

**Joppa Village Hall  
Joppa Village President, Julia Johnson  
217 North Avenue, Joppa, IL 62953-0099  
Phone: 618-543-7320**

**RECEIVED  
CLERK'S OFFICE  
JUL 25 2012  
STATE OF ILLINOIS  
Pollution Control Board**

July 23, 2012

Members of the Illinois Pollution Control Board  
C/O John Therriault, Assistant Clerk  
Illinois Pollution Control Board  
100 W. Randolph Street, Ste. 11-500  
Chicago, IL 60601-3218

Pctt 310

Re: Ameren Energy Resources Company, LLC's Petition for Variance from the Illinois Multi-Pollutant Standard: PCB 12-126

Dear Honorable Members of the Illinois Pollution Control Board,

I want to write to you today to share my support for Ameren Energy Resources Company, LLC (AER) and its request to extend the deadline for upgrading its energy stations to meet new state emission standard.

As the Mayor of the Village of Joppa, I know AER is an important proponent of our local economy. The EEI Joppa Generating Plant currently employs 235 people, and these well-paying jobs boost the household income and spur economic development in our county and in our community. The plant is also an imperative source of property tax revenue to support essential public services like schools, a community college, police and fire departments.

I understand the interest for Illinois to adopt stricter air regulations. In fact, our community and AER support this direction as well.

However, in this time of economic hardship, AER does not have the financial resources to immediately meet the Illinois emission requirements. If its requested relief is not granted, then it would be forced to take drastic action and shutter some of its energy centers. Not only would that devastate the quality of my community, it would also have a negative effect on the state's economy.

AER is not asking to be excused from the emission requirements. In fact, AER has agreed to voluntarily commit to earlier reductions to achieve similar emission outcomes during the period it has requested the relief. AER is simply asking for more time to make appropriate investments in order to achieve pollution control without having to cut jobs and economic opportunities for Illinoisans.

Just like AER's commitment to lowering emissions, I have made a commitment to the Village of Joppa, to ensure the availability of public services and to always serve the well-being of this community. In doing so, I feel it is critical that you on the Illinois Pollution Board consider supporting AER's petition for temporary relief. The welfare of Joppa and several surrounding counties depends on it.

Sincerely,



Mayor Julia Johnson  
Village of Joppa, Illinois