



Local Union No. 51

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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JUL 27 2012

STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

July 26, 2012

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

P 4#312

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,

My name is John Johnson and I am the Assistant Business Manager for IBEW Local 51. On behalf of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 51, I am writing to share Local 51's support for Ameren Energy Resources Company, LLC (AER) and its request to extend the deadline for upgrading its facilities to meet new state emission standards.

AER supports the initiatives to lower power plant emissions; however, because of the national recession and market forces impacting natural gas prices and the market price of power, it does not have the financial resources to install new equipment at this time.

In its petition, AER is not asking for special treatment or to be excused from the emission requirements. It simply asks for more time to achieve the state's environmental goals, which it absolutely supports. In fact, the company has vowed to further lower its emissions beyond state requirements. But if AER isn't granted an extension, it would have no other choice but to shut down some of its energy centers.

The AER Edwards Energy Center has been a major source of economic influence in Peoria and the surrounding Central Illinois area. The plant provides hundreds of well-paying jobs and the property tax revenue generated by the plant greatly contributes to local public services, schools, parks and libraries.

Without the Edwards Energy Center, Peoria and the surrounding Central Illinois area would lose hundreds of jobs and essential local services. In light of today's uncertain economy and skyrocketing unemployment, we cannot afford to lose anything that positively impacts the local economy.

For the sake of this community, the surrounding area, and its people, please support AER's petition for temporary relief.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John H. Johnson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

John H. Johnson
Assistant Business Manager
IBEW Local 51