

Starved Rock Audubon Society

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STATE OF ILLINOIS  
Pollution Control Board

6 June 2003

Marie E. Tipsord  
Hearing Officer  
Illinois Pollution Control Board  
100 W. Randolph, Suite 11-500  
Chicago, Il 60601

PC#4

Dear Marie E. Tipsord,

I am writing you today with deep concern regarding the possible elimination of public comment (case number R03-19) during the NPDES permitting process. The Clean Water Act and U.S. EPA regulations make it clear that the NPDES permitting process must be open to the public.

The quality of life here in Illinois is in large part based upon the quality of our rivers, lakes and streams. Further weakening of Illinois Pollution Control Board rules will lead to ever more water pollution and a lower quality of life for each of us.

Illinois' pollution regulations should be growing stronger with each passing year, not weaker. I do not feel it is a stretch to say that a lower quality of water results in a higher rate of cancer, birth defects and degrading of our natural ecosystems.

I urge the Illinois Pollution Control Board to comply with its obligation to keep our Illinois waters safe and clean for generations to come.

Sincerely,



Don Goerne  
President, Starved Rock Audubon Society  
2005 N. 15th Road  
Streator, Il 61364