## **EXHIBIT 23**

## **BEFORE THE ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

METROPOLITAN WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT OF GREATER CHICAGO,	)
	)
Petitioner,	)
<b>v.</b>	j
ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTIONAGENCY,	)
Respondent.	)

PCB\_\_\_\_\_ (Variance-Water)

## AFFIDAVIT OF DR. THOMAS C. GRANATO

I, Dr. Thomas C. Granato, being first duly sworn on oath, depose and states as follows:

1. I am currently employed as Director of the Monitoring and Research Department of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District in Chicago, Illinois. My professional and educational background is detailed in the attached biography.

2. I participated in the preparation of the Petition for Variance dated July 20, 2015 to the extent it discusses effluent and water quality data collected by the District and the rulemaking proceedings concerning the Chicago Area Waterways System (CAWS).

3. I have read the Petition for Variance dated July 20, 2015, and based upon my personal knowledge and belief, the facts stated therein with regard to effluent and water quality data collected by the District and with regard to the rulemaking proceedings concerning the CAWS are true and correct.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

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Thomas C. Granato

Subscribed and sworn to before me this  $21^{4}$  day of JUly, 2015.

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Thomas C. Granato, Ph.D. Director Monitoring & Research Department Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago 100 E. Erie St. Chicago, IL 60611 Phone: 312-751-5190 Fax: 312-751-5194 e-mail: <u>Thomas.Granato@mwrd.org</u>

Dr. Granato, a native of Chicago, is the current director of the Monitoring and Research Department of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, where he has been employed since 1988. The M&R Department that he leads is currently comprised of 281 employees.

The mission of the M&R Department is to protect the sewerage system, water reclamation plants, biosolids and receiving waterways from industrial waste discharges; provide analytical laboratory services to support the Maintenance and Operations Department to assure compliance with Illinois Environmental Protection Agency operating permits and the United States Environmental Protection Agency regulations; monitor the local waterways and groundwaters to assess impacts of District operations; provide technical assistance to other District departments and outside agencies; and conduct applied research to optimize liquid and solids treatment processes, support biosolids management, evaluate new wastewater treatment technologies, and assess effectiveness of green infrastructure.

Dr. Granato holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Science and a Master of Science degree in Soil Chemistry from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Dr. Granato earned his Ph.D. in Environmental Soil Science at North Carolina State University. Dr. Granato currently serves on the Water Environment Research Foundation Research Council and the National Biosolids Partnership steering committee. He is a past managing editor of Water Environment Research and is a member of the Water Environment Federation, the American Chemical Society, the Soil Science Society of America and the American Society of Agronomy.