THE VILLAGE OF BARTLETI

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STATE OF ILLINOIS Pollution Control Board

December 22, 2003

P.C. #1

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The Members of the Illinois Pollution Control Board c/o The Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board

James R. Thompson Center 100 W. Randolph Street

Suite 11-500

Chicago, Illinois 60601

RE:

R04-11

Ameren Elgin Site Specific Noise Rulemaking

Dear Board Members:

The Village of Bartlett supports the Petition filed by Ameren Energy Generating Company (Ameren) with the Illinois Pollution Control Board for site-specific noise emission limitations for Ameren's Elgin Energy Center. The Ameren Energy Center is located on the Elgin side of Gifford Road, which acts as the boundary between the Village and the City of Elgin. Although the facility is not within our municipal jurisdiction, we have been aware of its construction in 2001and operation over the past couple of years. To our knowledge, Ameren has not exceeded the currently applicable Board's noise emission limitations and has been a good neighbor to the Village residents, as well as its fellow industrial, commercial and residential neighbors in Elgin.

Bartlett has recently enacted ordinances annexing a 121-acre parcel of vacant property on the west side of Gifford Road and rezoning that property for residential use. This action was taken by the Village pursuant to a request by Realen Homes, so the parcel is often referred to as the Realen Property. Representatives of the Village have since met with Ameren and Realen Homes to discuss the impact of that action on Ameren's Energy Center. Ameren has explained its need to seek site-specific noise limitations for the facility because it may not be able to meet the Board's noise emission limitations for residential property once the use of the Realen Property is converted to residential.

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The Village supports Ameren's request for site-specific noise emission limitations. Experience has demonstrated that Ameren has complied with the existing, applicable noise limitations. We have reviewed the Petition filed by Ameren with the Board seeking site-specific noise emission limitations for the Elgin Facility for residential and commercial receiving properties. Therein, Ameren has demonstrated that the site-specific noise limitations it seeks from the Board will not interfere with the anticipated residential use of the Realen Property. We believe granting the requested noise limitations will allow Ameren to continue operating the Elgin Facility in a manner that will not interfere with the lives or reasonable use of the property by Village residents, including future residents of the Realen Property.

The Village recognizes the valuable contribution the Elgin Energy Center makes to the local economy and that of the State of Illinois and supports Ameren's efforts to continue operating the facility in accordance with the Board's regulations. We view Ameren's Petition as a means for it to operate compatibly with future, residential use of the Realen property in our Village. We recommend that the Board adopt the noise emission limitations requested by Ameren for its Elgin Energy Center on Gifford Road in Elgin, Illinois.

Sincerely,

VILLAGE OF BARTLETT

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Catherine J. Melchert Village President