

Submitting NPDES Comments in Illinois

For IEPA to consider your comments before finalizing the permit, you *must* do the following:

1. Submit your comments prior to the close of the comment period (typically 30 days). IEPA must *receive* the comments by this date. You may send comments by FAX (217-782-9891) if time is short, but a signed copy must also be sent by mail to:

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Division of Water Pollution Control
Permit Section
P. O. Box 19276
Springfield, IL 62794-9276

2. Send a copy of the comment letter to the discharger. The address is shown on the notice and on the permit.
3. Include your name and address on the letter.
4. Include the NPDES permit number and notice number on each page of the comment letter.
5. If you would like to request a public hearing, you should do so in your comment letter.

We also recommend that you do the following:

1. Because US EPA is the agency that ultimately is responsible for seeing that the Clean Water Act is properly implemented by the state, you should make them aware of concerns you have regarding Illinois' permits. Therefore, we suggest you also send a copy to US EPA at:

US EPA, Region 5
Water Division
NPDES Programs Branch
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60604-3590

2. We also ask that you let Prairie Rivers Network and/or Illinois Chapter of the Sierra Club know about your concerns with any permit. If you contact us early we will offer our assistance in reviewing and developing comments. As we see repeat occurrences of similar objectionable practices, we will seek changes to the statewide policies that allow them. You can reach us or send copies of comments to us by email or by mail at:

Prairie Rivers Network
1902 Fox Drive, Suite G
Champaign, IL 61820
tbarkley@prairierivers.org

Sierra Club, Illinois Chapter
70 E. Lake Street, Suite 1500
Chicago, IL 60601
cindy.skrukrud@sierraclub.org

3. Finally, be sure to send copies of your letter to your local elected officials to keep them informed of your concerns and your interest in protecting your local rivers.