



# GENERAL ASSEMBLY

STATE OF ILLINOIS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

IN SUPPORT OF MIDWEST GENERATION'S  
REQUESTED VARIANCE

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD  
DOCKET NUMBER PCB 13-24

RECEIVED  
CLERK'S OFFICE  
JAN 18 2013  
STATE OF ILLINOIS  
Pollution Control Board

January 17, 2013

Mr. John Therriault, Assistant Clerk  
Illinois Pollution Control Board  
100 W. Randolph St., Suite 11-500  
Chicago, IL 60601-3218

PC# 6

**Re: Support for Requested Variance, Docket No. PCB 13-24**

Dear Mr. Therriault:

The low cost energy market in which we find ourselves over the last few years has created challenges that make for difficult choices. It has resulted in the Petitioner in this case, Midwest Generation, filing a bankruptcy proceeding that puts Illinois jobs and capital at risk. It is that dynamic that causes us to weigh in on this matter.

We believe there are two reasons to consider the requested relief.

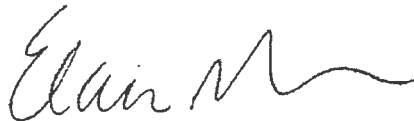
First, Midwest Generation does not seek to extend the end-date compliance deadline (2019) or relax the final emission limits for environmental regulations adopted by this Board in 2007. By seeking relief in mid-program (2015-16), the company will submit to conditions which guarantee that its actual tons of emissions for the life of the program will be less than was projected when the rules were adopted.

Second, as mentioned above, Midwest Generation is currently in a Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceeding. It is our understanding that relief granted by the Board will provide Midwest Generation the best opportunity to preserve jobs and other economic benefits to the State of Illinois. That includes approximately 850 jobs, including 540 men and women represented by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, along with annual payroll and benefits of well over \$100 million; over \$100 million in annual payments for contracted, union labor which performs special project work; nearly \$5 million in local property tax payments; and nearly \$400

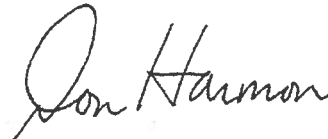
million in purchases of goods and services from Illinois businesses, payments for various state and local licenses and regulatory fees, and support for Illinois-based organizations.

We strongly support the movement toward less reliance on fossil fuels in this country and were it not for the challenging economic and financial conditions in which Midwest Generation finds itself, we would not be engaged in seeking relief from the emission reductions that this Board approved in 2007.

Thank you for your consideration.



Elaine Nekritz  
State Representative 57<sup>th</sup> District



Don Harmon  
State Senator 39<sup>th</sup> District