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To: [Brown, Don](#)
Cc: Fpettis@cleanpowerlakecount.org
Subject: [External] Public Comment: AS 2021-03: Adjusted Standard for the Waukegan Station
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 5:41:19 PM

Hello, my name is Giselle Thompson and as someone who has lived in Waukegan my whole life and grew up less than 5 miles from Lake Michigan, I've always heard about the power plants along the city shores that have constantly polluted the air, the water and the land. And every time I learn something new about how polluted our city becomes from these plants, I also learn about how our government allows them to continue to disparage our community by not enforcing environmental laws, or not passing strict laws at all, or not cleaning up coal ash ponds because of semantics and loopholes. I have personally witnessed long term effects of what breathing our polluted air does to the body, and I imagine ingesting toxic water would have equally, if not worse effects on someone. I'm not well versed on the science just yet, but I'm sure having toxic coal ash contaminating groundwater is going to be a direct cause for some severe and deadly illnesses in the near future. Illinois has allowed these superfund sites to get away with disproportionately harming diverse, lower income areas for too long, and the Pollution Control Board has allowed NRG to continue to harm us and make Waukegan one of the worst affected areas in Lake County. I am here to urge them to stop and help us, and not give NRG yet another pass to ignore the rules. Thank you.

— Giselle Thompson