

thutchinson@senatedem.ilga.gov  
www.senatorhutchinson.com



- CHAIR
- REVENUE
- MEMBER
- APPROPRIATION II
  - JUDICIARY
  - LABOR
  - LICENSED ACTIVITIES AND PENSIONS
  - TRANSPORTATION

April 24, 2018

**TOI W. HUTCHINSON**  
STATE SENATOR  
40<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT

The Illinois Pollution Control Board  
1021 North Grand Ave E  
Springfield, IL 62702

Re: Case R2018-20

Dear Board Members;

As an Illinois State Senator I have significant concerns regarding Dynegy's attempt to once again weaken Illinois' Multi Pollutant Standard (MPS). These regulations are important protections for communities throughout the state, especially those that are already overburdened with air pollution.

I urge the members of the Illinois Pollution Control Board to deny Dynegy's proposed rewrite of the Multi Pollutant Standard. The proposal's attempt to change the MPS from a rate-based standard to a massive fleet wide cap, well above actual emission levels, risks increasing air pollution for communities throughout Illinois, including those in my district. As reported in the Chicago Tribune, "Under the new rules, Dynegy could emit nearly double the amount of harmful sulfur dioxide they emitted last year."

My constituents and many others around the state that would be affected by this rule change already face high rates of asthma, above the national average, and are uniquely sensitive to exposure to air pollution. My district has a critical interest in making sure Illinois not only maintains the integrity of existing air pollution rules but also continues to strengthening state protections as air quality worsens from the impacts of climate change.

Dynegy has previously been granted delays and changes to the MPS and I ask that the Board deny this latest proposal as it fundamentally reshapes the structure of the original rule and undermines the intent of this important clean air standard. The MPS was created in 2006 to protect Illinois residents from dangerous air pollution from coal-fired power plants when the federal government was failing to act.

As our federal government is rolling back environmental regulations and instead of stepping up to ensure Illinois environmental health is protected, we must not abdicate our leadership with this proposal. In 2018, profitable companies such as Dynegy and Vistra Energy should be held accountable to its pollution and responsibly installing modern pollution controls for its coal fleet or investing in cleaner and more economically viable sources of generation.

For these reasons, I am writing in opposition to this rulemaking, and urge IPCB to reject this proposal. Thank you for your consideration of my request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Toi W. Hutchinson".

Senator Toi W. Hutchison

cc: Hearing Officer Marie Tipsord