NPDES Permit No. IL0077810
Notice No. MEL:25020601.docx

Public Notice Beginning Date: March 12, 2025

Public Notice Ending Date: April 11, 2025

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)
Permit Program

Draft Reissued NPDES Permit to Discharge into Waters of the State

Public Notice/Fact Sheet Issued By:

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Bureau of Water
Division of Water Pollution Control
Permit Section
2520 West Iles Avenue
Post Office Box 19276
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276
217/782-0610

Name and Address of Discharger:

300 North LaSalle, LLC
300 North LaSalle St., Suite 2075
Chicago, Illinois 60654

Name and Address of Facility:

300 North LaSalle, LLC
300 North LaSalle
Chicago, Illinois 60654
(Cook County)

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) has made a tentative determination to issue a NPDES permit to discharge into the waters of the state and has prepared a draft permit and associated fact sheet for the above named discharger. The Public Notice period will begin and end on the dates indicated in the heading of this Public Notice/Fact Sheet. The last day comments will be received will be on the Public Notice period ending date unless a commentor demonstrating the need for additional time requests an extension to this comment period and the request is granted by the IEPA. Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the draft permit to the IEPA at the above address. Commentors shall provide his or her name and address and the nature of the issues proposed to be raised and the evidence proposed to be presented with regards to those issues. Commentors may include a request for public hearing. Persons submitting comments and/or requests for public hearing shall also send a copy of such comments or requests to the permit applicant. The NPDES permit and notice number(s) must appear on each comment page.

The application, engineer's review notes including load limit calculations, Public Notice/Fact Sheet, draft permit, comments received, and other documents are available for inspection and may be copied at the IEPA between 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday when scheduled by the interested person.

If written comments or requests indicate a significant degree of public interest in the draft permit, the permitting authority may, at its discretion, hold a public hearing. Public notice will be given 45 days before any public hearing. Response to comments will be provided when the final permit is issued. For further information, please call Mark E. Liska at 217/782-0610.

The applicant is engaged in the operation of a 1.4 million square foot high rise building with 57 floors containing, office, conference, cafeteria, lobby, restaurant, and health club space. (SIC 6512). Wastewater is generated from operating an air conditioning system which utilizes once through non-contact cooling water. Plant operation results in a maximum discharge of 5.68 MGD of non-contact cooling water from outfall 001.

Application is made for the existing discharge which is located in Cook County, Illinois. The following information identifies the discharge point, receiving stream and stream classifications:

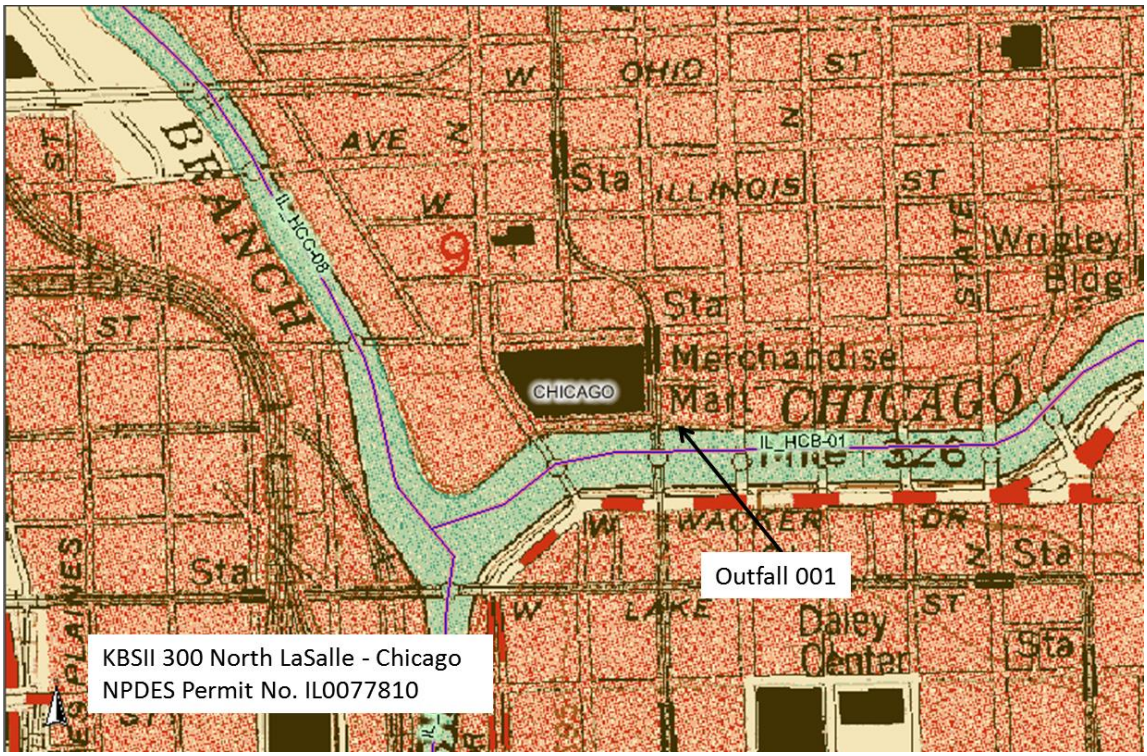
Outfall	Receiving Stream	Latitude	Longitude	Stream Classification	Integrity Rating
001	Chicago River	41° 53′ 19″ North	87° 37′ 58″ West	General Use	E

To assist you further in identifying the location of the discharge please see the attached map.

The stream segment HCB-01 receiving the discharge from outfall 001 is on the 2020/2022 303(d) list of impaired waters and is not a biologically significant stream on the 2008 Illinois Department of Natural Resources Publication – *Integrating Multiple Taxa in a Biological Stream Rating System*.

The following parameters have been identified as the pollutants causing impairment:

Impairment	Potential Cause
Aquatic Life	Changes in stream depth and velocity patterns, loss of instream cover, other flow regime alterations, and phosphorus, unknown cause
Fish Consumption	Mercury and Polychlorinated Biphenyls
Primary Contact Use	Fecal Coliform



The discharge(s) from the facility shall be monitored and limited at all times as follows:

	LOAD LIMITS lbs/day DAF (DMF)			CONCENTRATION LIMITS mg/L		
PARAMETER	30 DAY AVERAGE	DAILY MAXIMUM	REGULATION	30 DAY AVERAGE	DAILY MAXIMUM	REGULATION
Outfall 001:						
Flow (MGD)						35 IAC 309.146
Temperature						35 IAC 302.211
Total Residual Chlorine					0.05	35 IAC 302.208 & 40 CFR 125.3

The special conditions of this permit serve the purpose of clarifying discharge monitoring location, the submittal of discharge monitoring reports, intake structure monitoring and reporting requirements, and provide temperature limitations.

Cooling Water Intake Structure (CWIS) Description and Operation Discussion provided by the facility:

Source Waterbody Description

The CWIS is located takes water from the Main Channel of the Chicago River, with a Stream Classification of General Use. The CWIS is a once-through cooling system.

Cooling Water Intake Structure Data

The system in a non-contact once-through cooling system. The intake structure consists of a 5-foot by 7-foot box culvert penetrating the river wall that is 4 feet above the bottom elevation of the riverbed. The box culvert runs north approximately 28 feet to a concrete river water vault adjacent to the building foundation wall. The intake pipe enters the river water vault to a stilling chamber where the water is kept at the water level of the river. Sluice gates direct the water to one of two paths within the river vault.

The traveling screen is 8' x 12' with 68% free area and is constructed of 0.375" x 0.375" stainless steel mesh. An intake screen has a minimum of 68% or 96 square feet of free area. The Traveling screen has a debris wash down feature to continuously clean the screen panels. Once water passes through the screen, it is then pumped through a 48-inch ductile iron pipe to the suction side of the condenser water pumps of the building cooling system. The facility has three redundant 1,700-ton chillers and two 250-ton chillers. Operationally, the facility is designed so that one 1,700-ton chiller operates at a time, supplemented as needed when temperatures are greater than 75^0 F with an additional 1,700-ton chiller.

The maximum discharge from the facility has been limited to 5.68 MGD in order for the facility to withdraw less than 5% of the total stream flow on a daily basis in order to comply with regulations pursuant to 40 CFR 125.84 (c)(2).

Chosen Method of Compliance with Impingement Mortality Standard

To comply with the impingement standard, facilities are required to comply with one of the seven alternatives as outlined in 40 CFR 125.94(c). The facility has chosen option 2, 0.5 feet per second through-screen design velocity as the proposed option to meet the BTA Standards for Impingement Mortality. Flow through the screens at the maximum intake of 15,000 GPM gives a through-screen design velocity of 0.50 fps. Although the facility can intake as much as 15,000 GPM, the facility does not intake more than 5.68 MGD which, in a 14-hour pumping day, gives a through-screen velocity of less than 0.25 fps.

Agency Discussion:

40 CFR 122.21(r)(1)(ii) states that all existing facilities must submit for review the information required under paragraphs (r)(2) – (8). The permittee has fulfilled these requirements through the submittal of the document entitled 40 CFR 122.21(r)(2-8) NPDES Application Requirements for Facilities with Cooling Water Intake Structures, which is summarized above. The facility withdraws less than 125 MGD therefore they are not required to submit the information required by (r)(9) – (13).

Relevant species in the area are gizzard shad, common carp, largemouth bass, and bluegill. This intake location and flow alteration does not support high potential for reproduction or feeding. Juveniles may be susceptible to the intake operations, but the combination of 3/8-inch mesh screens and low intake velocity make this unlikely.

The Water Quality Standards section was tasked with reviewing the biological data submitted in fulfillment of the (r)(4) requirement, which specifies that a “Source water baseline biological characterization” be performed to characterize the biological community in the vicinity of the cooling water intake structure. The memo from the water quality standards section states that “based on the information provided with the NPDES permit renewal application, the Applicant has fully complied with the requirements of 40 CFR 122.21(r)(4).

300 N. LaSalle submitted, in accordance with Section 316(b) of the Clean Water Act, the required information under 40 CFR 122.21(r)(1)(ii). The Agency has determined that the operation their CWIS with a 0.5 feet per second through-screen design velocity meets the Best Technology Available (BTA) for impingement mortality, as defined under 40 CFR 125.94(c)(1). The Agency has also determined that this meets the Best Technology Available (BTA) for entrainment, as defined under 40 CFR 125.94(d).

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Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

Division of Water Pollution Control

2520 West Iles Avenue

Post Office Box 19276

Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276

NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM

Reissued (NPDES) Permit

Expiration Date:

Issue Date:
Effective Date:

Name and Address of Permittee:

300 North LaSalle, LLC
300 North LaSalle St., Suite 1850
Chicago, Illinois 60654

Facility Name and Address:

300 North LaSalle, LLC
300 North LaSalle
Chicago, Illinois 60654
(Cook County)

Discharge Number and Name:

001 Non-contact Cooling Water

Receiving Waters:

Chicago River

In compliance with the provisions of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act, Title 35 of Ill. Adm. Code, Subtitle C and/or Subtitle D, Chapter 1, and the Clean Water Act (CWA), the above-named permittee is hereby authorized to discharge at the above location to the above-named receiving stream in accordance with the standard conditions and attachments herein.

Permittee is not authorized to discharge after the above expiration date. In order to receive authorization to discharge beyond the expiration date, the permittee shall submit the proper application as required by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) not later than 180 days prior to the expiration date.

Darin E. LeCrone, P.E.
Manager, Permit Section
Division of Water Pollution Control

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Effluent Limitations and Monitoring

1. From the effective date of this permit until the expiration date, the effluent of the following discharge(s) shall be monitored and limited at all times as follows:

	LOAD LIMITS lbs/day DAF (DMF)		CONCENTRATION LIMITS mg/L			
PARAMETER	30 DAY AVERAGE	DAILY MAXIMUM	30 DAY AVERAGE	DAILY MAXIMUM	SAMPLE FREQUENCY	SAMPLE TYPE
Outfall 001 - Non-Contact Cooling Water (DMF = 5.68 MGD)						
Flow (MGD)	See Special Condition 1				1/Month	Total
Temperature	See Special Condition 2				1/Week	Single Reading
Total Residual Chlorine				0.05*	1/Week	Grab

*See Special Conditions 7 and 8

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Special Conditions

SPECIAL CONDITION 1. Flow shall be measured in units of Million Gallons per Day (MGD) and reported as a monthly average and a daily maximum on the Discharge Monitoring Report.

SPECIAL CONDITION 2. This facility is not allowed any mixing with the receiving stream in order to meet applicable water quality thermal limitations. Therefore, discharge of wastewater from this facility must meet the following thermal limitations prior to discharge into the receiving stream.

A. The discharge must not exceed the maximum limits in the following table during more than one percent of the hours in the 12 month period ending with any month. Moreover, at no time shall the water temperature of the discharge exceed the maximum limits in the following table by more the 1.7° C (3° F).

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
°F	60	60	60	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	60
°C	16	16	16	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	16

B. In addition, the discharge shall not cause abnormal temperature changes that may adversely affect aquatic life unless caused by natural conditions.

C. The discharge shall not cause the maximum temperature rise above natural temperatures to exceed 2.8° C (5° F).

D. The monthly maximum value shall be reported on the DMR form.

SPECIAL CONDITION 3. Samples taken in compliance with the effluent monitoring requirements shall be taken at a point representative of the discharge, but prior to entry into the receiving stream.

SPECIAL CONDITION 4. The Permittee shall record monitoring results on Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) electronic forms using one such form for each outfall each month.

In the event that an outfall does not discharge during a monthly reporting period, the DMR Form shall be submitted with no discharge indicated.

The Permittee is required to submit electronic DMRs (NetDMRs) instead of mailing paper DMRs to the IEPA unless a waiver has been granted by the Agency. More information, including registration information for the NetDMR program, can be obtained on the IEPA website, http://www.epa.state.il.us/water/net-dmr/index.html.

The completed Discharge Monitoring Report forms shall be submitted to IEPA no later than the 25th day of the following month, unless otherwise specified by the permitting authority.

Permittees that have been granted a waiver shall mail Discharge Monitoring Reports with an original signature to the IEPA at the following address:

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Division of Water Pollution Control
Attention: Compliance Assurance Section
2520 West Iles Avenue
Post Office Box 19276
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276

SPECIAL CONDITION 5. If an applicable effluent standard or limitation is promulgated under Sections 301(b)(2)(C) and (D), 304(b)(2), and 307(a)(2) of the Clean Water Act and that effluent standard or limitation is more stringent than any effluent limitation in the permit or controls a pollutant not limited in the NPDES Permit, the Agency shall revise or modify the permit in accordance with the more stringent standard or prohibition and shall so notify the permittee.

SPECIAL CONDITION 6. For the purpose of this permit, the discharge from Outfall 001 is limited to non-contact cooling water free from process and other wastewater discharges. In the event that the permittee shall require the use of water treatment additives, the permittee must request a change in this permit in accordance with the Standard Conditions – Attachment H.

SPECIAL CONDITION 7. Total Residual Chlorine monitoring and limitations shall only be required when chlorine is utilized. A note in the comment section of the DMR shall be provided identifying that chlorine was not used if chlorine was not utilized during that monitoring period.

SPECIAL CONDITION 8. All samples for Total Residual Chlorine shall be analyzed by an applicable method contained in 40 CFR 136, equivalent in accuracy to low-level amperometric titration. Any analytical variability of the method used shall be

considered when determining the accuracy and precision of the results obtained.

SPECIAL CONDITION 9. The maximum volume of the river water that can be withdrawn is 5.68 MGD.

SPECIAL CONDITION 10. Collected debris from the screens shall not be discharged back to the river, but shall be disposed in a manner and a location acceptable to this Agency.

SPECIAL CONDITION 11. The effluent, alone or in combination with other sources, shall not cause a violation of any applicable water quality standard outlined in 35 Ill. Adm. Code 302.

SPECIAL CONDITION 12. The permittee has submitted information on the cooling water intake structure configuration and operating in accordance with Section 316(b) of the Clean Water Act, Section 122.21(r)(2) through (r)(8).

Based on a review of this information, the Agency has made a final Best Technology Available (BTA) determination that the operation of the cooling water intake structures meets Best Technology Available for entrainment in accordance with the provisions of 40 CFR 124.94(d). The facility has chosen Compliance Alternative 2 – 0.5 feet per second through-screen design velocity as the proposed option to meet the BTA Standards for Impingement Mortality and is determined to be the equivalent of Best Technology Available for cooling water intake structures to prevent/minimize impingement mortality.

The permittee shall at all times properly operate and maintain the intake structure. The permittee shall withdraw the amount of cooling water needed only to cool the system plus any incidental loss from the cooling system.

This permit may also be revised or modified in accordance with any laws, regulations, or judicial orders pursuant to Section 316(b) of the Clean Water Act.

Nothing in this permit authorizes take for the purposes of a facility's compliance with the Endangered Species Act.

SPECIAL CONDITON 13. Pursuant to 40 CFR 125.97(c), the permittee shall submit an annual certification statement signed by the responsible corporate office as defined in 40 CFR 122.22 subject to the following:

1. If the information contained in the previous year's annual certification is still pertinent, you may simply state as such in a letter to the Agency and the letter, along with any applicable data submission requirements specified in this section shall constitute the annual certification.

2. If you have substantially modified operation of any unit at your facility that impacts cooling water withdrawals or operation of your cooling water intake structures, you must provide a summary of those changes in the report. In addition, you must submit revisions to the information required at 40 CFR 122.21(r) in your next permit application.

The permittee may request to reduce the information required, if conditions at the facility and in the waterbody remain substantially unchanged since the previous application so long as the relevant previously submitted information remains representative of current source water, intake structure, cooling water system, and operating conditions. Any habitat designated as critical or species listed as threatened or endangered after issuance of the current permit whose range of habitat or designated critical habit includes waters where a facility intake is located constitutes potential for a substantial change that must be addressed by the owner/operator in subsequent permit applications, unless the facility received an exemption pursuant to 16 U.S.C. 1537(o) or a permit pursuant to 16 U.S.C. 1539(a) or there is no reasonable expectation of take. The permittee must submit its request for reduced cooling water intake structure and waterbody application information to the Agency at least two years and six months prior to the expiration of this NPDES permit. The Permittee's request must identify each element in this subsection that it determines has not substantially changed since the previous permit application and the basis for the determination.

SPECIAL CONTION 14. The permittee shall retain all records supporting the Agency's determination of BTA for entrainment until such time as the Agency revises the Determination of BTA for Entrainment in the permit.

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ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

2520 WEST ILES AVENUE, P.O. BOX 19276, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62794-9276 · (217) 782-3397

JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR **JAMES JENNINGS**, ACTING DIRECTOR