

VILLAGE OF DIETERICH

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CLERK'S OFFICE
AUG 08 2012
STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board



July 30, 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

PC# 2086

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

Dear Honorable Members of the Illinois Pollution Control Board,

I write to you today to share my support for Ameren Energy Resources (AER) and its request to extend the deadline for upgrading its energy stations to meet new state emissions standards.

As the Village President of Dieterich and a former employee of Newton Energy Center, I know that AER is an important proponent of our local economy. The Newton Energy Center currently employs 159 people, and these well-paying jobs boost the household income and spur economic development in our surrounding communities. The plant is also an imperative source of property tax revenue, which in turn supports essential public services like education and public safety.

I understand the interest for Illinois to adopt strict 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 emissions 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 harm 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 emissions requirements. It simply asks for more time to make the right investment in order to pay for 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 Dieterich to ensure the availability of public services and to always serve the wellbeing of this community. In doing so, I must ask the Board to please support AER's petition for temporary relief. The welfare of our town depends on it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Burl Griffith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Burl Griffith,
Village President of Dieterich