NOTICE

of

Impaired Waters of Illinois Draft 2024 Integrated Water Quality Report and **Public Comment Period**

Public Notice Beginning Date: Final Date for Agency to Receive Comments: June 17, 2024 July 16, 2024

The purpose of this public notice is to provide an opportunity for the public to comment on the Draft 2024 Integrated Water Quality Report. The Illinois EPA is required under Sections 303(d), 305(b) and 314 of the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA) to assess waters of the State and evaluate compliance with applicable water quality standards and designated uses. Waters that are assessed as not achieving those standards are identified in the Integrated Water Quality Report.

Waters identified in the Integrated Water Quality Report in accordance with CWA Section 303(d) are deemed impaired for specific chemical constituents and consequently additional loadings (i.e., discharges) of those constituents may be restricted. In addition to possible restrictions on future loadings to these listed waterbodies, waters identified in accordance with CWA Section 303(d) are subject to the development of Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs). TMDLs in Illinois may take the form of a watershed study in which the chemical constituent causing impairment to that waterbody is evaluated. A TMDL is the sum of the allowable amount of a single pollutant that a waterbody can receive from all contributing sources and still meet water quality standards and designated uses.

The Draft 2024 Integrated Water Quality Report can be reviewed at Illinois EPA's website: <u>https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/water-quality/watershed-management/tmdls/Pages/303d-list.aspx</u>

Questions about the Draft 2024 Integrated Water Quality Report should be directed to:

- For CWA Section 303(d) List and Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Program contact: Chris Davis at (217)782-3362 or by email, <u>Christine.Davis@Illinois.gov</u>, or contact Abel Haile at (217)782-3362 or by email, <u>Abel.Haile@Illinois.gov</u>.
- For CWA Section 305(b) Program contact: Nicole Vidales at (217)782-3362 or by email, <u>Nicole.Vidales@Illinois.gov</u>
- For Streams and Inland Lakes contact Felix Gao at (217)782-3362 or by email, <u>Felix.Gao@Illinois.gov</u>
- For Lake Michigan contact: Kevin Zidonis at (847)294-4000 or by email, Kevin.Zidonis@Illinois.gov.

Written comments about the Draft 2024 Integrated Water Quality Report should be directed to Christine Davis, Manager, Watershed Management Section, Bureau of Water (see contact information below). CDs, DVDs, and other portable electronic storage devices will not be accepted unless prior written approval for submittal has been given by the Agency.

If written comments indicate a significant degree of public interest in the draft Integrated Water Quality Report, the Agency may, at its discretion, hold a public hearing. Public notice will be given 30 days before any public hearing.

Closure of the Meeting Record

The public notice comment period will close on July 16, 2024. Written comments need not be notarized but must be **postmarked in sufficient time to physically arrive at Illinois EPA in Springfield no later than July 16, 2024.** E-mail comments should be sent to epa.publichearingcom@illinois.gov and should have "<u>Integrated Report</u>" in the subject line of the e-mail. E-mail comments must be received no later than July 16, 2024. Comments can be mailed to:

Christine Davis, Manager Watershed Management Section, Bureau of Water Illinois EPA PO Box 19276 Springfield, IL 62794-9276 Phone 217-782-3362 Email: <u>epa.publichearingcom@illinois.gov</u>

TDD (Hearing impaired) 866-273-5488 Email: <u>epa.publichearingcom@illinois.gov</u> Fax: 217-785-8346