

Therriault, John

PC#3915

From: Sharon DeCelle <shadecelle@mail186-6.suw21.mandrillapp.com> on behalf of Sharon DeCelle <shadecelle@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, December 04, 2015 9:06 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: R14-10: IPCB: Proceed with Illinois Coal Ash Rulemaking to Protect the Public and the Environment

Dear Clerk John Therriault,

I am writing to urge the IPCB to deny current requests for a stay in the rule-making proceedings to regulate coal ash and to accept Environmental Groups' written comments to amend the rules as proposed.

Illinois has the second highest number of contaminated coal ash dump sites in the nation. Each year we generate over 4.4 million tons of toxic waste. Coal ash disposal sites at power plants throughout Illinois are leaking into surface and groundwaters endangering the health and safety of Illinois residents. Yet, current regulations have been shown to be ineffective in controlling this pollution.

Federal rules adopted this year fall far short of addressing the problem in that they are self implementing by industry, require costly legal proceedings for enforcement; do not address Illinois surface and groundwater standards; and do not apply to the many coal ash pits left behind by shuttered power plants. In addition, they do not incorporate financial assurances that the state will not be left with costly clean-up if or when industries default on their regulatory obligations.

We need state pollution controls in place now. For this reason, I ask that the IPCB move forward expeditiously with its rule-making proceedings and deny recent requests for a stay in the process. Illinois residents have too much at stake and have invested too much in the process to put the proceedings on hold.

Sincerely,
Sharon DeCelle
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