## Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 04/01/2024 P.C. # 47

From: <u>Jermel Williams</u>

To: <u>Frank Pettis; Brown, Don</u>

Subject: [External] Public Comment: AS 2021-03: Adjusted Standard for the Waukegan Station"

**Date:** Friday, March 29, 2024 6:17:55 PM

## Hello,

My name is Jermel Williams. I suffer from asthma as result of the neglect of cleaning the pollution on our lakefront.

Please, Say no to a free pass for NRG at Waukegan. Tell the IPCB that NRG must comply with the Illinois Coal Ash Rules at Waukegan. The Rules must be applied to the Old Ash Pond. • The Old Ash Pond is an inactive CCR surface impoundment that must be regulated under the Illinois Coal Ash Rules. NRG has not shown that the Old Ash Pond was removed or covered in a manner that would prevent water seeping in (either precipitation or groundwater). This means that the Old Ash Pond qualifies as a CCR surface impoundment under the Illinois Coal Ash Rules. • Current groundwater monitoring at the site fails to meet the requirements of the Illinois Coal Ash Rules. Not all of the pollutants in the current Illinois coal ash rule are being monitored at the Waukegan site. However, the existing monitoring shows that Boron, Sulfate and other pollutants exceed Illinois Coal Ash Rule standards. • Coal ash from the Waukegan coal plant is sitting on the shores of Lake Michigan, causing groundwater contamination, and must be regulated under the Illinois Coal Ash Rules and removed. This ash at the site is up to 15 feet thick in some places and has been left unlined and sitting in groundwater. Leaving the ash in place will lead to ongoing groundwater contamination at the lakefront site indefinitely. The coal ash must be removed and put in a properly permitted landfill significantly above groundwater.