I live

As Chair of the Illinois Chapter of the Sierra Club I stand before you today, representing 100,000 members and supporters in this state. The Sierra Club works to protect our air, land and water for residents now and generations to come.

I'm urging you to deny the request to rewrite the Multi Pollutant Standard to benefit Dynegy or Vistra depending on the name you are calling this company pending their merger. When equipment is outdated as the aging coal plants are, it is not fiscally responsible for them to run and function. Just as we replace our cars and computers as they age and new technology is available, we must admit that new, cleaner forms of energy are available here in Illinois to replace these aging coal plants. Embracing renewable energy resources is essential rather than staying in the horse and buggy era of fossil fuels.

The goal to rewrite the rules is to keep the oldest, dirties plants operational at the cheapest cost rather than run more efficient newer plants that have more environmental protections.

In 2006, Clean Air standards were enacted to protect our air quality. To loosen those requirements in order to emit nearly double the amount of harmful chemicals is unconscionable for local residents. I urge you to deny this request because:

- It pollutes the air for citizens.
- The technology is outdated and not worth subsidizing
- The grid does not need the power from these aging plants

Thank you for the opportunity to have our views heard. I appreciate the name of your agency: The Illinois Pollution Control Board.

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