



# Chicago Area Waterway System (CAWS) Chloride Reduction Initiative

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# Agenda

- Introduction
- Presentation of chloride issue
- Purpose of CAWS chloride reduction initiative
- Role of stakeholders



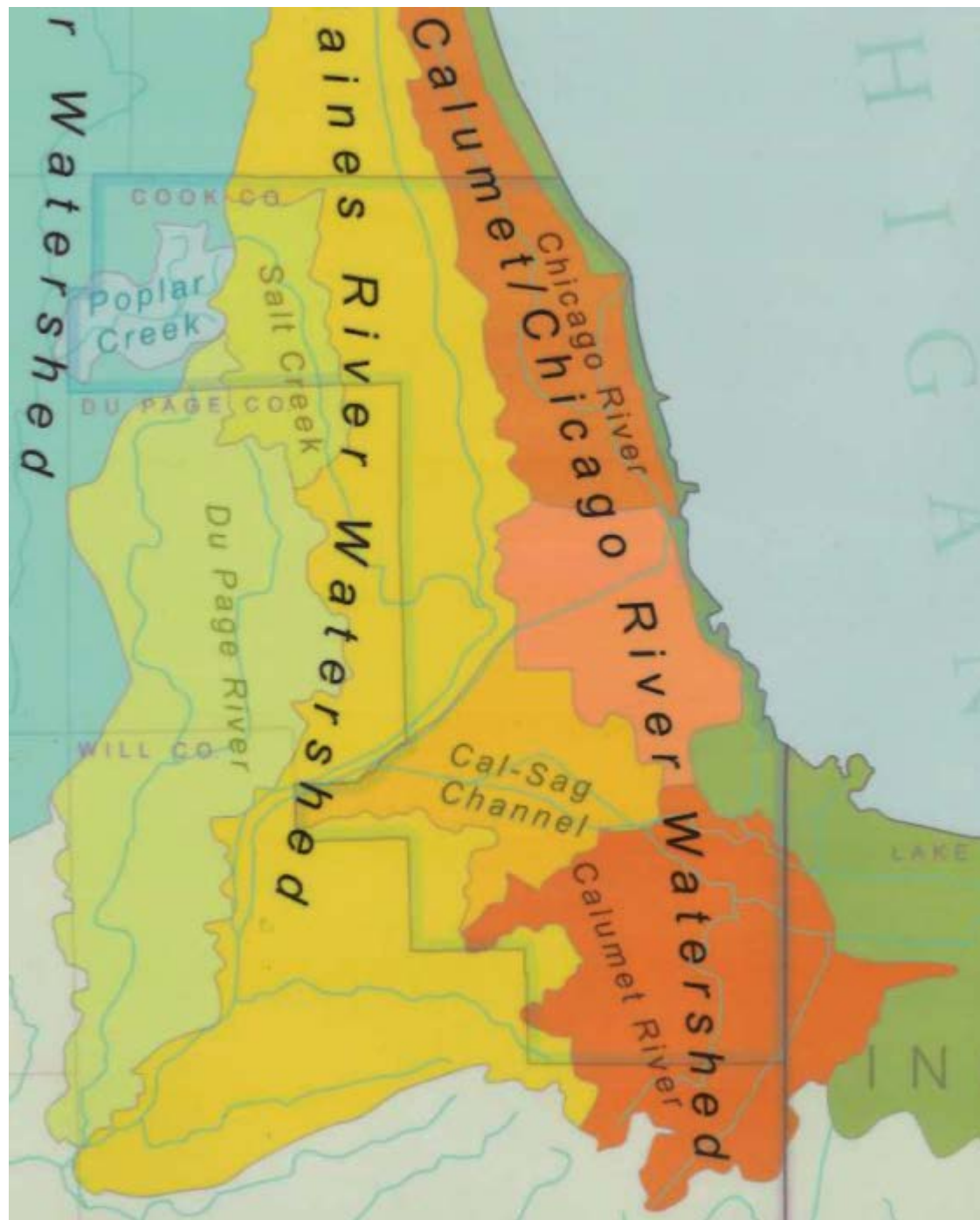
# Rulemaking Overview

- The IPCB adopted a year round single value of 500 mg/l chloride water quality standard for the Upper Dresden Island Pool, Aquatic Life Use A waters and Aquatic Life Use B waters.
  - 302.407 (g) (2) – effective July 1, 2015 until July 1, 2018
    - May 1st – November 30<sup>th</sup>
      - Chloride =500 mg/l
    - December 1st – April 30<sup>th</sup>
      - Total Dissolved Solids = 1,500 mg/l
  - 302.407 (g) (3) – effective July 1, 2018
    - Chloride = 500 mg/l

# Chicago Area Waterway System (CAWS)

## Watersheds:

- Chicago River
- Calumet River
- Cal-Sag Channel





# Chloride Issue

- A work group, with different subcommittees was formed, including a committee whose task it is to develop a list of best management practices (BMPs) to reduce chlorides discharged to the CAWS.
- The work group is currently working to develop a variance petition (waterbody specific) to be presented to the IPCB.
- A variance from the standard would allow time for the BMPs to be developed and implemented and to monitor improvements.





# Stakeholders and Their Role

- Municipalities, Industry, State Agencies, Cook County, City of Chicago, Non-Governmental Organizations, and the MWRDGC
- Develop BMPs for salt use reduction.
  - Implement BMPs to use salt efficiently for de-icing.
  - Document salt use reduction.
- Participate in the variance petition process.
  - Provide salt use information requested by the work group.



# Work Group

- Voluntary participation
- Participants are expected to:
  - Practice existing BMPs to use salt efficiently for de-icing.
  - Share knowledge of BMPs best methods for salt use reduction.
  - Document salt use reduction and share data.



# Variance Petition Overview

## Currently

- There are currently sixteen (16) individual dischargers petitions pending and filed in front of the IPCB.
- Periodic status have been given from the Hearing Officer.
- IEPA has not responded to these individual petitions because...





# Variance Petition Overview

## Proposed

- Legislation (SB 1673) was recently approved by the House and the Senate. It was sent to the Governor's office on December 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016. He has 60 days to act on it.
- The name was changed to the Time-Limited Water Quality Standard.
- Allows Watershed Variances.
- Allows greater than a five-year timeframe.
- Follows the Federal Requirement.
- Expands the Stay provision.



# Variance Preparation

- Member information was requested for the preparation of the variance petition.
- Work Group members to provide information in support of the petition for variance.
- The Work Group is working on a Technical Report.
- Awaiting direction from the IEPA as to how the Time-Limited Water Quality Standard petition should be filed.



# Next Steps

- Compile survey information.
- Continue to work to complete the Technical Report in support of the variance petition.



# Q/A

## Thank you!

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