



# ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR

ALEC MESSINA, DIRECTOR

NOV 28 2018

Mr. Josh Ellis – Vice President  
Metropolitan Planning Council  
140 South Dearborn Street – Suite 1400  
Chicago, Illinois 60603

Re: Watershed-based or Alternative Plan Approval  
*Lower Des Plaines River Watershed-based Plan*

Dear Mr. Ellis:

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) has reviewed the *Lower Des Plaines River Watershed-based Plan* for consistency with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) watershed-based plan guidance found in Appendix C of the Nonpoint Source Program and Grants Guidelines for States and Territories dated April 12, 2013.

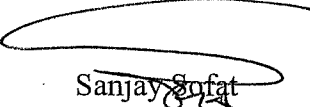
Accomplishing the goals of the recently updated Illinois' Nonpoint Source Management Program (September 2013) will rely on the success of stakeholder driven, well-developed watershed-based plans. The Illinois EPA is committed to ensuring that Section 319(h) of the Clean Water Act (CWA) funded restoration and protection projects are guided by approved watershed-based plans, or alternative plans that adequately addresses EPA's minimum elements for watershed-based plan development.

The Illinois EPA recommends that watershed-based plans should be reviewed ten years after the plans development to assess if any revisions should be considered. Illinois EPA's Section 319(h) of the CWA funding resources may be available to update these plans if revisions are needed.

After the reviewing the submitted *Lower Des Plaines River Watershed-based Plan*, Illinois EPA has determined that it contains EPA's required minimum elements for a watershed-based plan and is approved as submitted.

Congratulations, we look forward to working with *Lower Des Plaines River Watershed-based Plan* stakeholders during the implementation of your approved watershed-based plan. If you should have any questions relating to this review, feel free to contact Scott Tomkins at (217) 782-3362.

Sincerely,

  
Sanjay Sofat  
Chief  
Bureau of Water

SS:SAT. Watershed-based Plan Approval – 3191604 – Lower Des Plaines WBP

cc: Janetta Marsh, USEPA Region 5 (WQW-16J)  
Danielle Gallet, Metropolitan Planning Council ✓  
Bob Newport, Metropolitan Planning Council