

Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 1/29/2019 P.C. #3265

From: [MARK KRAEMER](#)
To: [Brown, Don](#)
Subject: [External] public comment for case number R2018-20 Dynergy-Vistra
Date: Tuesday, January 29, 2019 12:20:52 PM
Attachments: [Illinois Pollution Control Board comments 119.pdf](#)

Dear Mr. Brown,

Enclosed are comments I would like to make re: case number R2018-20 (Dynergy-Vistra).

I had planned to make these comments in person at the public hearing but due to the extreme weather, I am sending the comments by e-mail. I am enclosing comments in this e-mail and also by attachment.

Thank you very much for your consideration and I hope you will share these comments with the entire Illinois Pollution Control Board.

Thank you,
Mark Kraemer
430 Laurel Ave.
Wilmette, IL
60091

My name is Mark Kraemer. I'm an Illinois resident concerned about air quality and I'd like to thank the Ill. Pollution Control Board for the opportunity to speak. I'd also like to thank you for your work on this issue which goes back several months and for your rejection of Governor Rauner's original draft rule which was significantly flawed. The current proposal we are discussing tonight is better than Governor Rauner's original proposal, but it still is unacceptable to me and many other public health organizations. I join them in urging you to leave current Multi-Pollutant Standards in place and I'd like to tell you why.

I'm old enough to remember what air quality was like in America during the late 50's and early 60's. In those days, often the sides of buildings in our cities were blackened with soot from coal fired power plants.

And thanks to the creation of the EPA and regulations like the current Illinois Multi-Pollutant Standard, we have made improvements to air quality over the last several decades. But recent news reports have noted that improvements to air quality in the US are slowing down significantly.

And even though the last 60 years have seen an improvement in air quality for some of us, there are many areas of our State where residents today have to breath air that is still unhealthy—simply because they live near coal-fired power plants. Often those most impacted by coal fired power plant pollution are poor people or people of color. It is not acceptable to harm these communities this way. I speak in particular of people in the Peoria/ Pekin area and others in which asthma rates are notably higher due to coal-fired power plant emissions. For these people, the gains of the past 60 years have not made much of a difference. In truth, our work to make air healthy for ALL Illinois residents is not over.

It is in solidarity with people in Illinois currently breathing unhealthy air that I urge you to leave the current Multi-Pollutant Standard in place. The proposal before us tonight, if approved, allows Dynergy-Vistra to increase its dangerous coal pollution by 40%, further degrading the air quality of people who live in communities already at risk for unhealthy air. The Dynergy-Vistra proposal will also encourage the increased use of older, dirtier power plants—making air quality in already unhealthy communities even worse.

This is bad news for people in Peoria and other locations where low income or minority communities live near power plants. We don't have to stand for this. It is unacceptable in 21st century America. I join the many public health organizations represented here in urging you to reject the plan before you tonight and keep current Multi-

Pollutant Standard in place.

Thank you.

Mark Kraemer

430 Laurel Ave.

Wilmette, IL 60091

847-256-3476

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