

1 AN ACT concerning transportation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Public Water District Act is amended by  
5 changing Section 9 as follows:

6 (70 ILCS 3705/9) (from Ch. 111 2/3, par. 196)

7 Sec. 9. Every public water district organized under this  
8 Act and every non-profit private water company is authorized to  
9 construct, maintain, alter and extend its water mains as a  
10 proper use of highways along, upon, under, and across any  
11 highway, street, alley, or public ground in the State, but so  
12 as not to inconvenience the public use thereof, and the right  
13 and authority are hereby granted to any such district or  
14 non-profit private water company to construct, maintain, and  
15 operate any conduit or conduits, water pipe or pipes, wholly or  
16 partially buried or otherwise in, upon and along any of the  
17 lands owned by said State under any of the public waters  
18 therein, or within the legal boundaries of any easement or  
19 right-of-way possessed by the State provided that the  
20 appropriate highway authority has granted its consent as  
21 provided in Section 9-113 of the Illinois Highway Code;  
22 provided that the right, permission and authority hereby  
23 granted shall be subject to all public rights of commerce and

1 navigation and the authority of the United States in behalf of  
2 such public rights, and also to the laws of the State of  
3 Illinois to regulate and control the same.

4 (Source: P.A. 94-613, eff. 8-18-05.)

5 Section 10. The Illinois Highway Code is amended by  
6 changing Section 9-113 as follows:

7 (605 ILCS 5/9-113) (from Ch. 121, par. 9-113)

8 Sec. 9-113. (a) No ditches, drains, track, rails, poles,  
9 wires, pipe line or other equipment of any public utility  
10 company, municipal corporation or other public or private  
11 corporation, association or person shall be located, placed or  
12 constructed upon, under or along any highway, or upon any  
13 township or district road, without first obtaining the written  
14 consent of the appropriate highway authority as hereinafter  
15 provided for in this Section.

16 (b) The State and county highway authorities are authorized  
17 to promulgate reasonable and necessary rules, regulations, and  
18 specifications for highways for the administration of this  
19 Section. In addition to rules promulgated under this subsection  
20 (b), the State highway authority shall and a county highway  
21 authority may adopt coordination strategies and practices  
22 designed and intended to establish and implement effective  
23 communication respecting planned highway projects that the  
24 State or county highway authority believes may require removal,

1 relocation, or modification in accordance with subsection (f)  
2 of this Section. The strategies and practices adopted shall  
3 include but need not be limited to the delivery of 5 year  
4 programs, annual programs, and the establishment of  
5 coordination councils in the locales and with the utility  
6 participation that will best facilitate and accomplish the  
7 requirements of the State and county highway authority acting  
8 under subsection (f) of this Section. The utility participation  
9 shall include assisting the appropriate highway authority in  
10 establishing a schedule for the removal, relocation, or  
11 modification of the owner's facilities in accordance with  
12 subsection (f) of this Section. In addition, each utility shall  
13 designate in writing to the Secretary of Transportation or his  
14 or her designee an agent for notice and the delivery of  
15 programs. The coordination councils must be established on or  
16 before January 1, 2002. The 90 day deadline for removal,  
17 relocation, or modification of the ditches, drains, track,  
18 rails, poles, wires, pipe line, or other equipment in  
19 subsection (f) of this Section shall be enforceable upon the  
20 establishment of a coordination council in the district or  
21 locale where the property in question is located. The  
22 coordination councils organized by a county highway authority  
23 shall include the county engineer, the County Board Chairman or  
24 his or her designee, and with such utility participation as  
25 will best facilitate and accomplish the requirements of a  
26 highway authority acting under subsection (f) of this Section.

1 Should a county highway authority decide not to establish  
2 coordination councils, the 90 day deadline for removal,  
3 relocation, or modification of the ditches, drains, track,  
4 rails, poles, wires, pipe line, or other equipment in  
5 subsection (f) of this Section shall be waived for those  
6 highways.

7 (c) In the case of non-toll federal-aid fully  
8 access-controlled State highways, the State highway authority  
9 shall not grant consent to the location, placement or  
10 construction of ditches, drains, track, rails, poles, wires,  
11 pipe line or other equipment upon, under or along any such  
12 non-toll federal-aid fully access-controlled State highway,  
13 which:

14 (1) would require cutting the pavement structure  
15 portion of such highway for installation or, except in the  
16 event of an emergency, would require the use of any part of  
17 such highway right-of-way for purposes of maintenance or  
18 repair. Where, however, the State highway authority  
19 determines prior to installation that there is no other  
20 access available for maintenance or repair purposes, use by  
21 the entity of such highway right-of-way shall be permitted  
22 for such purposes in strict accordance with the rules,  
23 regulations and specifications of the State highway  
24 authority, provided however, that except in the case of  
25 access to bridge structures, in no such case shall an  
26 entity be permitted access from the through-travel lanes,

1           shoulders or ramps of the non-toll federal-aid fully  
2           access-controlled State highway to maintain or repair its  
3           accommodation; or

4           (2) would in the judgment of the State highway  
5           authority, endanger or impair any such ditches, drains,  
6           track, rails, poles, wires, pipe lines or other equipment  
7           already in place; or

8           (3) would, if installed longitudinally within the  
9           access control lines of such highway, be above ground after  
10          installation except that the State highway authority may  
11          consent to any above ground installation upon, under or  
12          along any bridge, interchange or grade separation within  
13          the right-of-way which installation is otherwise in  
14          compliance with this Section and any rules, regulations or  
15          specifications issued hereunder; or

16          (4) would be inconsistent with Federal law or with  
17          rules, regulations or directives of appropriate Federal  
18          agencies.

19          (d) In the case of accommodations upon, under or along  
20          non-toll federal-aid fully access-controlled State highways  
21          the State highway authority may charge an entity reasonable  
22          compensation for the right of that entity to longitudinally  
23          locate, place or construct ditches, drains, track, rails,  
24          poles, wires, pipe line or other equipment upon, under or along  
25          such highway. Such compensation may include in-kind  
26          compensation.

1           Where the entity applying for use of a non-toll federal-aid  
2 fully access-controlled State highway right-of-way is a public  
3 utility company, municipal corporation or other public or  
4 private corporation, association or person, such compensation  
5 shall be based upon but shall not exceed a reasonable estimate  
6 by the State highway authority of the fair market value of an  
7 easement or leasehold for such use of the highway right-of-way.

8           Where the State highway authority determines that the  
9 applied-for use of such highway right-of-way is for private  
10 land uses by an individual and not for commercial purposes, the  
11 State highway authority may charge a lesser fee than would be  
12 charged a public utility company, municipal corporation or  
13 other public or private corporation or association as  
14 compensation for the use of the non-toll federal-aid fully  
15 access-controlled State highway right-of-way. In no case shall  
16 the written consent of the State highway authority give or be  
17 construed to give any entity any easement, leasehold or other  
18 property interest of any kind in, upon, under, above or along  
19 the non-toll federal-aid fully access-controlled State highway  
20 right-of-way.

21           Where the compensation from any entity is in whole or in  
22 part a fee, such fee may be reasonably set, at the election of  
23 the State highway authority, in the form of a single lump sum  
24 payment or a schedule of payments. All such fees charged as  
25 compensation may be reviewed and adjusted upward by the State  
26 highway authority once every 5 years provided that any such

1 adjustment shall be based on changes in the fair market value  
2 of an easement or leasehold for such use of the non-toll  
3 federal-aid fully access-controlled State highway  
4 right-of-way. All such fees received as compensation by the  
5 State highway authority shall be deposited in the Road Fund.

6 (e) Any entity applying for consent shall submit such  
7 information in such form and detail to the appropriate highway  
8 authority as to allow the authority to evaluate the entity's  
9 application. In the case of accommodations upon, under or along  
10 non-toll federal-aid fully access-controlled State highways  
11 the entity applying for such consent shall reimburse the State  
12 highway authority for all of the authority's reasonable  
13 expenses in evaluating that entity's application, including  
14 but not limited to engineering and legal fees.

15 (f) Any ditches, drains, track, rails, poles, wires, pipe  
16 line, or other equipment located, placed, or constructed upon,  
17 under, or along a highway with the consent of the State or  
18 county highway authority under this Section shall, upon written  
19 notice by the State or county highway authority be removed,  
20 relocated, or modified by the owner, the owner's agents,  
21 contractors, or employees at no expense to the State or county  
22 highway authority when and as deemed necessary by the State or  
23 county highway authority for highway or highway safety  
24 purposes. The notice shall be properly given after the  
25 completion of engineering plans, the receipt of the necessary  
26 permits issued by the appropriate State and county highway

1 authority to begin work, and the establishment of sufficient  
2 rights-of-way for a given utility authorized by the State or  
3 county highway authority to remain on the highway right-of-way  
4 such that the unit of local government or other owner of any  
5 facilities receiving notice in accordance with this subsection  
6 (f) can proceed with relocating, replacing, or reconstructing  
7 the ditches, drains, track, rails, poles, wires, pipe line, or  
8 other equipment. If a permit application to relocate on a  
9 public right-of-way is not filed within 15 days of the receipt  
10 of final engineering plans, the notice precondition of a permit  
11 to begin work is waived. However, under no circumstances shall  
12 this notice provision be construed to require the State or any  
13 government department or agency to purchase additional  
14 rights-of-way to accommodate utilities. If, within 90 days  
15 after receipt of such written notice, the ditches, drains,  
16 track, rails, poles, wires, pipe line, or other equipment have  
17 not been removed, relocated, or modified to the reasonable  
18 satisfaction of the State or county highway authority, or if  
19 arrangements are not made satisfactory to the State or county  
20 highway authority for such removal, relocation, or  
21 modification, the State or county highway authority may remove,  
22 relocate, or modify such ditches, drains, track, rails, poles,  
23 wires, pipe line, or other equipment and bill the owner thereof  
24 for the total cost of such removal, relocation, or  
25 modification. The scope of the project shall be taken into  
26 consideration by the State or county highway authority in



1 determining satisfactory arrangements. The State or county  
2 highway authority shall determine the terms of payment of those  
3 costs provided that all costs billed by the State or county  
4 highway authority shall not be made payable over more than a 5  
5 year period from the date of billing. The State and county  
6 highway authority shall have the power to extend the time of  
7 payment in cases of demonstrated financial hardship by a unit  
8 of local government or other public owner of any facilities  
9 removed, relocated, or modified from the highway right-of-way  
10 in accordance with this subsection (f). This paragraph shall  
11 not be construed to prohibit the State or county highway  
12 authority from paying any part of the cost of removal,  
13 relocation, or modification where such payment is otherwise  
14 provided for by State or federal statute or regulation. At any  
15 time within 90 days after written notice was given, the owner  
16 of the drains, track, rails, poles, wires, pipe line, or other  
17 equipment may request the district engineer or, if appropriate,  
18 the county engineer for a waiver of the 90 day deadline. The  
19 appropriate district or county engineer shall make a decision  
20 concerning waiver within 10 days of receipt of the request and  
21 may waive the 90 day deadline if he or she makes a written  
22 finding as to the reasons for waiving the deadline. Reasons for  
23 waiving the deadline shall be limited to acts of God, war, the  
24 scope of the project, the State failing to follow the proper  
25 notice procedure, and any other cause beyond reasonable control  
26 of the owner of the facilities. Waiver must not be unreasonably

1 withheld. If 90 days after written notice was given, the  
2 ditches, drains, track, rails, poles, wires, pipe line, or  
3 other equipment have not been removed, relocated, or modified  
4 to the satisfaction of the State or county highway authority,  
5 no waiver of deadline has been requested or issued by the  
6 appropriate district or county engineer, and no satisfactory  
7 arrangement has been made with the appropriate State or county  
8 highway authority, the State or county highway authority or the  
9 general contractor of the building project may file a complaint  
10 in the circuit court for an emergency order to direct and  
11 compel the owner to remove, relocate, or modify the drains,  
12 track, rails, poles, wires, pipe line, or other equipment to  
13 the satisfaction of the appropriate highway authority. The  
14 complaint for an order shall be brought in the circuit in which  
15 the subject matter of the complaint is situated or, if the  
16 subject matter of the complaint is situated in more than one  
17 circuit, in any one of those circuits.

18 (g) It shall be the sole responsibility of the entity,  
19 without expense to the State highway authority, to maintain and  
20 repair its ditches, drains, track, rails, poles, wires, pipe  
21 line or other equipment after it is located, placed or  
22 constructed upon, under or along any State highway and in no  
23 case shall the State highway authority thereafter be liable or  
24 responsible to the entity for any damages or liability of any  
25 kind whatsoever incurred by the entity or to the entity's  
26 ditches, drains, track, rails, poles, wires, pipe line or other

1 equipment.

2 (h) Except as provided in subsection (h-1), upon receipt of  
3 an application therefor, consent to so use a highway may be  
4 granted subject to such terms and conditions not inconsistent  
5 with this Code as the highway authority deems for the best  
6 interest of the public. The terms and conditions required by  
7 the appropriate highway authority may include but need not be  
8 limited to participation by the party granted consent in the  
9 strategies and practices adopted under subsection (b) of this  
10 Section. The petitioner shall pay to the owners of property  
11 abutting upon the affected highways established as though by  
12 common law plat all damages the owners may sustain by reason of  
13 such use of the highway, such damages to be ascertained and  
14 paid in the manner provided by law for the exercise of the  
15 right of eminent domain.

16 (h-1) With regard to any public utility, as defined in  
17 Section 3-105 of the Public Utilities Act, engaged in public  
18 water or public sanitary sewer service that comes under the  
19 jurisdiction of the Illinois Commerce Commission, upon receipt  
20 of an application therefor, consent to so use a highway may be  
21 granted subject to such terms and conditions not inconsistent  
22 with this Code as the highway authority deems for the best  
23 interest of the public. The terms and conditions required by  
24 the appropriate highway authority may include but need not be  
25 limited to participation by the party granted consent in the  
26 strategies and practices adopted under subsection (b) of this

1 Section. If the highway authority does not have fee ownership  
2 of the property, the petitioner shall pay to the owners of  
3 property located in the highway right-of-way all damages the  
4 owners may sustain by reason of such use of the highway, such  
5 damages to be ascertained and paid in the manner provided by  
6 law for the exercise of the right of eminent domain. The  
7 consent shall not otherwise relieve the entity granted that  
8 consent from obtaining by purchase, condemnation, or otherwise  
9 the necessary approval of any owner of the fee over or under  
10 which the highway or road is located, except to the extent that  
11 no such owner has paid real estate taxes on the property for  
12 the 2 years prior to the grant of the consent. Owners of  
13 property that abuts the right-of-way but who acquired the  
14 property through a conveyance that either expressly excludes  
15 the property subject to the right-of-way or that describes the  
16 property conveyed as ending at the right-of-way or being  
17 bounded by the right-of-way or road shall not be considered  
18 owners of property located in the right-of-way and shall not be  
19 entitled to damages by reason of the use of the highway or road  
20 for utility purposes, except that this provision shall not  
21 relieve the public utility from the obligation to pay for any  
22 physical damage it causes to improvements lawfully located in  
23 the right-of-way. Owners of abutting property whose  
24 descriptions include the right-of-way but are made subject to  
25 the right-of-way shall be entitled to compensation for use of  
26 the right-of-way. If the property subject to the right-of-way

1 is not owned by the owners of the abutting property (either  
2 because it is expressly excluded from the property conveyed to  
3 an abutting property owner or the property as conveyed ends at  
4 or is bounded by the right-of-way or road), then the petitioner  
5 shall pay any damages, as so calculated, to the person or  
6 persons who have paid real estate taxes for the property as  
7 reflected in the county tax records. If no person has paid real  
8 estate taxes, then the public interest permits the installation  
9 of the facilities without payment of any damages. This  
10 provision of this amendatory Act of the 93rd General Assembly  
11 is intended to clarify, by codification, existing law and is  
12 not intended to change the law.

13 (i) Such consent shall be granted by the Department in the  
14 case of a State highway; by the county board or its designated  
15 county superintendent of highways in the case of a county  
16 highway; by either the highway commissioner or the county  
17 superintendent of highways in the case of a township or  
18 district road, provided that if consent is granted by the  
19 highway commissioner, the petition shall be filed with the  
20 commissioner at least 30 days prior to the proposed date of the  
21 beginning of construction, and that if written consent is not  
22 given by the commissioner within 30 days after receipt of the  
23 petition, the applicant may make written application to the  
24 county superintendent of highways for consent to the  
25 construction. This Section does not vitiate, extend or  
26 otherwise affect any consent granted in accordance with law

1 prior to the effective date of this Code to so use any highway.

2 (j) Nothing in this Section shall limit the right of a  
3 highway authority to permit the location, placement or  
4 construction or any ditches, drains, track, rails, poles,  
5 wires, pipe line or other equipment upon, under or along any  
6 highway or road as a part of its highway or road facilities or  
7 which the highway authority determines is necessary to service  
8 facilities required for operating the highway or road,  
9 including rest areas and weigh stations.

10 (k) Paragraphs (c) and (d) of this Section shall not apply  
11 to any accommodation located, placed or constructed with the  
12 consent of the State highway authority upon, under or along any  
13 non-toll federal-aid fully access-controlled State highway  
14 prior to July 1, 1984, provided that accommodation was  
15 otherwise in compliance with the rules, regulations and  
16 specifications of the State highway authority.

17 (l) Except as provided in subsections ~~subsection~~ (l-1) and  
18 (l-2), the consent to be granted pursuant to this Section by  
19 the appropriate highway authority shall be effective only to  
20 the extent of the property interest of the State or government  
21 unit served by that highway authority. Such consent shall not  
22 be binding on any owner of the fee over or under which the  
23 highway or road is located and shall not otherwise relieve the  
24 entity granted that consent from obtaining by purchase,  
25 condemnation or otherwise the necessary approval of any owner  
26 of the fee over or under which the highway or road is located.

1 This paragraph shall not be construed as a limitation on the  
2 use for highway or road purposes of the land or other property  
3 interests acquired by the public for highway or road purposes,  
4 including the space under or above such right-of-way.

5 (1-1) With regard to any public utility, as defined in  
6 Section 3-105 of the Public Utilities Act, engaged in public  
7 water or public sanitary sewer service that comes under the  
8 jurisdiction of the Illinois Commerce Commission, the consent  
9 to be granted pursuant to this Section by the appropriate  
10 highway authority shall be effective only to the extent of the  
11 property interest of the State or government unit served by  
12 that highway authority. Such consent shall not be binding on  
13 any owner of the fee over or under which the highway or road is  
14 located but shall be binding on any abutting property owner  
15 whose property boundary ends at the right-of-way of the highway  
16 or road. For purposes of the preceding sentence, property that  
17 includes a portion of a highway or road but is subject to the  
18 highway or road shall not be considered to end at the highway  
19 or road. The consent shall not otherwise relieve the entity  
20 granted that consent from obtaining by purchase, condemnation  
21 or otherwise the necessary approval of any owner of the fee  
22 over or under which the highway or road is located, except to  
23 the extent that no such owner has paid real estate taxes on the  
24 property for the 2 years prior to the grant of the consent.  
25 This provision is not intended to absolve a utility from  
26 obtaining consent from a lawful owner of the roadway or highway

1 property (i.e. a person whose deed of conveyance lawfully  
2 includes the property, whether or not made subject to the  
3 highway or road) but who does not pay taxes by reason of  
4 Division 6 of Article 10 of the Property Tax Code. This  
5 paragraph shall not be construed as a limitation on the use for  
6 highway or road purposes of the land or other property  
7 interests acquired by the public for highway or road purposes,  
8 including the space under or above such right-of-way.

9 (1-2) With regard to public water districts under the  
10 Public Water District Act, consent granted under this Section  
11 by the appropriate highway authority is binding on any owner of  
12 the fee over which or under which the highway or road is  
13 located and relieves the entity granted that consent from  
14 obtaining by purchase, condemnation, or otherwise the  
15 necessary approval of any owner of the fee over or under which  
16 the highway or road is located.

17 (m) The provisions of this Section apply to all permits  
18 issued by the Department of Transportation and the appropriate  
19 State or county highway authority.

20 (Source: P.A. 92-470, eff. 1-1-02; 93-357, eff. 1-1-04.)