

From: [Cathy Keffer](#)
To: [Brown, Don](#)
Cc: [Frank Pettis](#)
Subject: [External] Public Comment: AS 2021-03: Adjusted Standard for the Waukegan Station
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 1:20:32 PM

I grew up in the 60's and 70's just west of the coal plant. We grew up with their fly ash dusted on cars, driveways and beautiful Bowen Park. It dusted the baseball field where Little League and Pony League players competed. All the neighborhood children would ride their bicycles through shortcut paths along the power lines we referred to as "Cinder Road". In reality, Cinder Road was coal dust from the plant laid down for easement access by ComEd vehicles. It was terribly egregious and irresponsible of MWG/NRG to allow such pollution in our neighborhoods.

Growing up nearby, we also swam in Lake Michigan at the North Beach in Waukegan. It would be so sad to see future families not allowed to swim at the beach due to poisons in the lake water. Everyone should be able to enjoy clean beaches to the north and south of the NRG coal plant. There is so much beauty to share within the Waukegan/Lake County community.

Lake Michigan is a treasure of fresh water. Now, with the existing coal ash ponds, the groundwater along the lakefront is at risk with the potential to spread malignantly into our drinking water. The sins of the past should not continue as sins of the future. MWG/NRG owns the property and are, therefore, fully responsible for cleaning up ALL the fly ash sites, buried or not. The community and taxpayers should not be left with an inheritance of leaching pollutants to their fresh, natural drinking water. The remediation cleanup of these coal ash sites are solely MWG/NRG's responsibility to the community, the environment, justice for their past wrongdoings and future generations to come. Clean water, clean air and clean land are something everyone should be able to enjoy.

Thank you for your consideration.

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