

**From:** Howard Stein  
**To:** [Brown, Don](#)  
**Subject:** [External] R2018-20: Please oppose IL EPA proposed rule change and halt rulemaking until Vistra Energy competes acquisition  
**Date:** Thursday, February 15, 2018 9:41:18 PM

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Dear Pollution Control Board Chairman and Board Members,

I recently learned that the Illinois EPA has proposed a drastic change to state air pollution rules that would eliminate provisions that have greatly limited emissions from approximately half of all operating coal plants in the state.

My understanding is that this change would allow any company that operates this collection of eight coal plants to shut down the least polluting power plants, which do the least damage to public health, and to instead run their dirtiest plants more, which will increase yearly emissions and sicken and threaten the lives of Illinois residents.

The state should not be incentivizing any company to produce more power from its dirtiest and most damaging power plants at the expense of Illinois residents' health. Because of the threat this rule change poses to vulnerable populations in Illinois, such as children living with asthma and adults living with COPD who are most sensitive to and most affected by increases in air pollution, I strongly urge you to oppose this rule proposed by the Illinois EPA.

I understand that the timeline of the rulemaking process means it could be several months before the PCB makes a decision on this proposal. But, as the company that now owns and operates these eight coal plants announced in October 2017 that it was being acquired by a larger company and that the acquiring company has not participated in any PCB discussions regarding a need to change the existing protective Illinois clean air rules, I strongly urge you to stay all proceedings regarding EPA's proposal until that new owner engages fully in this deliberative process.

Thank you,

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