



**TO:** William Spaulding, U.S. E.P.A. Region 5  
**FROM:**  
**DATE:** May xx, 2014  
**SUBJECT: Sole Source Aquifer Comment**

---

Dear Mr. Spaulding,

The Mahomet Aquifer provides the primary source of drinking water for municipalities and homeowners in 14 Illinois counties. It is the sole source of water for residents of the Cities of Champaign, Urbana, and Savoy, as well as other central Illinois communities. The aquifer provides drinking water to hundreds of thousands of people. The Aquifer also supports thousands of commercial, industrial, and agricultural water users. The Aquifer supports agriculture by providing a source of clean water for irrigation and other rural and farm-related uses. Sole Source Aquifer designation will not affect the vast majority of farming operations. Only agricultural projects that require federal funding, not including farming subsidies, would be reviewed.

A wide variety of chemicals and hazardous substances may pose a threat to our underground water resources. U.S. EPA designation of the Aquifer as a sole source aquifer provides added protection by requiring U.S. EPA review of all federally funded projects to ensure that they will not harm this vital source of water. Sole Source Aquifer designation can also provide additional protections from the Illinois EPA.

Given the importance of the Mahomet Aquifer to the region, we support the March 2014 U.S. E.P.A. Approval Proposed for Mahomet Sole Source Aquifer Designation and look forward to expeditious implementation of this designation.

Thank you.