The Great Lakes Basin

Legend:
- Lake Erie Basin
- Lake Huron Basin
- Lake Michigan Basin
- Lake Ontario Basin
- Lake Superior Basin
- St. Lawrence River Basin

Council of Great Lakes Governors
Northeast Illinois Water Sources

Graphic credit: CMAP
## Current Status of Illinois' Diversion Oct-14

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*Estimated, based on final USGS discharge at Lemont Gage.
**Estimated, based on provisional USGS data.

3755 cfs represents almost 1 ¾ years worth of Illinois diversion!
Total Annual Lake Michigan Domestic Water Use

Water Use (in million gallons per day)

Water Year

What Does State Law Say About Conservation and Efficient Use?

Level of Lake Michigan Act

“The Department shall require that all feasible means reasonably available to the State and its municipalities, political subdivisions, agencies and instrumentalities shall be employed to conserve and manage the water resources of the region and the use of water therein in accordance with the best scientific knowledge and engineering practice.” (615 ILCS 50/5)
Original Proposed Rule Changes for Domestic Permittees

- Eliminate allowance for Maximum Unavoidable Leakage while keeping Unaccounted-for-flow standard at 8%
- Non-compliance requires submittal of a compliance plan w/timeframe
- Require sub-metering in new multi-family construction
- Update low-flow plumbing fixture specs to labeled Water Sense products
- Update lawn sprinkling ordinances to require time of day restriction, not on consecutive days
- Recommend that water rates reflect full cost pricing
Timeline

• IDNR announced proposed changes to Rules on February 19, 2013
• Three public comment meetings in May, 2013
• Public Comment Period Open for 100 days
• IDNR completed review of comments, September, 2013
• First Notice by JCAR, March 7, 2014
• Final Rules approved November 18, 2014
What Happened

- Received 52 written comments
- Approximately 170 attended our public meetings
- Most comments expressed opposition/concern with elimination of MUL, citing financial hardship to comply
- A number of comments suggested we consider AWWA M-36 methodology.
- Most opposed to requiring sub-metering
- Many even opposed our recommendation calling for full cost pricing
Our Response

• New rules will implement a water use audit system that is consistent with AWWA M-36
• Old Unaccounted-For-Flow Standard replaced with a Non-Revenue Water Standard (12% in 2015, decreasing to 10% by 2019). No MUL allowance
• Phase in for compliance
• Non-compliance will require water system improvement plan
• Sub-metering recommended, rather than required
Next Steps

• Rules became final on November 18, 2014
• 2015 Water Year will be the first year with a revised Water Use Audit Form LMO-2
• Will be notifying permittees of the need to update local ordinances/building codes to reflect updated rules on plumbing fixtures
• Working with IEPA and AWWA on training using the AWWA M-36 water audit methodology
• CMAP is preparing guidance document on preparing water system improvement plans
Questions, Comments, Further Information

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Further Information at:

http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/WaterResources/Pages/LakeMichiganWaterAllocation.aspx