

CITY OF HILLSBORO

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, ILLINOIS

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County Seat
Montgomery County

Established 1823

Hillsboro City Council
Regular Meeting, 7 p.m.
Second & Fourth Tuesdays

Hillsboro, IL 01/16/18

Good afternoon. My name is Brian Sullivan and I am the Mayor of the City of Hillsboro. We sincerely appreciate the Commission holding this hearing in Hillsboro and to allow local voices like the City of Hillsboro to convey our feelings and concerns about the possible closure of the Dynagy Power plant at Coffeen.

It is imperative that the Coffeen plant be allowed to remain open. It is a primary asset to the entire area and if closed will negatively affect many aspects of our economy including peak power needs, Expansion Power needs, jobs, school system, housing, and dollars circulated throughout the region and State.

Illinois is experiencing record exodus in businesses closing or leaving the state with jobs and population following close behind. Montgomery County is one of the worst areas in the state for high unemployment and low average household incomes. Job opportunities are few and far between here. This is not a partisan issue. The jobs lost will cover every political belief system indiscriminately.

Imagine for a moment that this plant was never here, and today Dynagy came to the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity and said "We want to locate in Coffeen Illinois."

We will bring over 150 good paying jobs, Union Jobs.

We will add over \$380 Million to the local economy annually.

We will build the cleanest burning Coal fired power plant in the World! Something that we can be very proud of.

And oh yes, we will also pay about 1/3 of the net property taxes of the local school System's levy.

Folks, this is what we have!

I would imagine that DCEO would and should eagerly put together an incentive deal to help them locate and build out. It is time we give that same attention to the companies that are currently in Illinois and have been providing jobs and services here for years - Boosting the local economy and helping to maintain adequate funding for local schools.

Brian Sullivan, Mayor

Katie Duncan, Commissioner Accounts & Finance, Michael Murphy, Commissioner Public Health & Safety

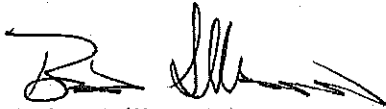
Don Downs, Commissioner Streets & Public Works, Daniel Robbins, Commissioner Public Property

Cory Davidson, City Clerk, Beverly McCoy, City Treasurer

Help us save this facility. This is not an issue that can be solved at the local or County government level or believe me it would already be done. It requires attention by the ICC and ultimately the State of Illinois legislature to provide relief like what was given to Chicago land power providers in the PJM market or the Nuclear power plants through previous legislation, or to wind and solar as is subsidized by federal and state money. We are not asking for something different for the Coal fired plants in this region than has been allowed to all other aspects of power production already. At the very least please allow for an auction of Power Capacity that is only open to the providers located within the deregulated area. Such bills have been introduced both in the House (HB 4141) and in the Senate (SB 2250). The time to act is NOW! We strongly urge the commission to recommend policy solutions such as these.

I beg of you to not let this be another example of how nothing was done and now it is lost. Don't let it be said that the Cleanest power plant in the world just closed in Illinois due to lack of solutions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian Sullivan', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Brian Sullivan, Mayor
City of Hillsboro

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