**Section 620.230 Class III: Special Resource Groundwater**

Except as provided in Section 620.250, Special Resource Groundwater is:

a) Groundwater that is determined by the Board, pursuant to the procedures set forth in Section 620.260, to be:

1) Demonstrably unique (e.g., irreplaceable sources of groundwater) and suitable for application of a water quality standard more stringent than the otherwise applicable water quality standard specified in Subpart D; or

2) Vital for a particularly sensitive ecological system.

b) Groundwater that contributes to a dedicated nature preserve that is listed by the Agency as set forth below:

1) A written request to list a dedicated nature preserve under this subsection must contain, at a minimum, the following information:

A) A general description of the site and the surrounding land use;

B) A topographic map or other map of suitable scale denoting the location of the dedicated nature preserve;

C) A general description of the existing groundwater quality at and surrounding the dedicated nature preserve;

D) A general geologic profile of the dedicated nature preserve based upon the most reasonably available information, including but not limited to geologic maps and subsurface groundwater flow directions; and

E) A description of the interrelationship between groundwater and the nature of the site.

2) Upon confirmation by the Agency of the technical adequacy of a written request, the Agency shall publish the proposed listing of the dedicated nature preserve in the Environmental Register for a 45-day public comment period. Within 60 days after the close of the public comment period, the Agency shall either publish a final listing of the dedicated nature preserve in the Environmental Register or provide a written response to the requestor specifying the reasons for not listing the dedicated nature preserve.

3) At least once annually, the Agency shall publish in the Environmental Register a complete listing of all dedicated nature preserves listed under this subsection (b).

4) For purposes of this Section the term "dedicated nature preserve" means a nature preserve that is dedicated pursuant to the Illinois Natural Areas Preservation Act [525 ILCS 30].

(Source: Amended at 21 Ill. Reg. 6518, effective May 8, 1997)