

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF House Bill 4141 and Senate Bill 2250

January 16, 2018, Hillsboro Historic Courthouse

"Thank You" to Representatives Chapa LaVia, Bourne and Sims for sponsoring and Senators Clayborne and Rezin for sponsoring the HB 4141 and SB 2250. "Appreciation" to the Illinois Commerce Commission for being here today.

My Name is Glenn Savage. I represent South Litchfield in Montgomery County as a member of the Montgomery County Board and am newly appointed Chairman of Economic Development.

You have heard or will hear well reasoned arguments for retaining clean burning coal generation stations in central Illinois.

Please consider this: The security of the United States relies on dependable power generation and effective distribution across the national grid. If the United States is attacked by nuclear means, terrorism, conventional, or cyber warfare or is challenged by fire, flood, hurricane, earthquake, ice storms, or tornados, the national "grid" must not be allowed to become concentrated into fewer "nodes" of generation.

Realities of power density of fuel and cost, prevent a sudden transition to solar and wind power. Coal will be an important part of the national mix of power for coming decades because it is physically impossible to replace the power generated by coal all at once.

Past planning for generation and distribution has been sound, resulting in carefully engineered placement of power stations and the construction of electric grids. Coffeen power plant (cleanest generator of coal fueled electricity in the world) should be kept open for the purpose of national security while we make an orderly, planned transition to becoming the cleanest power producing nation in the world.

Sincerely, Glenn Savage

Montgomery County Board Member

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