Subject: I support the IEPA mercury rule

From: "thebear00@juno.com" <thebear00@juno.com>

Date: Thu, 13 Apr 2006 21:27:22 -0500

To: max@illinoispirg.org

Dear Pollution Control Board members,

I am writing to urge you to support the IEPA mercury rule to reduce power plant mercury emissions by 90% by 2009.

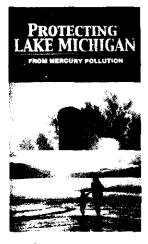
Mercury is a known neurotoxin that already contaminates fish in all Illinois waters—and its main source is coal-fired power plants. Studies have shown that mercury exposure harms the human brain, heart, and immune system.

Developing fetuses and children are especially at risk as even low-level mercury exposure can cause learning disabilities, developmental delay and decreased IQ.

Modern, inexpensive pollution controls can capture 90% of the mercury from power plants. IEPA's rule would simply require Illinois coal-fired power plants to use this technology. Please support the rule to make it clear that putting our children at risk for brain damage is not an acceptable cost of doing business in Illinois.

Sincerely,

Greg Burnet 3608 S Wenonah Berwyn, IL 60402



Dear Illinois Pollution Control Board:

You hold the key to eliminating a key threat to Lake Michigan – mercury contamination.

A recent NOAA study found that Lake Michigan is the most contaminated with mercury of all the Great Lakes, and that coal-burning power plants contribute the lion's share of the pollution. Illinois plants are among the top sources of mercury into Lake Michigan.

Mercury pollution poses serious risks for human health as well to the health of Lake Michigan. Eating predator fish from Lake Michigan, which contain mercury, is discouraged for people, and is unavoidable for bald eagles, loons and other wildlife that depend on lake fish.

Modern, inexpensive pollution controls can capture 90% of the mercury from a power plant. In fact, several states are requiring power plant owners to use this technology. I encourage you to adopt similar rules here in Illinois.

Sincerely,



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