

PROTECT THE MAHOMET AQUIFER



Support SB3968 (Faraci) / HB5874 (Ammons) to Protect the Mahomet Aquifer

While last session's CCS bill created important protections against the dangers of carbon capture and sequestration, additional protections are needed to close a gap in SB1289 that leaves the Mahomet Aquifer – the drinking water supply for nearly 1 million people in Central Illinois – vulnerable. **Support SB3968 (Faraci) / HB5874 (Ammons) to protect the Mahomet Aquifer and any future sole-source aquifer in Illinois.**

The Mahomet Aquifer is the lifeblood of Central Illinois, supplying clean drinking water to over 100 communities and tens of thousands of rural homes across 14 counties. The EPA's designation of the Mahomet Aquifer as a sole source aquifer underscores its irreplaceable importance.

SB1289 has a gap in protections that leaves the Mahomet Aquifer vulnerable. It requires corporations to provide an alternative drinking source if it becomes contaminated from the injection and storage of CO₂. That leaves sole source aquifers like the Mahomet at risk. The sole source designation means that there is [no reasonably available alternative drinking water source](#) for users of the Mahomet Aquifer. Therefore, no company would be able to provide an alternate source.

Leaks are inevitable, only a ban provides certain protection. In March this year, during negotiations of SB1289, ADM's active sequestration project in Decatur [leaked](#) and the EPA issued a [notice of violation](#). ADM did not disclose this leak during negotiations. The 2016 Peoples Gas leak near the Village of Mahomet demonstrates the difficulty of cleaning up leaks. After a methane leak occurred, impacted community members still rely on bottled water years later.

Three proposed projects currently threaten the Mahomet Aquifer, and more may be proposed without swift action. The proposed projects would store 215 million metric tons of CO₂ under the Mahomet Aquifer and its precious recharge zones. This is 50 times the volume of carbon ever stored in Illinois.

Support SB3968 (Faraci) / HB5874 (Ammons) to ban carbon sequestration through and under the Mahomet Aquifer and protect the drinking water supply for Central Illinois.

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