

Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission

ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT for 1983

April 1, 1983 thru March 31, 1984

OCTOBER 1984 CUTOFF NEARS FOR 75 PERCENT FEDERAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT COST SHARE

On February 17, 1984 the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency published new final and interim final rules for grants for construction of treatment works. Under these new rules, federal participation in grants awarded after September 30, 1984 will drop from 75 percent to 55 percent. Only existing needs will be grant eligible, which means an end to EPA's practice of funding 20 years reserve capacity at treatment works. New collection systems are not considered a "need" except in specially defined circumstances and grants for correction of combined sewer overflows are limited to those instances where they are vital to achievement of fishable and swimmable water body uses and where there is a substantial chance of regaining lost stream uses.

Grant applications will still be required to complete Step 1 facilities plans, but no grants will be awarded for this purpose except to small communities who could not prepare these plans without financial assistance. The cost of facilities planning will be reimbursed through "allowances" based on a specified percentage of a Step 3 construction grant, provided one is offered. If no grant is offered, the community must absorb the cost of the facilities plan. Step 2 design work is also not grant eligible, but will be reimbursed by the allowance procedure. However, communities under 25,000 population with Step 3 costs estimated to be less than \$8 million whose projects are not part of a phased plan can receive a Step 2+3 grant which will provide the federal share of Step 2 design costs.

During fiscal year 1983 (July 1, 1982 - June 30, 1983) 19 agencies (see Table 1) in northeastern Illinois received grants totaling \$42 million, roughly 40 percent of all grants made in Illinois that year. On the basis of current information available from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA), which manages the construction grants program in Illinois, only 20 projects (see Table 2), asking for \$138.9 million, can be funded using fiscal years 1984 and 1985 dollars. Generally speaking, it is expected that these projects will receive 75 percent federal funding.

In addition to the projects expected to be funded in fiscal years 1984 and 1985, the following projects in northeastern Illinois have applied for grant funds and will be funded out of future appropriations

to the extent money is available and the projects are ready for funding.

- 22 non-Metropolitan Sanitary District of Greater Chicago (MSD) projects (see Table 3) on IEPA's backlog list. These projects, requesting \$119 million, are ready for funding but await additional federal grant dollars.
- MSD projects totaling 866 million dollars.
- \$322 million in grant requests for projects not now ready for funding.

Exclusive of MSD, it appears that if Congress continues the construction grants program and if these northeastern Illinois communities proceed with these projects, they will need to find an additional \$104 million locally to offset the 20 percent drop in federal participation in projects after fiscal year 1985. If it is assumed that 20 percent additional funding must also be found for MSD projects, another \$173 million in local money would be needed. Outside of the MSD, 40 percent of these grant amounts are for expansion or improvement of sewers, 32 percent for correction of combined sewer overflows, 20 percent for improvement of the treatment ability of wastewater plants, and eight percent for wastewater treatment plant expansion.

In northeastern Illinois, there are 33 management agencies (see Table 4) on the critical review or restricted status lists. Communities on critical review must have all requests for extensions of new service carefully reviewed by IEPA to ensure plant capacity is not exceeded. Communities on restricted status may not extend any new services since no capacity remains at their plants. Nineteen of these management agencies have grant requests which will not be funded by fiscal year 1985. Another six communities on these lists have no grant request pending, leaving a total of 25 communities with present or imminent wastewater need apparently without hope of federal grant assistance before fiscal year 1986, if ever.

This Annual Water Quality Report was prepared using Federal Water Pollution Control Act Section 205j funds from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.

TABLE 1: NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS WATER POLLUTION CONTROL GRANTS FISCAL YEAR 1983

Project Name	Grant Amount (\$ millions)
Chicago Heights	1.4
DCDPW	0.5
Glen Ellyn Heights	0.7
Glenwood	0.1
Hickory Hills	0.1
Justice	0.2
Kenilworth	0.1
La Grange	0.4
Mokena	3.0
Northfield Township	0.3
Park Forest	0.6
Sauk Village	0.1
Steger	0.2
Stone Park	0.1
West Chicago	17.5
Wheaton S.D.	6.1
Winfield	0.8
Worth	0.3
MSDGC	8.6
	<u>41.1</u>

Source: *Progress*, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, November/December Vol. VIII, No. 6.

TABLE 2: CURRENT GRANT STATUS NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS COMMUNITIES

Project Name	Priority Number	Total Grant Amount (\$ Millions)	Funding Year
Addison	14	14.6	84
Downers Grove	434	4.6	84
DCDPW	18	20.1	84
DCDPW	213	0.2	84
Elgin	125	7.9	84
Elk Grove Village	31	2.3	84
Elmhurst	633	4.1	85
Hoffman Estates	31	2.7	84
Libertyville	76	0.2	84
Lombard	213	0.1	84
Merrionette Park	83	0.1	84
MSDGC	216	35.7	84
MSDGC	4	30.0	85
Sleepy Hollow	599	0.7	84
Tinley Park	83	0.5	84
Wauconda	208	3.8	84
West Chicago	132	1.5	85
West Dundee	125	1.4	84
Winnetka	31	2.4	84
Wood Dale	129	6.0	84

Grants Fiscal Year '84	\$ 103.3
Grants Fiscal Year '85	\$ 35.6
	<u>\$ 138.9</u>

Source: "Status of the Wastewater Construction Grants Program in Illinois," Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, March, 1984.

TABLE 3: NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS COMMUNITIES IN FUNDABLE RANGE BUT ON BACKLOG LIST

Project Name	Priority Number	Total Project Dollar Amount (\$ Millions)
Bartlett	143	2.1
Bensenville	7	2.3
Bonnie Brae	195	1.5
Carpentersville	29	2.8
Crest Hill	627	7.5
Dolton	83	0.2
Downer's Grove S.D.	434	22.0
Frankfort	622	4.8
Hanover Park	634	2.3
Itasca	15	7.6
Lake Forest	152	5.3
Lansing	150	0.9
Lockport Heights	234	0.8
Mount Prospect	31	1.2
NSSD - Gurnee	636	32.9
Oak Forest	83	0.6
Schaumburg	31	1.3
South Chicago Heights	17	0.7
Tinley Park	83	0.1
Homewood	631	10.1
Villa Park	274	10.4
Woodridge	19	2.0
		<u>\$ 119.4</u>

Source: "Status of the Wastewater Construction Grants Program in Illinois," Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, March, 1984.

TABLE 4: COMMUNITIES ON CRITICAL REVIEW OR RESTRICTED STATUS IN NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS

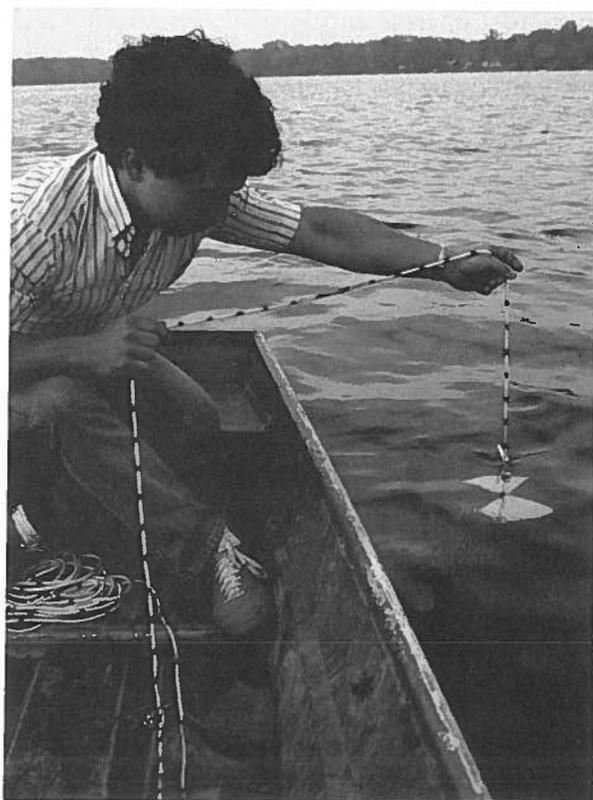
Source: Illinois Pollution Control Board, Environmental Register No. 287, February 20, 1984.

Community	Priority Number	Grant Status	Critical Review or Restricted Status
Addison (North & South)	14	Funded FY84	CR
Aurora S.D. (Reckinger Rd. Pumping Station)	224	Not Funded	CR
Bensenville (North)	7	Not Funded (backlog)	RS
Bolingbrook	881	No Request	CR
Cary	1168	Not Funded	CR
Crest Hill	627	Not Funded (backlog)	RS
Deerfield	--	No Request	CR
Downers Grove S.D.	434	Funded FY84	CR
DCDPW Farmingdale	--	Funded FY 84	CR
DCDPW Marionbrook	--	Funded FY 84	RS
DCDPW Nordic Park	--	Funded by DCDPW	RS
DCDPW Woodridge	--	Funded by DCDPW	RS
Elmhurst	633	Funded FY85	CR
Frankfort	622	Not Funded (backlog)	CR
Harvard	--	No Request	CR
Hebron	--	No Request	CR
Hickory Hills	83	Funded FY83	RS
Homewood	631	Not Funded (backlog)	CR
Itasca	15	Not Funded (backlog)	RS
LCDPW Sylvan/Diamond Lake	676	Not Funded	CR
Lake Zurich (NW)	--	No Request	CR
Lombard	213	Funded FY84	RS
Marengo	862	Not Funded	CR
Mokena	455	Funded FY83	CR
Naperville	--	Funded by Naperville	CR
Oak Highlands S.D.	926	Not Funded	RS
Peotone	1009	Not Funded	CR
Rockdale	666	Not Funded	RS
St. Charles (NW Quad partial sewer system)	1052	Not Funded	RS
Thorn Creek Basin S.D.	--	No Request	CR
Waukegan (Jackson & Grove St. sewer)	302	Not Funded	RS
West Chicago	132	Funded FY83, FY85	CR
West Dundee	125	Funded FY84	RS
Wheaton (sewer system partial)	144	Funded FY83	CR
Wood Dale (North and partial sewer system)	129	Funded FY84	RS
Woodstock (South Area)	815	Not Funded	RS

SKOKIE LAGOONS LAKE RESTORATION NEARS REALITY

The Skokie Lagoons are located in northeastern Cook County and are owned by the Cook County Forest Preserve District. The lagoons and surrounding forest preserve land of the William N. Erickson Preserve are used for fishing, bicycling, picnicking, hiking, wildlife observation, boating, sailing, horseback riding, wildlife habitat, and flood water storage. A study completed during 1983 by NIPC staff identified nuisance algae blooms, frequent fishkills, a degraded fishery, high water levels, turbidity, and sedimentation as serious water quality and use impairment problems for the lagoons. Various pollution control and lake restoration alternatives have been examined. A restoration plan has been developed whose major elements include diversion of municipal wastewater effluent, sediment removal, fisheries management, and algal nutrient control.

The costs of the proposed in-lake restoration plan total \$2,326,900. The Illinois EPA has applied for federal Clean Lakes Program funding for implementation of the in-lake restoration. The Forest Preserve District has agreed to provide the required 50 percent non-federal matching funds for in-lake restoration. The Illinois EPA and the North Shore Sanitary District are developing funding arrangements for diversion of the district's wastewater effluent. If federal funds are made available, the project would be completed over a five-year period. A decision on the funding request for the first year project tasks is expected from USEPA headquarters during the summer of 1984.



VOLUNTEER LAKES MONITORING PROGRAM SEEKS PUBLIC COOPERATION IN WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT

Citizens, the Illinois EPA, and NIPC are working together to determine the quality of Illinois lakes through the Volunteer Lakes Monitoring Program. This cooperative effort was initiated by the Illinois EPA in 1981 as a part of an overall self-help, service program being developed for the lakes. In addition to expanding the Agency's lakes data base with information on present water quality and trends, the program is designed to involve citizens in learning about a lake so they can make more informed decisions regarding its use, protection, and enhancement. The information gathered in this program is not intended to be used in any enforcement action by the Agency.

Citizens first adopt a lake they are concerned about. They are trained to measure water clarity (transparency) by noting the depth to which a Secchi disc is visible. A Secchi disc is an eight-inch diameter metal plate painted black and white in alternating quadrants. The volunteers also measure total depth and record field observations at three sites on their chosen lake. Readings taken twice a month from May through October are reported on special data forms. Secchi discs, data forms, and postage paid return envelopes are provided free of charge. Volunteers must have available a boat and an anchor in order to perform the sampling. Volunteers receive a report prepared by trained lake biologists which analyzes the results of their sampling, and suggests appropriate lake management strategies.

The Commission is coordinating the Volunteer Lakes Monitoring Program for the Illinois EPA in the northeastern Illinois region. Thirty-five lakes in the six counties of this area were consistently monitored during 1983. (See chart on next page) Over 65 lakes are already scheduled for monitoring in 1984. For information on how to participate, contact Robert Kirschner in the Natural Resources Department of the Commission.

**NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS LAKES
PARTICIPATING IN THE 1983 VOLUNTEER
LAKE MONITORING PROGRAM**

COOK COUNTY

Maple Lake
Lake Oakton
Park Lake
Wolf Lake

LAKE COUNTY

Acorn Lake
Briarwood Lake
Brown's Lake
Hidden Valley Lake
Loon Lake East
Loon Lake West
Meadowlake
Lake Miltmore
Pistakee Lake
Reed Pond
Stocum Lake
Sylvan Lake
Timberlake
Wooster Lake
Lake Zurich

DUPAGE COUNTY

Arbor Lake
Briarwood Lake
Bruce Lake
Marmo Lake
Meadow Lake
Sterling Pond

KANE COUNTY

None

MC HENRY COUNTY

Crystal Lake
Dunn's Lake
Emerald Lake
Griswold Lake
Hollows Lake
Lake in the Hills #1
Lake in the Hills #2
Silver Lake
Wonder Lake

WILL COUNTY

Strip Mine Area #4

**ILLINOIS WATER QUALITY
STANDARDS REVIEW CONTINUES**

The IEPA effort to review and revise instream water quality standards continues to progress. This work is particularly important since section 24 of the 1981 Pollution Control Act Amendment states that no construction grants can be given to a state which has not completed review and revision of water quality standards by October 1, 1984. The IEPA will be requesting public comments on the statewide standards review process at a June 20, 1984 public hearing in Springfield on the agency's annual Program Plan. Written comments will be accepted up to July 20, 1984.

Public hearings were held on the Sangamon River standards in Springfield and Decatur in January of 1984. An economic impact study must still be completed before the Illinois Pollution Control Board (IPCB) will send the case to second notice and another round of hearings. After second notice, any revisions to the proposal will be made and a final notice will be given and legislative review will occur, ultimately leading to IPCB final action.

Testimony at the hearings on the Sangamon proposal dealt with the ability of aquatic life to tolerate higher ammonia concentrations than previously thought possible and on the need for the instream water quality standards to be clearly tied to well defined and published designated stream uses.

The IEPA is currently chairing a committee of state agencies to examine activities for which segments of the Sangamon River are now or could be

used. This committee called the Stream and Lakes Use Management Group, will also map conflicts between uses and discuss means for managing these conflicts. The stream use information will become part of the Illinois Water Quality Management Plan after its public review through IEPA's Annual Program Plan. Input from the water quality standards process was used to develop the mapping of uses.

The Fox River standards review is expected to be the next proposal sent to the IPCB. Data collection has also been completed for standards review for the DuPage and DesPlaines Rivers and Salt Creek.



**NONPOINT SOURCE
LEGISLATION IN DOUBT**

Legislation to address nonpoint source pollution as part of the Clean Water Act Amendments (Senate Bill 431) is in doubt. It appears that there may be a move to drop this legislation from the proposed amendments to avoid prolonged delay of the rest of the clean water package due to discussion of this complicated and controversial issue.

The USEPA has concluded in a January, 1984 report to Congress entitled "Nonpoint Source Pollution in the U.S." that the central role in nonpoint pollution management strategies should be the state's responsibility. USEPA recommends voluntary management practices to address specific problems. Where voluntary efforts are unsuccessful, states should consider cost-sharing, incentive, and/or regulatory programs. The recommended source of funds for state involvement should be the existing sections 205, 106 and 314 of the Clean Water Act.

Nonpoint source pollution is a significant problem nationally with every state listing it as an important cause of some kind of water quality impairment. In northeastern Illinois, nonpoint source pollution particularly from urban areas has been a significant cause of impairments to stream and lake uses. Sampling conducted during the 208 program suggested that stormwater runoff from the urbanized areas of northeastern Illinois contributes significant quantities of organics, nutrients and metals in addition to chloride and fecal coliform to the region's streams. Modeling results suggested that urban stormwater contributes to violations of dissolved oxygen water quality standards in watersheds throughout the region.

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4, Legislation in Doubt)

Apart from urban stormwater, runoff from other land uses such as agriculture, pasture, and forests, was demonstrated to contain significant quantities of nutrients, organics and in some cases herbicides and pesticides, causing standards violations.

COURT DECISION RAISES SERIOUS FACILITY PLANNING ISSUES

Early in 1984, a federal district court jury returned a verdict in favor of William Alter and Unity Ventures and against Lake County, the Village of Grayslake, and several officials of those jurisdictions. (Unity Ventures, et al. v. County of Lake et al.) The jury found the defendants guilty of violating federal civil rights laws and anti-trust laws in denying Alter access to public sewer service. Because the county and village were found guilty on the anti-trust charge, the damages automatically were trebled to a total of \$28.5 million.

The complex case revolved around a "sphere of influence" agreement between the Lake County Department of Public Works and the Village of Grayslake under which financing was arranged for an interceptor sewer extending from Grayslake to a treatment facility operated by the North Shore Sanitary District in Gurnee. Access to the sewer from properties outside Grayslake but within its "sphere of influence" area, could only be obtained with the approval of the village. The dispute arose when an adjoining village, Round Lake Park, annexed into the area and approved zoning for development of the property. The property owner alleges that he was denied access to the sewer, since the Grayslake Village President had said that provision of capacity for the Alter development would have to await determination that adequate capacity was available for developments already proposed in Grayslake.

Some of the arguments that arose in the case could create significant legal precedent. The means by which an interceptor can be jointly financed and its capacity allocated may be limited by the decision. Likewise, the practice of preparing intergovernmental agreements affecting land development policy may be constrained. The plaintiffs argued that public actions treating certain land differently than other land represents interference with free competition and an unlawful restraint of trade. Finally, the awarding of triple damages against public officials carrying out public business may have a "chilling effect" on anyone planning and managing wastewater systems.

The Commission and three other organizations have filed an *amicus* brief in the case and steps are underway for an appeal of the decision.

FEDERAL APPEALS COURT REVERSES ILLINOIS RESTRICTIONS ON WISCONSIN AND INDIANA DISCHARGES TO LAKE MICHIGAN

On March 27, 1984 the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals reversed lower court decisions ordering Milwaukee and Hammond to perform costly treatment of their sewage discharges to Lake Michigan. The earlier lower court decisions had stated that Illinois had a right to file civil suits against neighboring states whose sewage discharges adversely impacted Illinois' portion of Lake Michigan. The appeals court decision states that federal law in the form of PL 92-500, the Clean Water Act, preempts states rights to civil action for damages resulting from pollution to Lake Michigan. The water quality standards set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for Lake Michigan are now the yardstick by which pollution to the lake will be measured.

(Continued on page 6)



(Continued from page 5, Discharges to Lake Michigan)

At the time of the original lawsuits in 1972, both Milwaukee and Hammond were frequently discharging untreated sewage to Lake Michigan. These effluents often found their way into Illinois waters impairing Illinois' ability to use Lake Michigan for recreation and water supply. The earlier court decisions in favor of Illinois resulted in Milwaukee and Hammond investing millions of dollars to build new treatment works.

Thus, from a practical standpoint, Illinois has achieved its goal of reducing pollutant discharges to the lake from Wisconsin and Indiana, despite the recent appeals court ruling. The question of whether the recent ruling allows Milwaukee and Hammond to not operate portions of their new treatment works rests with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.



CONTINUED RESEARCH AND REVIEW ACTIVITIES

State Water Quality Plan Certified by IEPA

In May of 1983, the IEPA certified its Illinois Water Quality Management Plan incorporating aspects of the three regional "208" Plans and removing the certification previously granted them. On May 22, 1984, USEPA unconditionally approved the State Plan. USEPA termed the consolidated plan a model for other states and noted that it is the first plan approved without conditions in the nation. The Commission assisted in the preparation of the State Plan as discussed in last year's Annual Water Quality Report. During the past year the Commission, through its Areawide Water Quality Steering Committee, provided comments to the IEPA which led to several revisions in the State Plan. The principal changes which were made were the insertion of language giving status to the Commission's Areawide Water Quality Management Plan as a reference document for water quality planning; revision of a policy to place emphasis on the opinion of the lead agent in a facilities planning

area on proposed amendments dealing with that jurisdiction; language urging stronger coordination between planning and zoning jurisdictions and the lead agent in a facilities planning area to ensure that land use decisions will not impair water quality; and finally a new policy stating that facilities plan and permit reviews will take cognizance of the Governor's Executive Order No. 4, the Illinois Farmland Protection Act, and the United States Farmland Protection Policy Act to preserve prime agricultural lands.

NIPC will continue to act to advise IEPA of the consistency of facilities plans and permit requests with the State Plan within northeastern Illinois. Planning and research activities relating to implementation of the State Plan will also be undertaken by the Commission.

Lake Michigan Urban Stormwater Runoff Study

Because of a special concern about the maintenance and improvement of Lake Michigan water quality, the Commission's plan recommendation for cleanup of urban stormwater runoff to Lake Michigan was twice as stringent as for runoff in other parts of the region. In 1983 Lake County successfully petitioned the Commission to relax this more stringent requirement on the grounds that urban stormwater discharges were having no demonstrable impact on the beneficial uses of Lake Michigan. As part of the amendment to the original recommendation, it was recommended that existing urban stormwater discharge points and BOD₅ loads to Lake Michigan from Lake County be mapped and quantified. In addition, NIPC was charged with assessing the results of the Nationwide Urban Runoff Project, identifying Lake Michigan specific water quality problems related to nonpoint source pollution and setting objectives for their elimination.

During the last year, NIPC completed a report entitled "An Evaluation of Urban Stormwater Pollutant Loads to Lake Michigan from Lake County, Illinois" to address these recommendations. The report identified 181 distinct urban stormwater discharge points to Lake Michigan and estimated an annual BOD₅ load to the lake of 250 tons from urban stormwater. The report concluded that based on available literature, nearshore Lake Michigan waters have improved dramatically since the elimination of point source discharges from Illinois to the lake. It also noted that no discernible impacts were apparent on the lake as a result of urban stormwater discharges. Finally, the report inventoried the status of urban stormwater control programs in Lake County and the communities in the Lake County Lake Michigan watershed and found that 25 percent of the communities still needed to implement stormwater detention ordinances, 75 percent still needed to implement soil erosion and sediment control ordinances and 50 percent had not implemented site design standards to reduce urban runoff.

NURP Study Completion

The final report for NIPC's Nationwide Urban Runoff Project (NURP) "*An Evaluation of the Water Quality Effects of Detention Storage and Source Control*" was produced during the last year. The objectives of the NURP study were to define the sources of urban stormwater pollutants in an urban watershed, to quantify the effectiveness of source control and wet bottom detention storage detention ponds for pollution control.

Based on the results of this study, it appears that there is little possibility of controlling additional urban stormwater pollutants at their source beyond a sound basic housekeeping program which would include erosion control, litter pickup and careful use of fertilizers and herbicides. While street sweeping and catch basin cleaning appeared relatively ineffective in reducing stormwater pollution, wet bottom detention ponds seemed capable of retaining up to 90% of those pollutants that settle out. The design of the detention facilities is important to their effectiveness, with large multiple-use ponds being more effective than smaller on-site facilities.

The NURP study results will be used by NIPC to provide technical assistance to management agencies throughout the region seeking to improve the water quality performance of detention ponds built in their jurisdiction. Further research is needed to quantify the advantages of large-scale regional detention storage over small on-site systems. A copy of the final NURP report is available at cost from NIPC.

Amendments/Projects Reviewed by the Commission

During the last year, the AWQSC reviewed a total of 134 requests for consistency of NPDES permits and facilities plans with the IWQMP. Twenty of these projects, listed on the opposite page, constituted amendments to the IWQMP.

UNRESOLVED ISSUES IN WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT

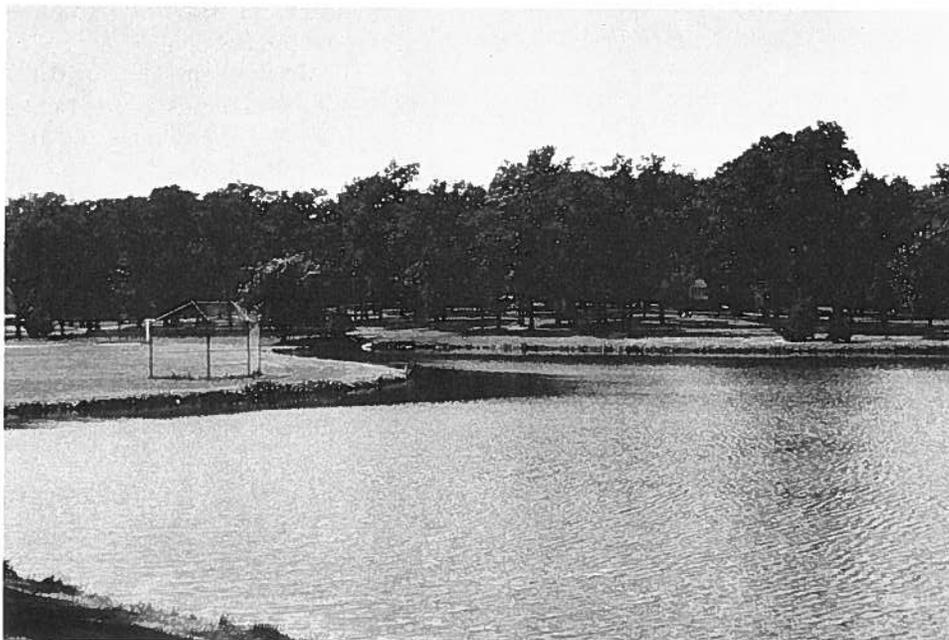
Three major issues continued to remain at the forefront of water quality management planning in northeastern Illinois during the last year. These issues are the review and revision of water quality standards, the relevance of the Areawide Water Quality Management Plan and its ultimate disposition and the need to accommodate land use and population growth factors in the water quality planning process.

Standards

As indicated in an earlier article, the IEPA has presented its proposal for revised water quality standards on the Sangamon River to the Illinois Pollution Control Board.

To date IEPA has strictly separated the concept of existing and potential stream uses from the technical standards setting process. Although existing and potential stream uses were discussed and considered during the development of the Sangamon River standards proposal they were not publicized or made part of the package before the IPCB. The IEPA is pursuing the concept of codifying stream uses through the Stream and Lakes Use Management Group (SLUMG) of the Illinois State Water Plan. This work group, composed of all state agencies having responsibility for water resources in Illinois, has carefully determined and recorded existing stream uses for the Sangamon River. NIPC has participated in these discussions as a member of the SLUMG.

The result of this group's work for the Sangamon basin is presented in IEPA's preliminary Program Plan for fiscal year 1985. Comments on this work will be accepted by IEPA up to July 20, 1984. It is important that this work be reviewed and understood since it will form the basis for similar examinations of river basins in northeastern Illinois.



Areawide Water Quality Plan Disposition

With the certification of the Illinois Water Quality Management Plan, the Areawide Water Quality Steering Committee has begun consideration of what to do with the Commission's Areawide Plan. These issues were considered most important by the Steering Committee: the future use and status of the basin plan chapters, the role of the management chapter of the Plan and the relationship of the State Plan to the Commission's officially adopted Plan.

The Steering Committee decided first to study the possibility of updating the basin chapters and using them as a technical reference for the review of state plan amendment proposals. A work item was suggested to IEPA for updating the Fox River Basin chapter but was felt by IEPA to be unnecessary.

The revision of the management chapter of the Areawide Plan was considered the second most important task to be undertaken. The management chapter would be updated to reflect the practices that have evolved at the Commission and elsewhere within the region over the past five years. The updated chapter might then be adopted as a freestanding Commission plan. To date no action has been taken on this project.

Finally, the Steering Committee suggested examining options for formally incorporating the State Plan into the Commission's adopted plans and policies. No action has been taken on this task.

Land Use and Water Quality Planning Relationships

During the last year diverse events such as the certification of the IWQMP and the decision in the Alter federal lawsuit have called into question what role land use planning has in assuring sound water quality planning. With the certification of the IWQMP, land use planning issues are somewhat diminished as an official criterion for wastewater facility decisions. The Alter decision calls into question cooperative village and county efforts to link land use planning and land use plans to assure orderly growth within their jurisdiction.

The AWQSC has suggested the possible formation of a special sub-committee to deal with this issue.

EDITORIAL

More of the financial burden for achieving fishable and swimmable streams has shifted from the federal treasury to local governments. The USEPA has reduced its participation in point source projects from 75 percent to 55 percent. In northeastern Illinois we have made progress in preventing the pollution of our healthy streams and in improving the chemical quality and physical appearance of our polluted streams. But, despite the expenditure of millions of dollars, we still do not have what the general public would consider "fishable" streams in much of our region. We still have chemical constraints such as chlorine residual and physical constraints such as disturbed habitat which inhibit the development of viable fisheries.

So how do we finish the job of restoring the beneficial uses of our streams faced with the increasing withdrawal of federal involvement from the fight? In northeastern Illinois the cost is in the neighborhood of \$600 million just for the local expense of new construction. The cost of operating these facilities once they are built must still be added to this figure. The debt load must compete for money directly with education and other forms of infrastructure, placing additional burdens on our ability to fund these critical priorities.

Perhaps now is the time to ask what return we can expect to get for each dollar we are investing in water quality. At the risk of sounding trite, perhaps the time has come to ask, "Where's the fish?" or more precisely "Where is the best place to invest in restoring fish?" What is needed are priorities for where we intend to focus our limited water quality dollars based on the return we can expect on our investment. The Skokie Lagoons restoration project with its promise of expanded recreational opportunities for a population of over 700,000 at a benefit to cost ratio of 33 to 1 is an example of the manner in which we should seek to spend our scarce resources.

If we concentrate our dollars on the projects that will produce the most tangible results, we may find that we still achieve the goals we originally set out to accomplish.

Virginia M. Hayter



**AREAWIDE WATER QUALITY STEERING COMMITTEE (AWQSC) REVIEW ACTIONS
DURING THE PRECEDING YEAR**

Amendment Application	NIPC Review No.	Date of AWQSC Consideration	Amendment Description	AWQSC Recommendation
Village of Homewood	82-WQ-122	1-26-83	Phase out of the Homewood wastewater treatment plant to Thorn Creek Basin S.D. instead of Metropolitan Sanitary District of Greater Chicago (MSDGC)	Approval
Lockport Heights S.D.	83-WQ-005	3-23-83	Delineation of separate service area and expansion of treatment plant from 0.78 mgd to 0.178 mgd	Approval
Bonnie Brae-Forest Manor S.D.	83-WQ-006	3-23-83	Delineation of separate service area and expansion of treatment plant from 0.19 mgd to 0.33 mgd	Approval
City of Lockport	83-WQ-007	3-23-83	Delineation of separate service area and expansion of treatment plant from 1.70 mgd to 2.38 mgd	Approval
Village of Wauconda	83-WQ-010	5-25-83	Expansion of Wauconda treatment plant from 0.8 mgd to a year 2000 capacity of 1.4 mgd	Approval
DuPage County Dept. of Public Works (DCDPW) Marionbrook	83-WQ-012	7-27-83	Re-rating of existing DCDPW Marionbrook treatment plant from 5.3 mgd to 1.3 mgd and construction of a new 7.0 mgd DCDPW Knollwood treatment plant for a total year 2000 Facilities Planning Area (FPA) capacity of 8.3 mgd	Approval
City of Wood Dale	83-WQ-040	8-24-83	Revised year 2000 design capacities for the Wood Dale North (1.7 mgd to 1.97 mgd) and the Wood Dale South (1.5 mgd to 1.13 mgd) treatment plants	Approval
Knollwood Club	83-WQ-041	7-27-83	New NPDES permit for a treatment plant for the Knollwood Country Club in the North Shore Sanitary District (NSSD) FPA	Denial ¹
Village of Itasca	83-WQ-043	8-24-83	Expansion of Itasca treatment plant from 2.58 mgd to a year 2000 capacity of 4.0 mgd	Approval
City of Wood Dale	83-WQ-051	8-24-83	NPDES permit reissuance for a 1.13 mgd Wood Dale South treatment plant	Approval
Holiday Park Corporation	83-WQ-059	2-1-84	Request for a new private point source in the Gilbert's FPA to serve a proposed mobile home park	Denial ²
Sanitary District of Elgin (SDE)	83-WQ-060	9-28-83	Phase out of the 0.72 mgd West Dundee treatment plant to the SDE North plant which would be expanded from 2.4 mgd to a year 2000 capacity of 6.72 mgd	Approval
DCDPW Woodridge (Region IX-West)	83-WQ-080	1-4-84	Expansion of the Woodridge treatment facilities from 10.50 mgd to 12.50 mgd year 2000 FPA capacity	Approval
Northwest Suburban Mass Transit District	83-WQ-082	1-4-84	NPDES permit for a new point source for a stormwater discharge to Poplar Creek	Approval
Allied Tube and Conduit	83-WQ-100	1-4-84	NPDES permit for a new point source for cooling and stormwater to the Calumet-Union Ditch	Approval
Oberweis Dairy	83-WQ-101	1-4-84	NPDES permit for a new point source for cooling water discharge to the Fox River	Approval
Lemont Manufacturing (Ceco Corporation)	83-WQ-106	1-4-84	NPDES permit for a new point source for sanitary flows to the Sanitary and Ship Canal	Approval
Aurora Sanitary District	84-WQ-001	2-1-84	Addendum to facilities plan calling for expansion of plant from 32.0 mgd to year 2000 42.0 mgd capacity and rehabilitation and modification of sewer system to reduced combined sewer overflows	Approval
Village of Villa Park	84-WQ-002	3-7-84	Improvements to Villa Park's sewer system and construction of a combined sewer overflow treatment facility	Approval
Metropolitan Sanitary District of Greater Chicago	84-WQ-008	3-7-84	Request for comments on proposed service agreement with Roselle for parts of the Village of Roselle in DuPage County.	Favorable Comments sent

¹The NSSD has service available relatively close to the Knollwood Club and as lead agent for the FPA has encouraged connection.

²Although a denial was recommended, the AWQSC found that they could support the project if the NPDES permit were issued to Gilberts and if the final Gilberts facilities plan agreed that the proposed facility was the best alternative. A 120 day time limit for consideration of sub-regionalization plans was also made part of the decision.

FY 85 WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT WORK PROGRAM

Funded Work Items

- NIPC will continue to review facility plans and NPDES permit requests for consistency with the IWQMP. (Federal 205j funds through IEPA)
- NIPC will act to mediate conflicts between designated management agencies or private parties requesting amendment of the IWQMP. The vehicle for mediation will be the county water quality coordinating committees where they exist or the AWQSC. (205j)
- NIPC will assume the Volunteer Lakes Monitoring Program from the IEPA. This program relies on resident volunteers who sample lake quality on a semi-monthly basis. NIPC will solicit volunteers, train them, store their data, and produce an annual report for each lake monitored. (205j)
- To provide background data for the standards review process, NIPC will be locating actual discharge points for permitted dischargers in nine northeastern Illinois counties. (205j)
- NIPC will be participating in monthly meetings of the Stream and Lakes Use Management Group to review existing and recommend potential use designations for streams and lakes in Illinois. (205j)
- NIPC will be reviewing federal, state and local stormwater detention ordinances versus local and national NURP findings to determine whether water quality benefits are being obtained under current on-site detention policy. NIPC will recommend improvements which could be made in existing policy to secure additional water quality benefits and will speculate on possible governmental, legal and financial impacts of implementing these improvements. (205j)
- Through a grant from the Chicago Community Trust, NIPC will be coordinating solid waste planning in northeastern Illinois. Included in this work will be the disposal of municipal sludges generated by wastewater treatment plants.
- NIPC will be responsible for preparation of the next annual water quality report. (205j)

Possible Future Work Items

- An examination of the advantages of regional versus on-site detention facilities is proposed. It is thought that regional facilities have economic, aesthetic, legal and environmental advantages over on-site facilities. This project would quantify those advantages. (205j)
- As part of phase two of the Skokie Lagoons restoration project, NIPC would assist in the design of restoration measures for the lagoons.
- Continued Lake Michigan water supply diversion accounting.

- Nonpoint source control technical assistance.
- Assistance to implementing agencies in the Fox River basin to respond to stream standards review.
- Nationwide Urban Runoff Project seminar on detention basin design for water quality benefits.

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE FROM NIPC

WATER QUALITY STAFF PAPERS

An Evaluation of the Water Quality Effect of Detention Storage and Source Control. Nationwide Urban Runoff Program (NURP). May 1983. \$10.00.

Proposed Revisions to the Water Quality Standards for the DuPage River. May 1983. \$6.50.

A Program for Controlling Agricultural Soil Erosion and Improving Water Quality in the Woods Creek Watershed, McHenry and Kane Counties, Illinois. December 1982.

No. 3 Introduction to Water Quality Modeling, 1976, 22 pages

No. 7 Biological Survey of the Des Plaines River, 1976, 17 pages

No. 9 Biological and Chemical Water Pollutants of Local Concern, 1976, 40 pages

No. 10 IEPA Water Quality Sampling Stations in Northeastern Illinois, 1976, 11 pages

No. 11 Lake Michigan Water Quality Trends and Monitoring in Illinois Waters, 1976, 70 pages

No. 12 Groundwater Quality, 1976, 35 pages

No. 13 Biological Survey of the DuPage River, 1977, 13 pages

No. 15 Selected IEPA Water Quality Data 1971-1975, 1977, 41 pages

No. 19 Water Quality Standards of Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin, 1977, 25 pages

No. 20 Wastewater Treatment Processes and Cost Estimating Data, 1977, 206 pages, \$5.00

No. 26 Preventive and Corrective Measures for Controlling Agricultural Pollution, 1977, 116 pages, \$5.00

No. 30 Regional Sludge Management Report, 1978, 186 pages, \$6.50

No. 31 The Watersheds of Northeastern Illinois. Quality of the Aquatic Environment Based Upon Water Quality and Fishery Data, 1978, 250 pages, \$6.50

No. 32 On-Site Wastewater Disposal Systems, 1978, 54 pages

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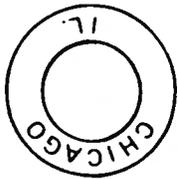
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NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS PLANNING COMMISSION
 400 West Madison Street ● Chicago, Illinois 60606

ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT for 1983

northeastern illinois planning commission
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