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[Home](#) > [Opinion](#) > [Letters to the Editor](#) > Water sale plan should be rethought

# Water sale plan should be rethought

The proposed sales of water discharge from the Urbana-Champaign Sanitary District (UCSD) to Cronus Chemical and Sunrise Coal may not be as good a deal as is claimed. During last year's drought, UCSD discharge into the Saline Branch accounted for most of the water in the Salt Fork and for almost half of the minimum flow for the entire Vermilion River, as measured at the Danville USGS Gaging Station.

A thorough analysis is needed of the effects of the water sales on the Salt Fork during drought. At stake is the water supply of Oakwood, recreational boating on the Salt Fork and the ecological health of the Salt Fork.

I strongly urge the UCSD Board (Diana Lenik, Jerry Lyke and Jenny Putman) to postpone a decision on the water sales until these issues are studied.

BOB ILLYES

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Sections (2): [Letters to the Editor](#) [1], [Opinion](#) [2]

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