
Suite 11-5000
Chicago, IL 60601

Dear Ms. Gunn:

Re: Docket No. R-04-021
Revisions to Radium Water Quality Standards

The City of Batavia in Kane County operates a public water supply. Water from deep wells (radium tainted) and shallow wells is used to supply our customers with drinking water. The combined radium 226 and 228 level in our deep well water can be as high as 20+ pCi/L (pico-curies per liter). Batavia's chosen treatment method for radium removal from the deep wells will be to utilize the HMO (hydrous manganese oxide) adsorption and filtration process. This method requires that the radium removed from the water after treatment be discharged to the sanitary sewer system. Sanitary sewer service is provided to our drinking water plant by the Batavia Waste Water Treatment Plant. The waste water plant discharges their effluent to the Fox River.

The City of Batavia supports the approval of the proposal to implement revised water quality standards for radium concentrations in the waste stream, as the approval will allow for continued operation of our drinking water supply system.

The City of Batavia is spending in excess of \$15 million to gain compliance with the radium standard for drinking water. Our water rate payers have seen water rates increase almost 100% to pay for these improvements.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide comments to the Illinois Pollution Control Board on this important issue to our community.

Sincerely,

John K. Dillon
Water/Sewer Superintendent

JKD:dls

c: Bill McGrath
Gary Larsen